



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you're all well and enjoying the beautiful weather that we've been having lately. We have been so lucky, this spring, to have enjoyed so many dry days with lovely, warm sunshine. Hopefully, you have all managed to be outdoors, frequently and making the most of the fine weather. May is always a busy month in school, with our annual Health Week, which seems to get more action-packed and exciting for children, each year, as well as Sports Day. Our P6-7 show, *Oliver*, is running on Wednesday 21st May and Thursday 22nd and we can't wait to bring this production to the stage. All of the cast have been working so hard to perfect their performances in time for 'curtain's up' and we'd like to thank Mrs Chisholm and Ms Quigley for their efforts in putting this production together. We do hope that you all love the show, if you choose to come along to see it. Good luck to all of the children, who are due to take part. We know that you are all going to shine, like true stars. 😊 Please read on for all of our latest news. Enjoy the rest of the month everyone and take care.

Class Structure for Session 2025-2026/Pupil Progress Reports: Reminder: We are given information on class structures for session 25-26, from the Authority and as per the information given in our April newsletter, it is likely that our current structure of 13 classes, will remain in place for next session. We will bring more news of this, as and when we have the information to share. On **Monday 16th June**, we will share Pupil Progress Reports for the session with you, alongside information on the class that your child will go into, next session, as well as details of their teacher(s). As per the norm, this information will be sent home, in a sealed envelope, in children's bags. Please make a note to check bags carefully that evening so that you have all of the information that you need.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Social Subjects and IDL: Environmental Focus: This term, all of classes are learning about an environmental context, that is linked to the curriculum outcomes for each stage, relevant for the children involved and one which, appeals to their interests. Over the course of this session, we have really tried to take account of 'children's voices' when planning learning experiences to ensure that the content that we teach children, is motivating and interesting for them.

P7 Meta-skills Workshops: Youth Space: This month, P7 will take part in a series of exciting workshops run by Russell Shields and helpers from Youth Space, Linlithgow, to further develop their skills for work. The children will explore range of different skills, developing their competencies in each one including: communication, creativity, innovation, critical-thinking as well as the ability to stay focused on task. Thank you to Youth Space for providing this opportunity for our pupils. It will be a wonderful transition experience for all children, as they turn their sights to moving on to S1 in August.



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Tesco Grant Success: Health and Wellbeing Resource for School: Jigsaw: We have been able to purchase a new, Health and Wellbeing Resource called 'Jigsaw' for our school, as a result of successfully gaining a grant from Tesco. The grant was provided through the 'Tesco Tokens for Schools Scheme' and we can't thank you all enough, for choosing to shop in Tesco and put a token into the voting box, for our school.

The Jigsaw resource has been on our 'wish list' for a while. It's an expensive, but extremely worthwhile resource, which we will use from P1-7 and alongside our existing programmes of study in Health and Wellbeing.

During the May INSET Day, our teaching staff, received some training around the use of the resource and we can't wait to bring it into classrooms, over the next few weeks and from August onwards. Look out for your child experiencing daily 'mindfulness' sessions in each classroom as well as regularly 'together-time' where children learn the convention, of sitting in a circle, connecting with others, sharing feelings and emotions and developing empathy.

Ski Team Success: 3rd Place at the SSCA event at Bearsden: Our Ski Team performed brilliantly at the recent SSCA event at Bearsden, with Ski Team A, securing a third place and going through to the finals at Hillend Ski Slope on 19th May. All of our pupils also skied extremely well as individuals and we are so proud of them all. Well done to Callum, Logan, Rupert, Oscar, Ansen, Harris, Calvin, Eleanor, Chase, Kody and Paul. You are all shining stars! ☺ Thank you to our parents/carers who support these events and keep us updated with the children's progress.

P7 Rotary Quiz Winners: Final Event in Kirkintilloch: Our amazing P7 Rotary Quiz Team; comprised of Siddu, Jacob, Georgia E and Leah, won the Edinburgh and Lothian heat and are now through to the quiz finals which are due to take place in Kirkintilloch, this coming weekend. The children have excelled at answering a range of general knowledge questions based on a variety of curriculum areas including: Literacy, Numeracy and Maths, Science, History and Geography. As well as winning a huge shield for our school, the children will take part in the final event, with pupils from across central Scotland. We are so excited for these pupils and we can't wait to hear how they get on in the final event. Good luck to you all. ☺

