



Law Primary School and Nursery Class Newsletter

Winter



School Motto: **In happiness we strive to learn**

I hope everyone enjoyed the October break. It is great to see the children back. We have a busy time ahead at Law as we move into winter. We have decided to make this a winter newsletter in an effort to keep you informed about everything that is happening at Law over the winter months. We hope you will find it informative.

What's been happening at Law?

New Staff

We would like to welcome Mr William Atkinson as our newly appointed janitor. You will see Mr Atkinson helping around school from now on. We are delighted that Mr Atkinson has been appointed on a permanent basis although we were sorry to see Mr Milroy move to his new post.

We have also been joined by Mrs Nicola Wood in the nursery. Mrs Wood is an Early Year's Practitioner and she will be with us during the morning sessions being responsible for the yellow group. We are still awaiting a second Early Years Practitioner who we hope will start with us soon. In the meantime, Mrs Britton will help cover the Green Group activities.

Halloween Discos

The PTA held their annual Halloween Discos on Tuesday 24th October. As usual they were well attended and the children really enjoyed the events. The costumes worn were superb! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA for all their hard work in planning and preparing for the discos. I would also like to thank all our excellent helpers, including PTA members and members of staff. Our children really benefit from these fantastic events and a wonderful £305 was raised to contribute to other events, excursions and resources.



Lockerbie Manor Fundraising-

Halloween Tuck Shop and Raffle

This year we had another Lockerbie Manor Fundraising Tuck Shop and Raffle which will help towards the P7 residential trips which will take place in April 2018 for current P7s and September 2018 for current P6s. P6 and P7 pupils helped sell items each day, therefore learning how they can help towards the fundraising efforts.

Thank you to Mrs Bryce who organised the whole event which contributed a massive £151.53. Thanks too to the families and staff who donated raffle prizes.



We will be at Light Up Law on Friday, 24th November in the Tom Craig Centre. Please support these events to ensure we raise the maximum amount possible. **Donations for the Christmas Tombola** should be sent into school anytime from now and before 22nd November. Thank you for your support.

MacMillan Coffee Day

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to ensure our recent coffee morning on Tuesday, 10th October was a great success:

- To everyone who supported the event by attending and bringing friends and family
- Our volunteer parent/carer helpers for serving the teas, coffees and cakes and to both the PTA and members of staff who helped set up and clear up
- To Mrs Currie and Law's Pupil Council who organised the event and welcomed our guests, and who were complimented by those who attended
- To all the children, parents, carers and staff who generously donated baking – it was all enjoyed! A special thank you is due to the nursery children and staff who did some super baking
- To those who made very generous cash donations

I am delighted to say that we raised a total of £ 310.70, I am sure you will agree this is a fantastic amount for a very worthwhile cause which is close to many people's hearts.



House Captains & Vice Captains

Our House Captains and Vice Captains for this session have started a 'Suggestion Time' to collect views from all pupils on how we can make Law Primary School and Nursery Class even better.

Pupils who make sensible suggestions are rewarded with 5 points for their House.

Some ideas for us to investigate are: separate tables for packed lunch and canteen lunches, more outdoor games and leaver's hoodies for P7s. The Captains and Vice

Captains will consider these and other suggestions, survey pupils, parents and staff if necessary and then look at how they might implement feasible solutions.

Road Safety Calendar Competition

I am delighted to say that a number of our children entered South Lanarkshire Council's Traffic and Transportation Section's Road Safety Calendar Competition earlier this session. Two of our P7 pupils were Highly Commended for their efforts.



Congratulations to Ryan Brady and Grace Henderson who both received certificates.

Educational Experiences at Law

Room 10 had a very successful excursion to the Glasgow Science Centre. Whilst there they visited the planetarium workshop which helped consolidate their learning about our solar system.

Some of our nursery children visited one of our local shops to buy the ingredients which the nursery used to bake their MacMillan Coffee Day cakes. The children enjoyed their educational visit to the local community with their peers.

The Pupil Council were out and about putting up posters in local shops to advertise the MacMillan Coffee Day. Again a beneficial learning experience for the children.

Room 11 visited the Scottish Parliament and The National Museum of Scotland, both in Edinburgh. This excursion helped pupils to connect their learning about democracy to the workings of parliament and the government of our country.

Room 9 attended Scotland Street School on Friday, 9th November. This has helped them see what it was like to attend school in the past as part of their topic on the Victorians.

Gala Maids

The Gala Maids for the Carluke Gala Day in 2018 will be **Marni Todd** of Room 9 and **Lily Meenan** of Room 10. Members of the Gala Committee visited the school to make the draw and the two girls were the lucky ones!

We wish them well with all their preparations and look forward to seeing them on the day.



Parent/Carer Communication:

Parents' Evening

I am delighted to say that we had an excellent turn out at our October parents' evening/consultations this year. 90% for our primary class children and 88% for the nursery children. Some of our parent/carers who couldn't make it along have also rescheduled to ensure that they meet with their child's teacher at a mutually convenient time. We hope you found the consultations informative in respect of your child's learning.

