



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our February newsletter! We are now into the second and shortest month of the year and with our half-term break, just around the corner, we feel that the days and weeks are flying past. Although it's a dark time of year, we are beginning to see the days lengthening and the mornings have been ever so slightly lighter at morning drop-off, which makes such a difference to everyone. The snowdrops are just starting bloom and in no time at all, spring will be heading towards us. Despite the uncertain weather, at this time of year, our children have been enjoying being outside in nature and undertaking different learning experiences across our wider community.

Read on for more news and please keep an eye out on Seesaw (P1-3) and Teams (P4-7) for photos of children's learning.

Enjoy the February break, when it comes and we wish you all a successfully and happy, month ahead.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment/School Curriculum: P1-7 Social Subjects Focus: Historical Context: During the months of February and March, each class, across school will be learning about an aspect of history and exploring life in the past. Here are the different contexts that each class/stage have chosen to study:

P1A and P1B- Toys from the past

P2A and P2B- Picts and Celts

P3, P4/3 and P4- Medieval Castles

P5A and P5B- Wallace and Bruce

P6A and P6B- Ancient Greece

P7A and P7B- Conflict (WW2 and other more recent wars)

Pupil Equity Group: Scottish-themed, Community Blether Café: Feedback: Thank you to our Pupil Equity, Mrs Ferguson and all volunteers who helped to make our January, Blether Café, another huge success. We are also grateful to Shona, who runs the Crannog Café, in the High Street for kindly donating a tray of homemade shortbread to the café. The café raised an amazing £451.59! Part of this money will go back into the running, of future cafes and the remainder will be donated to River Kids, who provide support to families across West Lothian schools.

Pupil Achievements: Crocheting: P7: One of our P7 girls, Sophia, has been working very hard to develop her skills in crocheting. She has created a number of items including a jumper hat and blanket, that have been so beautifully made with love and care. Sophia can often be found crocheting in our playground and shortly, she has just set up a little crochet club, with her friend Grace, so that some of our other children can get pleasure from this relaxing hobby. Well done Sophia! We are proud of you! It's an absolute joy to see children of all ages, attending the club and learning to crochet. 😊



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Pupil Achievement: Micro Duke Award: P1: Our Primary 1 year group, have been working on the 'Micro Duke', Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, this session, and Freya, Alice and Adriana have already completed their projects and gained their certificates and badges. They are the first of our Primary 1 pupils to have done this! The girls have undertaken a number of projects and challenges to develop their skills for life, learning and for the world of work, including; learning to dress quickly, brush teeth, independently and memorising home addresses, in case of an emergency. Congratulations to these P1 girls and well done for your efforts!

STEM Room/Maker Spacers Plea: One Person's Trash is Another Person's Treasure! This month, we'd love any donations of 'pre-loved' construction toys or jigsaws that are no longer needed at home. Construction toys are used, frequently in classrooms from Primary 1 to Primary 7 to support children's learning as well as to develop their skills in creativity, problem-solving and innovation. Jigsaws are a soothing activity, and focusing on a jigsaw helps to develop children's ability to concentrate and to apply logic and analytical thinking. We provide jigsaws for children as one of their 'choosing-time' options, across school. If you do have any jigsaws at home, that you no longer need, we'd be very grateful for any donations. Please can we ask, though, that all jigsaws handed in, are complete, with no pieces missing.

Languages Week Scotland: Monday 2nd February-Friday 6th February: We are celebrating Languages Week Scotland, this week, and sharing our love of languages, across school. Representatives from our 'Culture Connectors', Pupil Leadership Group, will be leading French and Spanish games in our playground and throughout classes in school.

On **Tuesday 3rd February from 6-7pm**, we will be holding a celebration of languages in school, as part of our Family Learning programme. A range of different languages and cultures will be celebrated at the event, drawing from our diverse pupil body. Everyone is welcome to come along, if they'd like to join in. 😊

Reading Schools Week: Monday 2nd February-Friday 6th February: We have also signed up to take part in Reading Schools Week, this week, and pupils in all classes will be undertaking a number of fun, reading challenges, including; 'Drop Everything And Read' sessions, sharing stories and an 'Author Take-over Day'.

