



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

August 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school year and a new term, everyone! I do hope that you've all had a lovely summer, and have been able to enjoy the fine weather. We'd also like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new families, who have recently joined our school. It's a pleasure to have you all with us and we hope that you enjoy being part of our school community. We will continue to publish monthly newsletters, at the start of each month, sending these by email, to all families. There will be paper copies of newsletters, available to collect at our school office, for any family who would prefer this. Our newsletters will contain details of our latest events in school and nursery, details of pupil achievements as well as key dates for the term. Please also, let us know if there is anything that you'd like us to feature in our newsletters that you find is missing. We are always open to feedback and suggestions. Feedback can be provided via our school mailbox (wllinlithgow-ps@westlothian.org.uk).

Enjoy reading this newsletter and please take note of the key dates for the term, in the last section. As always, photos of learning experiences in classrooms will continue to feature in our social media feed, X. Our page is [@LinlithgowPS](#) if you'd like to follow us there.

This will be a slightly shorter newsletter than normal, due to the term having just started, coupled with us being keen to get key dates out to you. We will be back in September with more news and information.

Have a great month everyone! 😊

Staffing News: We are delighted to welcome Mrs Gordon to our school, in the role of Acting Depute Headteacher. Mrs Gordon went to Linlithgow Primary School, as a pupil and she is thrilled to be returning to the school, in her new role. Mrs Gordon lives in Linlithgow and will bring her wealth of experience and local connections to our school, for the benefit of our children. She is a highly passionate educator who will be a wonderful asset to school community. Please say 'hello' to Mrs Gordon in our playground, if you see her in coming weeks. She is so looking forward to meeting you all.

In our nursery, we are pleased to welcome three, new Early Years Practitioners: Mrs Murphy, Mrs Wark and Mrs Blakely. We know that you will help us to make these ladies feel very welcome. We are so glad that they have come to join us to support our youngest children.



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Class Structure for Session 2025-2026: We thought that it would be helpful to remind everyone of the class structure for this session, along with a list of class teachers.

P1A- Miss Ferguson/ Mrs Menmuir on a Wednesday

P1B- Mrs Paton

P2A- Miss McGann/Mrs Meikle on a Thursday

P2B-Mrs Buchanan/Mrs McGaw

P3- Mrs Rowlings (Miss Horsburgh)

P4/3- Mrs Bell/Mrs Chisholm

P4- Miss Hunter

P5A- Mrs Robertson/Ms Orskov

P5B- Mrs Ferris Cordrey

P6A-Mrs Bryce/Mrs Ward

P6B- Mrs Marshall

P7A-Miss Noble/Ms Quigley on a Wednesday

P7B- Ms Daniels

Support for Learning- Mrs Meikle

P.E- Miss Farooq

Senior Leadership Structure/Line-Management Responsibility: We thought that it would be helpful to remind you of our Senior Leadership structure and line-management responsibilities regarding each area of the school/nursery:

Miss Baillie- Nursery, P1-3 (In addition to whole school)

Mrs Gordon- Additional Support Needs (ASN), Pupil Equity, P4-7, P7-S1 transition

Miss Noble- P5-6

Mrs Menmuir- P2-3, Nursery to P1 transition

As always, Miss Baillie and Mrs Gordon are always available to speak about any concerns that you may have about your child. Please just reach out, via our school office.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Life and Ethos of the School/Wellbeing: This month, all pupils, from P1-7, are considering our school rules and values, as well as linking them to Children's Rights and Responsibilities. We used our first assembly of the session, to remind our pupils of our key values of Growth Mindset, Relationships. Opportunity and Wellbeing. We also relaunched our 'Peg Challenge' incentive for displaying good manners, respect for others and quiet walking in our corridors and areas around school. Our House Points system has also been launched for the session and our Primary 1 pupils, will shortly find out which House they are in. As a reminder, and for our new families are Houses are:

-Bruce

-Wallace

-Douglas

-Stuart



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Children gain tokens in school for displaying attributes associated with our school values e.g. working hard, having a positive attitude, being kind etc. Tokens earn points for each House and at the end of each term, children in the winning House are given a special treat.

We also recognise individual successes by awarding children the following certificates when they have earned the required number of House points/tokens.