Whilst you were in school we asked you if travelling to Carluke would be a barrier to attending curricular workshops if these were organised as a learning community in the future. Of those who completed the feedback, 100% said that they would be prepared to travel. Nothing has been arranged, at this point we are just looking for your views.

Bistro Cafes

Bistro Cafés are due to begin on the 31st October and run through until the end of November. We hope you agree that these are a fantastic opportunity to see learning in action and to gain an insight into the rich learning environments our teachers and support staff work tirelessly to provide.

Bistro Cafés start at 9.30am and run until 10.15am. We respectfully ask that you wait outside the main entrance until just before 9.30am when we will admit everyone together. It is a very busy time for office staff as they are dealing with absences, lunches, etc. so we hope that you can support us with this request.

So far, the feedback from these events has been very positive with almost all parents attending saying that they have taken away some ideas to try at home.

Active Schools

We have been asked by SL Leisure and Culture to issue you with an Active Schools Photo Permission Form. Information about why you are being asked to do this is included in their letter. The reason we have been asked to do this is that the current photo permission form that we hold in school for every child does not cover Active Schools events.

The form will be sent home via pupil post to all children. Please complete this form and return to school by **Friday, 24th November**.

PTA Meetings

Please note that the next meeting of the PTA is listed below:

Monday 15th January 2018 – 6.30pm – 7.30pm

The PTA meets here in school and the existing members would love to see you at one of their meetings. I am delighted to say that the PTA has recently increased in numbers so there are some other new members as well as longer serving ones. Come along and find out what PTA is about. You will receive a warm and friendly we

Fundraising



The PTA have recently helped secure £480 in sponsorship to allow us to replace our football strips for our boys' team. Thank you to Stuart's Coaches of Carluke.

Thank you to Mr Kane who donated a further £250 to purchase sports kit and equipment.

We have applied for the green token scheme at ASDA Newmains, this is towards updating our outdoor equipment. We will let you know once we hear if we have been successful.

The PTA are helping fund an updated website which we hope to launch early in 2018. Miss Gibson is also working on a Twitter feed which we hope to set up at the same time.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the RagBag collection, we are waiting to hear how much was raised but this is always a worthwhile event.

We are awaiting a second quote to repair our Trim Trail, the PTA hope to be able to subsidise its repair – we will keep you posted.

Easyfundraising: So far your contributions have raised over £200. Please sign up for this if you are likely to be making any Christmas purchases online.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/lawpta/>

Important Reminders:

Registration for New Primary 1 and New Nursery Children August 2018

We are quickly approaching registration time again. Please remind all family and friends with children who will be starting school or nursery in 2018 that registration will be in the New Year. Registration will be during week beginning 15th January 2018. More details will follow.

Road Safety

As we move into winter and the darker evenings can I ask you to remind your child about general road safety. We will speak to the children in classes about this and also have assemblies with these themes but it would be great if you could reinforce these important messages at home.



Parking

I would like to ask everyone to take extra care when driving in our car park to ensure the safety of our children. Safety is always important but extra caution is required at this time of the year when the weather can be inclement and the mornings and afternoons are darker. If you have to use our car park you can help us by **only using marked bays** and by driving carefully. Please also encourage your child to use the pavement around the car park to get from A to B and not to cross the car park to do so.

Please note that there are occasions when we have to close the car park due to the weather. This decision is never taken lightly but is always with the best interests of our children at heart. If the car park is closed I would ask that you exercise extreme caution and patience on the roads outside the school.

Thank you in advance for your support with this very important matter.



School Closure Guidelines

I think we are all hoping for a mild winter this session. However, if there is a repeat of the conditions we have experienced in previous years and we receive notification to close the school during the school day, we have compiled a set of school closure guidelines to inform you of our procedures which you can find at the end of this newsletter. We hope you will find this useful. Fingers crossed we will not need to refer to them.



Please check the South Lanarkshire Council website on days where the weather is particularly wintry as they will update this if the school is closed.

Events and opportunities

Our children have lots of opportunities to attend exciting events and to take part in a range of worthwhile activities. Here is just a flavour of what some of our pupils have done:

Some of our senior children have participated in the Football and Netball Festivals and Sportshall Athletic events held locally. The children have participated enthusiastically and represented the school well on each occasion.

Our choir participated in the local Jam and Ham festival on Friday, 29th September 2017. They joined with choirs from other local schools and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of taking part and performing in front of such a large audience. Our thanks to Mrs McCluskie for leading our excellent choir. As part of the Jam and Ham festival our children were also invited to participate in an art competition. I am delighted to say that Jack Anderson, Room 3 won second prize for his age group.

As a result of this the choir has now been asked to attend Dobbies Family Fun Day on Saturday, 18th November where they will provide the entertainment. They have also been asked to perform at SL's Christmas Concert organised by the Youth Music Initiative. This will be on Monday, 27th November in the Town House, Hamilton.

Our Primary 5 children have benefited from visits from Ms Cunningham, a peripatetic music specialist, on Thursday mornings. They have been honing their percussion skills by learning to play the Glockenspiel.



Christmas Events at Law:

Parties and school Show

As always December is a very busy month in school but it is also a magical time of the year. We have a number of events to look forward to including our school show, infant nativity, nursery nativity and Christmas parties of course!