Pupil Leadership Group News: P4-7 'Culture Connectors': This month, we are featuring the work of our P4-7 'Culture Connectors' Pupil Leadership Committee. This group of children have been finding out all of the different languages that are spoken in our school and all of the different countries that children in our school, have links to. Did you know that across our school community, we can make links, through our families, to around 30 different counties world-wide including Jamaica, Slovakia and Madagascar! The children have made flags, relating to the different countries, to display across school.

In addition, this group is also beginning to explore Children's Rights, comparing how children's rights are upheld in different countries and cultures.



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Outdoor Learning News: Celebrating our Work in School: P3, P2, and P1: As a new feature to our newsletter, we are going to share some examples of the work that we do to promote outdoor learning, in our school, each month. One of our Curriculum Drivers is 'Community' and we regularly take children out into our school grounds and wider community, to learn about the outdoors and through the outdoor environment. Primary 3 have recently been out in the school grounds, using objects from nature (e.g. sticks, leaves and cones) to measure in non-standard units. They have also had lots of fun practising their spelling, on our playground surface, using coloured chalks. Our P2-3 Pupil Leadership Group 'Bloom Buddies' have been busy designing 'bug hotels', which they are going to create in our school grounds and our P1 'Garden Gang' group have been working with older pupils, to clear our planters and plant bulbs for the spring. In addition, our P4-7 Pupil Leadership Group 'The Smart Squirrels', have been busy investigating the different trees that feature in our playground. They have photographed the different trees, researched their names and written descriptions of them. One of the types of trees that feature, in our school grounds, is the Laurel. Some of our children think that the leaves of this tree smell like bubble gum! Who would have thought! 😊

Biscuit and Blether: Pupil Voice in School Improvement: News: Each month, a representative from each class in school, P1-7, takes part in a 'Biscuit and Blether' activity, led by our P7 Heads of Year, Zac and Alexis, to improve an aspect of our school. In recent months, the children have been looking at the different texts that we have on offer for children across school. They have discussed a range of different genre, including playscripts, poems and graphic novels and the children's suggestions have seen the creation of a large 'wish list' of texts. We have now begun to use our school budget to buy some of the texts that the children have asked for. Keep an eye out in school bags for new books coming home, as part of children's home learning in reading. What great work everyone!

FAST/Parent Council News: School Discos: Thursday 19th February: Our FAST team and Parent Council plan to hold P1-3 and P4-7 discos, in our school hall, on **Thursday 19th February** to raise money for school funds. We hope that all pupils who attend the discos, have a great time and we are grateful for the support of FAST at what should be a brilliant fundraiser. Thank you all!

Partnership Working: Battle 500! Over the next few months, we will be working with a range of local partners to support our children and families to learn about and take part in the celebrations for the 500 year anniversary of the Battle of Linlithgow-Bridge. We will be joining forces with Historic Scotland, Linlithgow Museum, Linlithgow Partnership Centre and many local other businesses and services, to come together as a community to make this important date in history. More news of our work around the Battle, will follow in coming newsletters.

Easter Holiday Dates: Our Easter Holidays will begin this year on **Friday 27th March** and we will return to school for **Term 4, on Tuesday 14th April, 2026.**



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Partnership Working: Linlithgow Round Table: We are delighted to have recently received a generous donation from Linlithgow Round Table which has helped us to purchase 2 pupil laptops for our school. Thank you so much to the Round Table for supporting our school, in this way. We are so grateful. 😊

UNCRC/Children's Right of the Month: Article 12: A Child's Right to an Opinion: At Linlithgow Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that every child's voice is valued. This month, we are focusing on Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which states that children have the right to express their views freely in all matters affecting them, and to have those views taken seriously.

Across our school, we provide many meaningful opportunities for pupils to share their opinions and influence decisions. Our Pupil Council and other pupil-led groups give children a platform to discuss school improvements, share ideas, and represent the views of their peers. In classrooms, pupils are encouraged to contribute through class discussions, morning meetings, circle time, and collaborative learning, where their ideas help shape lessons and learning experiences.