School Football Teams: George Allan Tournament: A huge congratulations to our P5-7 football teams who played so well at the recent, George Allan Tournament. Our P5 team, were the youngest children at the tournament and we were so pleased at their positive attitudes and how well they played. Well done to all children who took part. All of the children who took part showed such positive attitudes and they were a credit to our school. ☺

West Lothian Schools Basketball League: Gold Play-Offs: We are thrilled to report that for the second year in a row, our upper school basketball team is through to the 'Gold Play-offs' in the West Lothian Schools, Basketball League. Well done to the team and thank you to Miss Farooq for supporting them all year. We can't wait to hear how they get on! ☺



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If I were an Engineer: STEM Winners: Our P2, P4 and P6, 'If I were an Engineer' topic has once again, produced a host of pupil achievements for our school. We are delighted to share that we had a number of children whose work was either 'highly commended' or of a 'winning grade' including: Blaidh, Rannoch, Julia E, Sophia C, Alistair, Imogen and Alexis. These pupils will be invited to a local, STEM exhibition and award ceremony. Well done to you all! You have all made us so proud! There are most certainly some engineers of the future, within our school. 😊

Sharing the Learning: Pupil Jotters/Profile Pieces: On Monday 26th May, class teachers will send a sample of children's jotters home, in school bags. We are sending this home as part of our Pupil Profiling process in school. The idea being, that children will take time to share their work with you at home and learning conversations can take place. We hope that you enjoy looking at your child's work and learning about their successes, achievements and any next steps that they may have. Please return all jotters to school by Friday 30th May, so that children can use them in class, for the remainder of the term. Thank you all for your support with this. 😊

Pupil Equity Group: Blether Café: Thursday 29th May at 2pm: Our Pupil Equity Group will run the last, Blether Café of the session on Thursday 29th May at 2pm, in our school hall. This month's café will have a summer theme, with a percentage of profits, continuing to be donated to West Lothian School Bank, which helps to provide school clothing, to children and families who need this support. The café is open to all members of our school and wider community so please 'spread the word' and come along, if you can. 😊 Thank you to Mrs Matos, Mrs Ferguson and to the many parents/carers who have helped us with the donation of baked goods, this session. We could not have made the café such a success, without you all. Thank you so much!

Neurodivergent Learner- Parent Support Group: The next meeting of our Neurodivergent Learner, Parent Support Group, will be on **Tuesday 20th May at 2pm**, in school. There is no planned theme for this meeting and it will take the form of an 'open forum' to enable questions to be answered and support offered. We do hope that this group is of benefit to everyone. Once again, anyone who feels that the group would be helpful to their child/family, is welcome to attend. 😊

UNCRC/Children's Right of the Month: Articles 24: The Right to Health: Mental Health Awareness Week runs from 13th-19th May and our 'Equality Enthusiasts', Pupil Leadership Group, have been promoting this through their work around Rights, Respecting, Schools. Mental Health Awareness week is an ideal time for us all to consider mental health, tackling any stigma around this and discussing how we can create school environments that protect the mental wellbeing of our pupils and staff. Thank you to all children who have taken part in the Equality Enthusiasts group, over the past session, and to Miss Crosson for supporting this work.



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Partnership Working: Linlithgow Athletics Club: We are delighted to be supported by Linlithgow Athletics Club who have very kindly offered to run, some free athletics sessions for pupils in our school, during the month of May. Thank you to the Club for supporting our school.



Partnership Working: Brodies LLP, Law Firm: We are so grateful to Brodies LLP law firm who have made a very kind donation to our school funds, to contribute to the cost of improving the AV sound system in our school hall. Thank you to Brodies for supporting our school in this way.

Pupil Leadership Groups: P2-3 Bloom Buddies: The Bloom Buddies Pupil Leadership Group, have been having a wonderful time of late promoting Hedgehog Awareness Week. As part of this, they have been thinking of creative ways to encourage hedgehogs to make homes, within our school grounds. Around our school, there are some beautifully designed 'hedgehogs' which have been made by this group of children. The hedgehogs have been put up on display, to remind us all to protect hedgehogs and to do all that we can to make our gardens and community, safe and welcoming areas for them.

