



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

March has arrived, bringing with it the promise of Spring. As we move into a new season and say 'good-bye' to winter, we are focusing on growth, renewal and fresh opportunities, throughout school. Our pupils continue to be given a wide variety of opportunities to develop skills across the entire curriculum. Our P5 pupils recently attended Linlithgow Science Fair at Low Port Centre to learn more about the world of science and to explore career options in this field. Primary 1 will take part in a Toys and Games workshop with Linlithgow Museum, to learn about artefacts from the past and P3, P4/3 and P4 will visit Edinburgh Castle to learn about life in medieval Scotland. We will also be welcoming a number of published authors, into school, to share the books that they've created with our children and to promote a love of reading. Our pupils continue to demonstrate curiosity, resilience and a determination to success and we are extremely proud of each and every one of them. Please read on to hear all of our latest news and keep an eye out on Seesaw (P1-3) and Teams (P4-7) for photos of children's learning.

Have a great month everyone and we wish all families a very happy Easter, when it comes. 😊

Learning, Teaching and Assessment/School Curriculum: Health and Wellbeing and Outdoor Learning: On week beginning 16th March, all classes will engage in lessons around Internet Safety, including online safety and cyber-bullying. We are extremely passionate about ensuring that our children have the knowledge that they need to stay safe online and to get support, should they have any concerns about online content and/or about the behaviour of others, online. The resource that we use to support much of our teachings and discussion in school. Is called ThinkuKnow and is part of the CEOP Education, website. We have included links to this resource, here, as we'd encourage all families to talk regularly about Internet Safety at home, including the following, important messages:

- Never share personal information, passwords or personal images.
- Never share photos of others without the consent of the other person.
- Always talk to a trust adult if anything that you see online worries you or makes you feel concerned.

Link to the CEOP Education Website: <https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/>

In addition, to our work on Internet Safety we will also have our Outdoor Learning focus, before the end of term, for all classes. As a reminder, each class/stage learns about a different aspect of the outdoors, throughout the session, noticing how things change, with the different seasons. The areas of learning are:

- Primary 1- 'Busy Butterflies'
- Primary 2-Woodland Creatures
- Primary 3- Trees/Woodlands
- Primary 4- What makes a garden grow
- Primary 5-Feed the Birds
- P6-Pond Life
- P7- Community Project/Biodiversity

We hope that all pupils have lots of fun outdoors and love learning about the wonder of nature. 😊



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Pupil Equity Group: Parliament Visit/Cost of the School Day Manifesto: The P6 Pupil Equity Group plus Mrs Gordon are due to make a very special visit to the Scottish Parliament, in the month of March, to take part in the Cost of the School Day Manifesto. The children will be given a chance to speak to MSPs and to put forward their ideas for how we can ensure equity for all children in schools and reduce the cost of the school day, for families. The children are particularly interested in sharing their ideas on making school meals fair and equitable for all pupils; including varying portion sizes by age and stage, to avoid wastage and to ensure that children get the right portion size to meet their nutritional needs.

Pupil Achievements: Name a Bin Lorry Competition: P6: Recently, one of our P6 pupils, Rupert, had a winning entry in the West Lothian Council, Name a Bin Lorry competition. The council encouraged all primary school children to name a bin lorry, with the winning names to be featured on the side of bin lorries, that clean up our streets and neighbourhoods. We are delighted to say that Rupert's winning entry 'Luke Bin Walker' (which we think is a pretty genius name!), will appear on the side of a bin lorry soon. Keep an eye for 'Luke Bin Walker', on the roads around Linlithgow! 😊

Pupil Achievement: Skiing Success: P4: One of our Primary 4 boys, Oscar, recently took a fantastic, second place, for being the fastest individual, in the P1-4, schools ski race, at Glenshee ski slope. Oscar skies as part of our LPS team and we are thrilled that as well as his contributions to the team, he has achieved this individual success. Well done Oscar!