By embedding Article 12 into daily school life, Linlithgow Primary School ensures that children know their opinions matter and that they play an active role in shaping their school community. Recently, and in conjunction with our Authority, we have created a Child Friendly Complaints procedure which ensures that children's rights are fully upheld, if a complaint is made against our service.

Neurodivergent Learner: Parent Support Group: Feedback and Next Meeting Date: Thank you to all families who attended our most recent meeting, in January, of this group. The theme of the meeting was to discuss how best to support children to co-regulate their emotions, with an adult. Our next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 11th March, in school, at 2pm**. All families who feel that they would benefit from this support, are warmly invited to attend.

Family Learning Event: Sharing the Learning: Open Afternoon in School: 26th January: Thank you to all families who came into school on Monday 26th January, to join us for our open afternoon. It was lovely to see adults learning alongside children, in classrooms and experiencing life in school. We do hope that you enjoyed your visit and experiencing some of the work that we do, to support children. 😊

Linlithgow Primary School Walking Bus (Mondays and Fridays): 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 continue on Monday and Friday mornings, from 8.15am- meeting at the post box, beside Linlithgow Academy. Please email the school office if you'd like your child to join the Walking Bus. All pupils are very welcome. 😊



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Family Learning: Daffodil Tea Event: Tuesday 17th March: We will hold our annual. Daffodil Teas, again this year on **Tuesday, 17th March**. All children, from P1-7 are allowed to invite one elderly relative or a 'special person' to come into school, to enjoy a cup of tea, a biscuit and a chat on this date and at the following times:

9am-9.45am: P1A, P1B

10am-10.30am: P2A and P2B

10.50am-11.20am: P3, P4/3 and P4

1.30pm-2.00pm: P5A and P5B

2.15pm-2.45pm: P6A and P6B

2.50pm-3.20pm: P7A and P7B

Our children will present their visitors with a spring-themed craft, on the day of the tea. We hope that everyone who comes long for the teas, has a great time!

Family Learning Event: Sharing the Learning: Open Morning in School: Easter Bonnet Making: Friday 27th March 9.15am-10.15am: All parents/carers are invited into school on the morning of Friday 27th March, from 9.15am-10.15am, to join us for an Easter Bonnet making extravaganza in P1-7 classrooms, as we come together to celebrate Easter and the end of Term 3. Please come along and join us on this date, if you are able to do so.

Uniform Swap Shop: Our next Uniform Swap Shop will take place in the new year, on **Friday 6th February from 8.50am-11.30am**, in our school foyer. Everyone is welcome to come along on that morning to either donate, 'pre-loved' school clothing or to pick up items, to take home. 😊

Nursery News: Learning about Scotland: Our nursery children have been exploring their interests around the learning context of Scotland, in recent weeks. They have been investigating the Loch Ness Monster, including making models of Nessie with 'green' play-dough. There has been lots of curiosity around the Scottish flag and children have been busy creating their own flags, at the mark-making area.

STEM News: P7 Indy 500 Winners! A group of our P7 pupils, Annabelle, Alexis and Sarah, recently won an award for their design of a stock car, which they named 'The Bolt' for the Indy 500, STEM competition. The girls designed the car as part of last session's, STEM pupil Leadership Group. The girls were presented with their award, at Knockhill Racing Circuit, last week and as part of this, they were also treated to a ride on the go-karts.

Winter Illness Guidance: NHS guidance is that children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting should remain absent from school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours. Please encourage thorough hand washing as is the simplest and most important infection control measure. Washing hands thoroughly using soap and water will help prevent the spread of common infections such as colds, flu, covid19 and stomach bugs. We thank you for your support with this.



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STEM News: P7 Formula 1 National Finals: Rotherham: We are thrilled to share that five of our P7 pupils, are heading to the National Finals of the STEM, Formula 1 competition, with their families, in Rotherham in March. The team are called the 'Lightning Legends' and we can't wait to see how they fair, at the Rotherham finals. The team will be taking part in a sponsored walk, in due course, to fundraise for the cost of their trip away. If any of our school community, know of any local organisations who may be interested in sponsoring the team and/or donating money to help to cover the cost of the children's trip, please get in contact with our school office. We'd be extremely grateful for any support received. We will keep you posted of more news of the trip, in future newsletters.