Family Learning Event: Phone Smart Workshop: Thursday 12th June @ 6pm: Thank you to one of our parents, Renee LeBlanc, who has kindly offered to run an additional Family Learning event for us on **Thursday 12th June at 6pm**, in our school hall. The event will hopefully help parents/carers, who are interested, to feel empowered to support children's use of mobile phones. We know that today's 'online world' and use of social media can be a daunting landscape for parents and carers to navigate and we hope that Renee's workshop will give everyone the confidence and information that they need, to be able to support their children to stay safe online and to help positive choices. Please come along to the school hall, on Thursday 12th June at 6pm if you are interested to learn more. In addition to this parental workshop, Renee will also be running similar workshops for our P6 and P7 pupils, on the same day. From August, our school will be a 'mobile phone free zone' for all pupils, meaning that personal mobile phones/devices will no longer be used in learning experiences at the P5-7 stages. Children can still have a mobile phone in school, if this is needed for safety and for walking to and from school. As per the norm, this should be handed in to class teachers, each morning, for safe keeping, and all devices can be collected by children, for walking home, at the end of the school day.

Uniform Swap Shop: Friday 6th June: Our next Uniform Swap Shop will take place on **Friday 6th June** from 8.50am until 11.30am, in our school foyer. Please note that this will be the last Swap Shop of the session. Please feel free to come along and either donate or pick-up any 'pre-loved' school clothing, to set your child up for returning to school in August. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parent helpers who have given up their free time on a Friday morning, to run the Swap Shops for us, this year. Thank you all. 😊



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Nursery News: Children's Interests: Creatures Big and Small/Transitions and Changes: This month, our nursery pupils are exploring their interests around creatures that are big and creatures that are small. They have been investigating mini-beasts in the garden and finding out about mammals, by looking at information books. Next, the children will be supported to find the size of different creatures by estimating and measuring, which are important skills in Numeracy and Maths. #We have had a number of new children join our nursery in recent weeks, so all children have been learning about 'transitions and changes' as part of their work in Health and Wellbeing.

Assembly Calendar: Thank you to Ms Orskov/Mrs Robertson and P4B who led a fantastic assembly all about The Vikings, last Friday. We loved learning about life in the past and seeing the children bring history to life, in our school gym hall for their audiences. Well done to you all. 😊

Our Forthcoming Assemblies for the remainder of Term 4:

- Friday 16th May- Class assembly led by P3/2 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 23rd May- Class assembly led by P2 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 30th May- Class assembly led by P3 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 6th June- Class assembly led by P1A and P1B (parent/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 13th June- Class assembly led by P4A (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Thursday 19th June- Wellbeing Assembly (Transitions and Changes) led by Miss Baillie
- Friday 27th June- Wellbeing Assembly (Summer Safety) led by Miss Baillie

Family Learning Event: Outdoor Storytelling: Thursday 15th May at 3.30pm: On Thursday 15th May, Miss Noble, will be running an Outdoor Storytelling event, in our school grounds for families. Please come along, with your child, if you'd like to have fun in the outdoor environment, through storytelling, poetry and more. 😊

Sun Safety: Term 4: As we come into the warmer weather, we are reminding all parents/carers to please ensure that children wear sun cream when coming to school, each day, and bring a cap and water-bottle to school with them on hot days. Please also, make sure that children bring a waterproof jacket to school, each day. We plan to be outdoors a lot of the time, this term, and want all children to feel comfortable, in all weathers. Thank you for your support with this. 😊

Pupil Writing: Please enjoy this beautiful Haiku poem, inspired by nature:

Tiny Bouquets

*Gorgeous white flowers,
Clustered like tiny bouquets,
Little pearl petals.
By Morven and Erin (P6)*



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P1-7 Sports Day, Wednesday 28th May: Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 28th May at the following times:

9.30am- P4-7

1.30pm- P1-3

Sports Day will take place on our school pitch and parents/carers are kindly asked, to stand/sit on the canal side of the pitch, in front of the wall.

Children should please come to school with a full bottle of water, wearing sun cream, and bringing along a hat, so that they are comfortable and protected from the sun.

Sports Day will consist of potted sports for all pupils, followed by optional races. This year, by popular demand, the parents' race will take the form of a fun race, rather than a sprint! 😊

In the event of inclement weather, we will group email and group text all parents/carers before 8.50am to let you know if Sports Day will need to be postponed. We will provide a new date for Sports Day as soon as possible, after this message has been sent.