Pupil Achievement: Little Princess Trust: P3 Pupil in P4/3: We are so proud of Emily in P4/3 (P3), who recently had her long hair cut into a shorter style and donated the cut hair, to the Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust uses human hair, to make wigs for little girls, who have lost their hair, due to treatment for Cancer. Emily also raised £815 to enable a least one wig to be made. What an outstanding effort, Emily and a very kind thing to do for others. 😊

Pupil Achievements: P7 Rotary Quiz Team: Well done to our P7, Rotary Quiz Team, Willow, Zac, Emily W and Leo D, who came second in the recent, cluster schools quiz. The children were 'pipped at the post' for first place, by Low Port pupils but they deserve recognition for their valiant effort. Congratulations to you all for trying hard and for doing your very best. 😊

STEM Room/Maker Spacers Plea: One Person's Trash is Another Person's Treasure! This month, we are collecting craft materials to support our 'Easter Bonnet Making' family learning event, at the end of term. If you have any of the following materials lying around at home, we'd be grateful for their use:

- Ribbon/wool/ bits of elastic
- Cardboard
- Coloured card
- Any unused craft kits containing the following: pom poms, stickers, foam shapes, sequins, buttons.



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World Gaelic Week: We celebrated World Gaelic Week, in school, at the end of February by learning some, different, Gaelic phrases, each day, in all classes. Here are some of the phrases that we learned:

Madainn mhath (mah-deen-vah): Good Morning!

Tioraidh (chee-ree): Good-bye

Neupais (nyeh-pish): Tunips/neeps

Buntata (boon-ta-ta): Potatoes/tatties

Maybe you can practise some of these words at home! 😊

Mandarin/Chinese Culture Lessons: P1-7: As part of our ongoing efforts to support all pupils to be Global Citizens and Effective Contributors, we are giving children the opportunity to learn some words and phrases in Mandarin and to explore aspects of Chinese culture. We are delighted to be welcoming a Chinese language teacher into school, for the next few weeks, to bring this wonderful learning experience into our classrooms.

P6-7 Scottish Opera Performance: The Dragon of the Western Sea: Our Primary 6 and Primary 7 children recently put on an outstanding performance of The Dragon of the Western Sea, led by Scottish Opera. The children sang and performed their hearts out, each showcasing their own personalities and talents, throughout the show. Well done to all of the children who took part in the musical extravaganza! A huge 'thank you' to all P6-7 staff and also, to Scottish Opera.

School Fund Purchase: New Sound System for School Hall: We always like to show transparency in our school budget and School Fund and we will always try to detail how we use money, to directly benefit children. Recently, we are thrilled to have been able to fit a brand, new sound system in our school hall! This improvement will make a massive difference to the quality of the performances that we can provide in our hall and also, it will benefit community groups who use the hall, for different purposes. Thank you to the following partners, who donated money to help us with this project: Linlithgow Folk Festival and Brodies Legal Services.

P5 Visit to Linlithgow Science Fair: At the end of last month, our Primary 5 year group, paid a visit to the Linlithgow Science Fair which was held in Low Port Centre and facilitated by volunteers. The Fair was a huge success and saw children, from across the Linlithgow cluster, learning about a range of science topics, including; planet earth, energy sources, sustainability and space. The pupils who visited also explored a range of science projects that had been created by their peers. One of these projects was launchable rockets! Thank you to the local volunteers who set up this brilliant, Fair, for local children.

Pupil Leadership Group News: Nursery and P1: Garden Gang: We have two Garden Gang groups this session, one which focuses on the nursery outdoor area and the other in the infant playground. Both groups have been working hard to get the areas ready for the springtime. The pupils have planted lots of spring bulbs and are nurturing them in the hope that they bring a splash of colour in the milder weather. The nursery group have started to get the ground ready for planting vegetables to harvest later in the year. In the infant playground, the children have spent time litter picking so that our school is clean and tidy. We love to look after our outdoor areas so that everyone can enjoy them.



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Outdoor Learning News: Celebrating our Work in School: Earlier this term, P1B were exploring signs of winter outdoors, including experiencing rain, sleet, and snow using their senses. They also conducted some science investigations into the changing states of water, and turned water into ice overnight, which they were all very excited about. P5A have been also been outdoors, recently, measuring different objects and aspects of the playground, using standard units. It's much easier to understand the language of measure in 'real-life' contexts and the outdoor environment, is an ideal place to do this.