Reading Schools: Gold Award: Volunteers Needed: Mrs Bryce and her 'Novel Navigators' Pupil Leadership Group are busy working towards gaining a gold, Reading Schools award for our school. If any parents/carers would like to support us with this award and help us to take forward reading projects in school, please get in touch with our school office. Once again, we'd be extremely grateful for any support received. We are also looking for a parent/carer or grandparent who may be interested in helping us to maintain our school library- including sorting and organising texts and keeping the library neat and tidy. Once again, if you'd be interested in helping with this or know someone else who would, please contact our school office. All volunteers will need to complete a PVG through Disclosure Scotland, but it's a very straight-forward process and school staff, will assist with this.

P7 Burns Supper: Feedback: A huge 'well done' to all of our P7 pupils and staff, for holding an outstanding Burns Supper. The children did an amazing job at reciting Burns poetry, taking part in a variety of Scottish dancing and enjoying eating the traditional meal of Haggis, Neeps and Tatties. Thank you also to Colin McCluckie, who came out in traditional dress and piped for us, on the day. There is nothing like a having a 'real' piper to bring a bit of nostalgia to a Burns Supper, and to set the atmosphere for the proceedings. Thank you to you all! I'm sure that our P7 pupil made wonderful memories that afternoon and the joy on the children's faces, was an absolute delighted to witness. 😊

Reminder: Parking in Our School Car Park: A little reminder, that our school car park is for the use of staff and visitors to the school, only. We know that parking around our school can be difficult and we'd ask families to walk to nursery/school as much as possible. Where this isn't an option, please park safely and sensibly. Please also, avoid parking in our disabled space, unless you are a 'blue badge' holder. Thank you so much for your support with this.



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Reminder: Changing for P.E: For hygiene reasons and to practise the life skill of changing, organising clothes and sorting personal belongings, we encourage all children to change for P.E during each lesson. We would really appreciate the support of all parents/carers to ensure that all children have a gym kit in school for changing into, or that they come to school with their P.E kit on, under their school clothes, ready to change for P.E, on P.E days. Thank you for your support with this, we're so grateful. 😊

Assembly Calendar: Term 3: Over the past few weeks, we have held a host of wonderful assemblies including our Pupil Leadership assembly where representatives from each of our Pupil Leadership groups, took part in an 'open mic' session to share the most recent work of their group and to detail any next steps. On Friday 23rd January, Primary 3, delighted us with their beautiful assembly about Scotland and Scottish culture, including performing Burns poems, singing and dancing. What an absolute treat it was to watch the children's lovely performance! Here are all of the forthcoming assemblies, for the rest of Term 3:

- Friday 6th February-Class Assembly led by P6A, parents/carers invited at 9.45am.
- Friday 20th February-Class Assembly led by P6B, parents/invited at 9.45am.
- Friday 27th February- Pupil Leadership Assembly: LPS Big Blether!
- Friday 6th March- Literacy Assembly/Pupil Leadership: World Book Day
- Friday 13th March- Class Assembly led by P4/3, parents/carers invited at 9.45am
- Friday 20th March- Numeracy and Maths Assembly: World Maths Day!

Pupil Writing: This month, we'd like to share a few pieces of our children's writing with a Scottish theme. Well done to all children whose writing features this month. We are so proud of you all! 😊

To a Coo, by Iona in P7, (Inspired by the poem: 'To a Louse' by Robert Burns)

There ye are, ye gallus, hielan coo,
Moving yer feet, twirlin around too,
Daein ballet, ye are kinda braw,
But tae dance in a class, when ye should be eatin straw!

Why are ye here? Tae spin on the spot?
Ye should be in zoos, the ferm, the lot.
Ye glakit, muckle beasty
Ye should be eatin grass, havin a feasty.