15+ points- Rainbow award

25+ points- Bronze award

50+ points- Silver award

75+ points- Gold award

100+ points- Platinum award

We try to ensure that all children in our school, will receive at least one certificate per session. We will also continue to recognise achievements through newsletters, our X feed and our bi-annual Achievement SWAY, which is sent out to all families and which contains both achievements from within an out with school.

Health and Wellbeing Developments: Wellbeing Hub/ Calm Me Time/Class Meetings: As part of our ongoing commitment, to supporting children's mental health and wellbeing, we have created a new wellbeing hub in our lower school, which is accessible to all P1-7 pupils. Mrs Menmuir will be responsible for the running of the Wellbeing Hub and she will provide a safe space for children to talk about any of their worries, and to be supported to regulate their emotions.

All classes, P1-7, will also be introducing daily 'Calm Me' time, which supports children to learn a range of mindfulness techniques to help them to regulate their emotions. Each classroom is also equipped with a cosy/calm area for children to use, should they need a quiet space.

We will also be introducing regular 'circle-time' sessions in classrooms which will take the form of daily/regular class meetings. We recognise the proven benefits of children, coming together to sit in a circle, making eye contact and learning to empathise with each other, through sharing life experiences, thoughts and feelings.

Health and Wellbeing: Pupil Questionnaires and One Trusted Adult: In coming weeks, children will complete their termly Health and Wellbeing questionnaire, supported by their teachers. The questionnaires are screened by adults and follow-up conversations are had with children to try to alleviate any issues or concerns or to ascertain if further interventions need to be put in place, to support the child.

The children will also be given the chance to choose their 'Trusted Adult' in school for the session. Children can request a meeting with their Trusted Adult to share any concerns or worries that they may have. Trusted Adults will act on these worries and will inform parents/carers of these, if this is felt necessary.



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UNCRC/Children's Right of the Month: Articles 28 and 31: Each month, we will continue to highlight our commitment to upholding children's rights as we work towards gaining a Gold Award in this area.

This month, we will start of the school focusing on a child's right to learn and a child's right to play. We recognise that learning and progress can look different for every child, depending on their unique needs at any point in time. We support children to learn in a wide variety of ways at Linlithgow Primary School; including through listening, questioning and discussion, observing and watching activities, hands-on activities, individual or group investigation and using a range of technologies. We also provide learning opportunities in a range of different contexts, both indoors and in the outdoor environment.

We uphold a child's right to play through our play-based learning approach in P1-2 classrooms, as well as our continued use of 'maker spaces' in our P3-7 classrooms and in our STEM room. Children are also given the chance to be active and to play outdoors, each day, in our playground.

Homework/Home Learning: Term 1: Monday 25th August Onwards: Our home learning programme will begin for P1-7 pupils from **Monday 25th August**. Homework/home learning is posted on Seesaw (P1-3 pupils) and Teams (P4-7) pupils. All pupils are given a jotter in which to record home learning and reading books are sent home, each week.

Homework takes the form of the following:

-P1-6 pupils will receive phonics/spelling and reading homework each week.

-P7 pupils will receive the above plus a piece of Numeracy/Maths homework.

P1-7 pupils will receive a learning grid of different activities, from across the curriculum, including Numeracy and Maths, which will be sent home at the start of each term. The activities on this grid are optional but we always suggest completing them, if you can. 😊

We understand that households are busy so please let class teachers know if your child needs more support, to complete home learning tasks, during the school day. We run a homework club from October onwards which is open to any child who needs this support.

Partnership Working: West Lothian School Clothing Bank: This month, we would like to highlight our partnership with West Lothian School Clothing Bank. The clothing bank continues to help many of our children and families, with clothing and supplies for school. As part of our Social Enterprise work, we have 'given back' to the clothing bank by donating a sum of £850, over the course of last session and as a result of our highly successful 'Blether Café' which is run by our Pupil Equity group.



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Child Protection/Wellbeing Concerns: Every adult within our school community has the responsibility to protect children's wellbeing. If you are concerned about the welfare or wellbeing of any child in our school, please reach out to Miss Baillie, Mrs Gordon, Mrs Cringean/Mrs Murdoch (Nursery) in the first instance, or if the concern is out with school hours, please report your concern to Social Work (Children and Families) on 01506 284440.