Pupil Voice in School Improvement: Big Blether Assembly: Pupil Feedback: We recently held a 'Big Blether' assembly for all pupils in school, to help us the school improvements. The purpose of these assemblies is to seek children's opinions on key aspects of our school improvement work. During these assemblies, we were asking children their opinions on the different ways that they feel included in the life and work of the school and how we ensure that they are fully respected. We also asked the children their opinions on the introduction of 'calm me' time in all classes and on 'morning/class meetings', which have been happening in all classrooms, since last August. Here are some of the children's views. They are really heartwarming, and are well worth a read. 😊

What do we do at LPS to help all of our children to feel included?

"Playground Pals" help everyone to feel included."

"Nurture groups help you to feel included."

"Pupil Voice groups help you- you get to do activities that are different to normal school-work." "You get to take part in community competitions and events."

"If someone asks to join in a game, we always say yes."

"In our school, everyone gets what they need, and this might not be the same for everyone."

"We treat everyone the same way, if they speak a different language, we celebrate that and help them."

"No matter the colour of our skin or what we look like, we treat everyone the same- we are always kind and positive."

What do we do at LPS to help all children to feel respected in school?

"People don't speak over other people, if they are talking."

"People hear all of your opinions."

"We use 'whole-body listening' when someone is talking."

"We help someone if they need it."

"We respect people's boundaries."

"We have trusted adults."

We also asked children how 'calm me time' is working in classrooms. Here is what they said:

"We listen to music with our eyes closed and it makes us feel chilled."

"We enjoy reading, it is nice and quiet"

"Sometimes we listen to 'white noise' to help us to calm down.

"We have a 'calm me' script and we learn how to take deep breaths and calm ourselves down.



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Our final question was: Tell us how class meetings and 'circle-time' are working for children in school?

"We share our hobbies and interests so that we can find out about people in our class. "

"It lets you know that there are people there who you can share their worries with."

"It helps us to make new friends."

"Sometimes we can help to solve conflict."

"It is a nice feeling because everyone is listening to you."

FAST/Parent Council News: School Discos: Feedback: Thank you to our FAST team and the Parent Council for running two, highly successful school discos for our P1-3 and P4-7 children, last month. The children who attended had an absolute ball and we are so grateful to all of the FAST volunteers, who came along to help, on the night. Well done for a fantastic evening, with proceeds raised, going to school funds.

Partnership Working: Guide Dogs: For the past few months, we are delighted to have been working with the charity Guide Dogs. We have been visited by three, different Guide Dog puppies and their handler, in school and children have been learning about the highly, worthwhile work that this charity do, to support people with a visual impairment. Our children have especially loved meeting the different puppies as they start their Guide Dog training and getting to know their individual personalities. Thank you to Guide Dogs and to Carina, at West Port Vets, for bringing this opportunity to our school. We're so grateful!

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.

UNCRC/Children's Right of the Month: Article 7: The Right to a Name and a Nationality: This month, our Article of the Month is Article 7: The Right to a Name and Nationality. This important right reminds us that every child should be recognised, valued, and known for who they are. A child's name, identity, and nationality are all key parts of what makes them unique, and we want every pupil in our school to feel proud of their background and confident in who they are.

In our school community, we work hard to ensure all nationalities, languages, and cultures are treated with respect. We encourage children to share their traditions and personal stories so that we can all learn more about one another and celebrate the diversity that enriches our school. Our Pupil Voice group plays a big part in this. These groups include children who represent different cultures from around the world. They help educate their peers, organise inclusive activities, and make sure everyone's identity is recognised and valued.

Each year, we also celebrate World Languages Day, which gives pupils the chance to explore languages spoken, both within our school and across the globe. This celebration helps children to understand that every language and every culture, has something special to offer. It is always a joyful opportunity for pupils to learn greetings, share experiences, and discover the richness of our multilingual community.