Ye could be in Mull, or the Isle of Iona,
On the ferm, not in Barcelona.
I'll drive yr there, if ye don't wanna walk,
We'll have a wee chat, you know, a talk!



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To a Spider, by Ianna in P7

*There ye are, wee Donna Speider,
In Hawaii aye?
Wearing a bikini and swimming goggles?
Oh the cheek, I am getting.
Ye need to come hame right noo!*

*Ye should be some persons hame,
In a hut with wee Donna Daddy,
Havin wee bairns.
Ye should be catching some flies,
With ye Speider webs.*

*Here is some advice,
Buy a ticket and come back hame.
Ye need to see you're mammy and see you're daddy.
They need to see their grand weans.
Come back hame wee Speider,
That's a good wee Speider.*

Burns Supper by Beatrice, P2

At the special day of Robert Burns birthday, we celebrate it by eating Haggis, Neeps and Tatties and some people play the bagpipes. We all sing a poem that Robert Burns made himself before we stab the knife into the Haggis.

Burns Supper by Coll, P2

At a Burns Supper, we have Haggis and bagpipes!



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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 or the turning circle for parking or stopping at any time. The car park is for staff use only, unless you are a Blue Badge holder, and the turning circle is for buses and coaches only.

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.

Nut Free School: A reminder that we are a 'nut free' school. Children should not be sent to school with nut products for snack, or with lunchboxes containing nuts or nut butters, at any time, due to the risk that this poses to children with nut allergies. This important measure will help us to keep all children safe in school. We appreciate your support with this.



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DATES FOR DIARIES: Term 3 (February-March 2026):

- Tuesday 3rd February- Family Learning Event- 'Fun Languages' celebration in hall- 6-7pm.
- Thursday 5th February- P7 Rotary Quiz event, school hall- AM.
- Friday 6th February- Uniform Swap Shop in foyer- 8.50am-11.30am.
- Friday 6th February- P6A class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Friday 6th February- February break begins for school staff and pupils from 12.25pm. Nursery will remain open.
- Tuesday 17th February- School pupils return.
- Tuesday 17th February- rescheduled Guide Dog puppy visit for P1 classes.
- Wednesday 18th February- Xcite Learn to Swim assessments for P5 pupils at Xcite Linlithgow- PM.
- Thursday 19th February- FaST Disco in school hall, ticketed event.
- Friday 20th February- P6B class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Wednesday 25th February- P5 classes to science fair at Lowport Centre.
- Thursday 26th February- P6-7 Scottish Opera workshop in school all day. Performance in school for parents/carers at 2.15pm.
- Tuesday 3rd March- West Lothian Museums visit for P1 classes.
- Wednesday 4th March- P5A and P5B trip to Bannockburn Heritage Centre.
- Thursday 5th March- P3, P4/3 and P4 trip to Edinburgh Castle.
- Friday 6th March- World Book Day in School- Dress Up as a character from a favourite book or dress down. 😊
- Friday 6th March- Uniform Swap Shop in foyer from 8.50am-11.30am.
- Wednesday 11th March- Neurodivergent Learner: Parent Support Group at 2pm.
- Thursday 12th March- Ross Collins author event for P1 and P2 classes in school hall, details to follow.
- Friday 13th March- P4/3 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Saturday 14th March- FaST Spring Craft Fair, details to follow.
- Tuesday 17th March- Family Learning Event- P1-7 Daffodil Teas in school (all day) for an elderly relative/special person. 😊
- Wednesday 18th March- 5.30-8.30pm- Parent Consultations in school.
- Thursday 19th March- 4.00-6.00pm- Parent Consultations in school.
- Thursday 19th March- P6 Euroquiz Event for identified children- in school.
- Tuesday 24th March- Choir at Scottish Primary School Glee Challenge heat, Corn Exchange, Edinburgh.
- Thursday 26th March- P4-7 Easter service at St Ninian's Church, service starts at 1.50pm.
- Friday 27th March- Family Learning Event in school- Easter Bonnet Making in all classes, P1-7.
- Friday 27th March- School staff and pupils break for Easter holidays at 12.25pm.

Staff and pupils return to school on Tuesday 14th April for Term 4.



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