Pupil Leadership Groups: September Onwards: Every child will have the opportunity to take part in a Pupil Leadership group of their choosing again, this session. Pupil Leadership Groups will commence after the September break and will run about once per month, until the end of June. We will bring news of the work of our Pupil Leadership Groups in coming newsletters.

Educational Benefits: School Clothing Grants/Free School Meals: At the start of a new school year, we'd like to point all eligible families in the direction of educational benefits and how to apply for these. If you think that your child might be eligible for these please complete an application online, at www.westlothian.gov.uk/mealsandclothing. For further information please e-mail EducationBenefits@westlothian.gov.uk. If you'd like more help with the application process, please speak to our office staff who would be more than happy to assist you with this. 😊

Family Learning Calendar: Published September 2025: We are beginning to work on our Family Learning Calendar for the session and once again, we will link the opportunities and activities on this to our School Improvement work. Our Family Learning activities tend to be a combination of presentations for parents/carers, open afternoons and family workshops/experiences. Last year we provided a plethora of activities which families could attend should they choose to do so. We held a successful science show, outdoor story-telling workshop, library open afternoon, 'sharing the learning' session in classrooms, as well as an informative presentation for parents/carers on the use of mobile phones. If you are eager for us to feature a specific event or presentation then please let us know via our school mail box. We will always do our best to base our events around your feedback. 😊

Mobile Phone Use in School: Reminder: From this term onwards, our school is a 'mobile phone free zone' for all pupils, meaning that personal mobile phones/devices are 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.



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

Uniform Swap Shop: Friday 3rd September: Our first Uniform Swap Shop of the session will take place on **Friday 3rd September** from 8.50am until 11.30am, in our school foyer. Please feel free to come along and either donate or pick-up any 'pre-loved' school clothing, to set your child up for the school year ahead. Thank you again to all of our parent volunteers who support the running of the Swap Shop. We could not provide this service for families, without your help. We are always looking for more volunteers to support this initiative and if you can spare a few hours each month to sort and organise clothing or to help to set up the Swap Shop, then please let our office staff know. We are always very grateful for all offers of help.

Nursery News: Welcome to Our New Children! The nursery staff have had a busy summer, holding very successful transition experiences for children who are joining our nursery from their home environment. Parents/carers came into nursery with their children, on a range of Friday mornings, over the summer period to take part in different curriculum experiences, to help to familiarise children with our setting. Welcome to all families and children! We are so glad that you've joined us. 😊

Assembly Calendar: Our assembly calendar has been created for the year and we have already held our first assembly, which focused on 'new beginnings' and was linked to our school values.

Our Forthcoming Assemblies for the remainder of Term 1 are:

- Friday 22nd August: Wellbeing Assembly, 'I am Healthy'- led by Miss Baillie
- Friday 29th August: Wellbeing Assembly: 'I am Safe'- led by Mrs Gordon
- Friday 5th September-Pupil Equity Assembly- led by our Pupil Equity Group
- Friday 12th September- P7A class assembly- parents/carers invited at 9.45am
- Friday 26th September-P5B assembly- parents/carers invited at 9.45am
- Friday 3rd October-Wellbeing Assembly, 'I am Active'-led by Mrs Gordon
- Friday 10th October- Wellbeing Assembly, 'I am Responsible' – led by Miss Baillie
- Friday 17th October- Global Citizenship/RME Assembly, 'Harvest Celebration'- led by Miss Baillie



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

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Class Assemblies for the Session: We also thought that it would be helpful to give you plenty of notice for the date of our child's class assembly. Parents/carers are invited into school at 9.45am on the day of their child's assembly. Children will work together, as a class, to share an aspect of their learning during assembly-time. We hope that you enjoy coming in to school on the identified day/date, to see your child perform.