We further uphold this right through our Religious and Moral Education (RME) curriculum. Throughout the year, the children learn about a range of world religions and the beliefs, values, and cultural traditions that shape people's lives. By learning about different religions in an open and respectful way, pupils develop understanding, empathy, and respect for others whose identities may differ from their own.



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Article 7 helps us remember that every child deserves to feel seen, supported, and valued for who they are. By celebrating diversity, encouraging curiosity, and promoting respect throughout the school, we strive to ensure that every pupil knows their identity matters.

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.

Linlithgow Primary School Walking Bus (Mondays and Fridays): Planned New Route! 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.

The current route for our Walking Bus (around the Braehead area), will continue on Monday and Friday mornings, from 8.15am- meeting at the post box, beside Linlithgow Academy until the Easter holidays. Please email the school office if you'd like your child to join the Walking Bus. All pupils are very welcome.

As demand for our current route (around Braehead area), has been very low, after the Easter holidays, we are changing the Walking Bus route. One of these routes will be around Preston Terrace and Priory Road, or around the Deanburn area. If you are interested in using the Walking Bus, for your child, on either of these routes, then please contact the school office.

Unfortunately, we can only continue to run the Walking Bus if we have enough children attending, to make the service worthwhile. Fingers crossed, that we get enough demand for the proposed, new routes, to ensure that this great service can continue.

We are also looking for parents with a PVG disclosure for the school to help with the Walking Bus on Monday and Friday mornings before school, if you can help please contact the school office.

World Book Day: Friday 6th March: On Friday 6th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. We are inviting all children to come to school, on this day, dressed up as a character from a favourite book or 'dressed down'. Children will engage in a range of different activities, in classrooms, to promote a love of books and reading and a special assembly will be held that morning, led by our Novel Navigators, pupil leadership group, to celebrate the day. For the past few weeks, across school, children have been working together to create a 'school story', which will be shared with children, on the day. Watch out for our staff costumes, which will have a theme this year! 😊

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. 😊



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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!

P4-7 Easter Church Service: Thursday 26th March at St. Ninian's Church: On Thursday 26th March, we will hold our annual, P4-7 Easter Church Service at St. Ninian's Church. All parents/carers are invited to join us at 1.50pm, if they'd like to take part in this traditional, Easter service, as we come together, to celebrate this special time of year.

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 on Friday 6th March 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 Families and Babies: What a busy few weeks, we've been having in nursery with children exploring different types of families and learning, that all families are unique, but that the thing that holds a family together, is love. Pupils have loved bringing in baby photos to share with staff and their friends, and we are just loving see all of the cute, baby faces, up on our nursery display. 😊

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.

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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Assembly Calendar: Term 3: Well done to both P6A who led a wonderful assembly about STEM and to P6B, who recently led a fantastic assembly about Europe.

We will hold the following assemblies, before the end of term:

-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: P3 Castles: This month, we'd like to feature the work of Mia in P3, who created a text to share her knowledge of castles. What a brilliant effort, Mia!

Castles were built a long time ago and designed to keep people safe.

Castles have very thick walls and thick walls are very hard to get in to. They are tall to get up and they are high to protect people. The windows are very narrow to protect archers and keep them safe. The bridge would be brought up and the moat stops being from getting hear the castle. The moat can be deep and wide so it is difficult to cross. A castle is a strong building. It has high walls to defend against attack.



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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 March- West Lothian Museums visit for P1 classes.
- Tuesday 3rd March- Generation Science show for P3 children.
- Wednesday 4th March- P5A and P5B trip to Bannockburn Heritage Centre.
- Thursday 5th March- P3, P4/3 and P4 trip to Edinburgh Castle.
- Thursday 5th March- Bo'ness Fire Station visit for P6 classes.
- 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.
- Friday 13th March- P4/3 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Friday 13th March- selected children at football tournament, Broxburn Academy.
- Saturday 14th March- FaST Spring Craft Fair, details to follow.
- Monday 16th March- P6 classes at 'Cracking Easter' event, St Michael's Church.
- 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.
- Thursday 19th March- Siobhan McDermott author event for P6 and P7 classes in school hall, details to follow.
- 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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