LPS Health Week, Monday 26th - Friday 30th May: The week beginning Monday 26th May is our Health Week. We have a 'jam-packed' week for all pupils in school, including our nursery children, with activities designed to encourage being physically active and to promote wellbeing taking place. Every day during Health Week (Monday 26th - Friday 30th May):

- Children can wear sports clothes (no football colours please) and should bring a water bottle (named if possible).
- The weather can be unpredictable, and many sessions will be taking place outside, so please send a waterproof jacket or apply sun cream before school if necessary.
- To promote healthy eating, we ask all parents/carers to please consider sending children to school with a healthy snack each day, such as a piece of fresh fruit.
- On Friday 30th May, children in P1-7 and our nursery can bring their bike or scooter to school, to take part in the 'LPS Tour de France' on the school pitch and playground. There will be clearly marked areas for children to leave their bikes and scooters in the playground on this date. Please consider sending a bike lock so that bikes/scooters can be securely fixed to the railings, please also ensure that your child knows how to lock/unlock their bike or scooter. This is an optional event, there is no obligation to take part in this.



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REMINDERS:

Parking and Stopping around School: Please drive and park safely on Preston Road for the safety of all children. Please also, avoid using our school car park for parking or stopping at any time. The car park is for staff use only, unless you are a Blue Badge holder.

Child Protection: Please speak to Miss Baillie/Mrs Matos if you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of any child in our school community. You can also phone Broxburn Social Work Department (Children and Families), to report a concern for any child on 01506 284440 at any time. It's the job of everyone to keep children safe.

P.E Kit: Please can we ask that children have a P.E kit available at all times in school? Sometimes, staff will take children for an extra P.E lesson and or activity that is better suited to sportswear. In younger years, a P.E kit is helpful if children have an accident and need to be changed in school. Thank you for your help with this.

Drinks in school: Please help us to help our children to learn best, by only providing water for them to drink in school. We don't allow energy drinks in school as many of these aren't recommended for children's consumption.

Dogs in the playground: Please remember that it is West Lothian Council policy that dogs are not allowed in our school playground or grounds at any time. Thank you for your help with this important matter.

Labelling clothing: We still have a large volume of lost property in school each day. Please help us to re-unite lost items with their owner by labelling all items that children wear and/or bring to school.

Outdoor Clothing: Please help us to allow children to play and learn outdoors, in all weathers, by ensuring that they come to school wearing waterproof jackets and have appropriate footwear. Many thanks for your help with this.



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DATES FOR DIARIES:

- Thursday 15th May- Generation Science workshop in school for P3 pupils.
- Thursday 15th May- 3.30pm, Family Learning Event: Outdoor Storytelling (school grounds).
- Friday 16th May- P3/2 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Friday 16th May- P4 trip to Linlithgow Tool Library.
- Saturday 17th May- P7 quiz team at Rotary Quiz Area Final.
- Tuesday 20th May- 2pm, Neurodivergent Learner- Parent Support Group (school library).
- Wednesday 21st May, P6 Rugby Festival at Linlithgow Rugby Club.
- Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd May- P6/7 production of Oliver, school hall.
- Friday 23rd May- P2 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Week beginning Monday 26th May- Health Week for ELC and P1-7.
- Wednesday 28th May- School Sports Day- 9.30am P4-7, 1.30pm P1-3.
- Thursday 29th May- 2pm, Blether Café, school hall.
- Friday 30th May- P3 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Thursday 5th June- P7 transition Rugby Festival at Linlithgow Rugby Club.
- Friday 6th June- 8.50-11.30am- Uniform Swap Shop in school foyer.
- Friday 6th June- P1A & P1B class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Monday 9th June- P6 trip to Edinburgh Zoo.
- Tuesday 10th June- P5 trip to Dynamic Earth.
- Thursday 12th June- 6pm, Family Learning Event: Phone Smart Workshop (school hall).
- Friday 13th June- P4A class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Monday 16th - Friday 20th June- 'Make Music Week' in school for all classes.
- Monday 16th June- P7 trip to Blair Drummond.
- Monday 16th June- Pupil Progress Reports and Class/Teacher information for session 25-26 to all parents/carers- please check bags that evening!
- Tuesday 17th June- Linlithgow Marches holiday, school closed, Nursery open.
- Wednesday 18th – Friday 20th June- P7 transition visit to Linlithgow Academy.
- Thursday 19th June- P1 trip to Almond Valley.
- Friday 20th June- 'Move it Up' transition morning for P1-6 pupils- A chance to meet new teachers and visit new classrooms. 😊
- Thursday 26th June- P7 Leavers' Show at 5.30pm in school hall.
- Friday 27th June- break for Summer Holidays at 12.25pm.
- Wednesday 13th August- All pupils return to school. Nursery will remain open throughout the Summer Holiday.



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