- Friday 12th September- P7A
- Friday 26th September- P5B
- Friday 5th December- P7B
- Friday 23rd January- P3
- Friday 30th January-P4
- Friday 20th February- P6B
- Friday 13th March- P4/3
- Friday 24th April- P6A
- Friday 15th May-P5A
- Friday 29th May- P1A and P1B
- Friday 5th June-P2A
- Friday 12th June- P2B

Sun Safety: Term 4: We have been blessed with lovely, sunny weather upon our return to school. Please can we ask that all children come to school wearing sun-cream, each day, for the next few weeks and until the good weather turns. Please also, make sure that children bring a waterproof jacket to school, each day, in case of any showers. We plan to be outdoors a lot of the time, this term, and we want all children to feel comfortable, no matter the weather. Thank you for your support with this. 😊

Meet the Teacher Event- Wednesday 17th September 5.30-6.30pm: We will hold our annual, 'Meet the Teacher' event for any interested parent/carer on **Wednesday 17th September** from 5.30-6.30pm. This is a chance to visit your child's classroom, meet their teacher(s) and find out any class-based information, for the year ahead. Each teacher will present a short presentation for parents/carers at the following times:

- Presentation 1- 5.30-6.00pm
- Presentation 2- 6.00-6.30pm

Presentations will run twice, to allow families with more than one child, to go to more than one presentation. We will also send out a copy of all presentations via email, to all parents/carers after the evening, for anyone who is unable to attend. We hope that this is helpful for everyone.





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September Holiday Dates: Friday 19th and Monday 22nd September: We will be off school for the September break on **Friday 19th and Monday 22nd of September**. Pupils return to school on Tuesday 23rd September. Our nursery will remain open on both of these dates, as normal.

Linlithgow Primary School Walking Bus (Mondays): Our walking bus is a supervised group of children walking to school along a set route and picking up 'passengers' at specific points along the way. It's a fun, healthy and sustainable way of getting to school and everyone is welcome. Our walking bus will start again on Monday 25th August and run every Monday after that. We meet at Linlithgow Academy post box at 8.15 am and walk to school via the footpath at the side of the Academy. If you would like your child/children to join us at this location and walk to school as part of the walking bus, please email the school office and we will add them to our register. Mrs McCluckie and Mrs Ferguson, along with a volunteer helper, will meet you on Mondays, rain or shine!

Coffee Morning, Saturday 6th September at Cross House: Please share the details of this coffee morning, organised by our parent fundraising group, with your family and friends, we hope to see you there! If you can provide home baking or be a helper at this event, please contact the FAST team by email at linlithgowprimaryparentcouncil@gmail.com



COFFEE MORNING

LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL
FUNDRAISER

**SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER
10AM- 12 NOON**

Cross house , Linlithgow
Adults £5
Children £2.50
Coffee, Tea, Home Baking, Raffle

ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS LINLITHGOW
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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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 Gordon 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: Term 1 (Aug-October 2025):

- Monday 1st September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Tuesday 2nd September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Tuesday 2nd September- Author (AF Steadman) event in Hall for P5 and P7 classes
- Wednesday 3rd September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Wednesday 3rd September- P7 Palace Guide programme begins, visit to Linlithgow Palace
- Thursday 4th September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Friday 5th September- Uniform Swap Shop in school foyer from 8.50am-11.30am
- Monday 8th September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Tuesday 9th September- P6 Outdoor Activity Day with Xcite
- Friday 12th September- P7A class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am
- Monday 15th September- P6 visit to Linlithgow Palace
- Wednesday 17th September- 'Meet the Teacher' event for all P1-7 parents/carers in classrooms from 5.30-6.30pm.
- Friday 19th September and Monday 22nd September- September break for all school staff and pupils.
- Friday 26th September- European Day of Languages
- Friday 26th September- P5B class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am
- Tuesday 30th September- P7A Palace Guides- Performance for parents/carers- more details to follow
- Wednesday 1st October- P7B Palace Guides-Performance for parents/carers- more details to follow
- Thursday 2nd October- School Photographer in school and nursery
- Friday 3rd October- Uniform Swap Shop in school foyer from 8.50am-11.30am
- Monday 6th October- Friday 10th October- Challenge Poverty Week
- Wednesday 8th October- P1-7 Parent Consultations from 5.30-8.30pm- more details to follow
- Thursday 9th October- P1-7 Parent Consultations from 4.00-6.00pm- more details to follow
- Friday 10th October- World Mental Health Day
- Tuesday 14th October- Flu Vaccine day for school pupils
- Friday 17th October- Harvest Assembly/Food Bank collection
- Friday 17th October- All school staff and pupils break for October holiday
- Monday 27th October- Staff return to school for Term 2
- Tuesday 28th October- Pupils return to school for Term 2



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