Details of the Christmas shows and Christmas parties have been sent to you in a separate letter. For dates and times of all forthcoming Christmas events please see the Dates for your Diary section below.



Pantomime

I am delighted to say that the Folsy Theatre Company will visit Law Primary to present this year's pantomime, The Snow Queen. The pantomime will take place on Wednesday 13th December in the afternoon.

Christmas Fayre

The PTA will hold their Christmas Fayre on Thursday, 30th November from 6.00pm – 8.00pm. The event is always a date to look forward to with an excellent range of different stalls to shop at and a 'special visitor' to meet the children. Please come along and support us on this evening. We will be delighted to see you.

One of the stalls will be a children's tombola. So, we are holding a **Dress Down for Chocolate Day on Thursday, 23rd November**. Children can wear their normal clothes (no football colours please) and bring in a donation of a bar of chocolate or similar to be used on the tombola stall.

There will also be an adult tombola and raffle, any donations will be gratefully received. Please hand into the office on 17th November.

Christmas Cards

Your children have been busy designing Christmas Cards which you will soon be able to order on line. The standard of art work this year is particularly high so please hold off buying your cards until you see your child's design.

A letter from the PTA will be issued shortly and this explains how you go about ordering these and a copy of your child's design will be issued at the same time. The deadline for orders will be Sunday, 26th November; all orders are placed online.



Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch will take place on Thursday 14th December. We will be combining this with a fundraising event for Lockerbie Manor: children will be asked to wear a Christmas Jumper to school that day and pay £1 which will go towards subsidising this excursion.



After School Clubs

Please note that any after school clubs, which have not already finished for the term, will stop at the end of week beginning 27th November.

Clubs will resume again after the Christmas holidays week beginning 15th January 2018.



Credit Union

Mrs Greer and our P7 helpers are in school every Monday to help children develop a good saving habit. If you would like your child to save money through the Credit Union, please contact the school office and ask for an application form.



Community News

Christmas Lights Switch On

The Christmas Lights Switch On this year will take place on Friday 24th November at 4.30pm. Children from our choir will be there to spread some festive cheer through their singing. There will also be a Christmas Market in the Tom Craig Centre following the main event.

Look out for the Lockerbie Manor Fundraising Committees' stall selling a range of tasty Christmas treats! The committee has asked for any donations for the tombola which they are running as part of this event. All donations should be handed in to school office by Wednesday 22nd November.



Nursery News

Winter 2017

Macmillan thanks

The children were incredibly busy in the nursery throughout the month of October. We are very proud of the hard work they contributed to the MacMillan Coffee morning. The children spent lots of time baking cakes, making posters and invitations. Thank you to all the parents/carers who donated home baking and who attended the MacMillan Coffee event – the children thoroughly enjoyed it.



'Stay, Play and Learn'

We are delighted to invite parent/carers to come and 'Stay, Play and Learn' with your child in the nursery from 13th November until 16th November. The children are looking forward to having the company of their parents/carers in nursery to show off their learning. We will be showing the parents/carers what we have been learning about transport.

Please ensure you have signed up for Stay, Play and Learn sessions. Details can be found in the nursery reception area.

Treasure Hunt- Nursery fundraiser

The children will be taking part in a sponsored treasure hunt. The children and their families came up with some fantastic ideas to promote numeracy skills. These will be displayed within each child's group area.

While having fun taking part in the numeracy treasure hunt, the children and their families will help us to raise funds for some extra nursery resources. A separate letter will be sent out to detail how much money we raised together. *Thank you for your support.*

Christmas/Winter focus

We are looking forward to learning lots about Christmas and winter time. The children will take part in a variety of activities like writing lists for Santa, reading Christmas stories, making Christmas dinner in the home corner and designing Christmas cards to send to their friends and family.



Christmas cards

As an eco-friendly nursery if you wish to send Christmas cards we would like to encourage the children to bring one special Christmas card for all their friends which will be displayed in the cloakroom area for all to see. This will also take away the stress of writing lots of Christmas cards!



Christmas Fayre

The children will be working very hard in the nursery to make reindeer food to sell at the Christmas Fayre.

Please come along to the PTA Christmas Fayre on Thursday 30th November at 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Santa will be there and you will get a chance to buy the goodies from the nursery and school craft stalls.

Goulding's Winter Wonderland – Wednesday 6th December 2017

Nursery trip to Gouldings where we will be hopping aboard the Wonder Wagon and journeying through the farm meeting Percy, Pippa, Poppy and Primrose the donkeys. We will then walk through the winter wonderland meeting Rudolph and Dancer the reindeer on the way to meet Santa in his Grotto. After visiting Santa we will play in the indoor play area and have a special Christmas snack.

Christmas Party

The Nursery party will be on Thursday 21st December. This includes all of our morning and afternoon children. You will be invited to come along to see your child meet a very special visitor!

Please look out for the letter closer to the time which will let you know the time for your child's group to visit Santa.

Christmas Concert

This year the children will be taking part in a Christmas Concert on Wednesday 20th December at 9.45am. This includes all of our morning and afternoon children. The children will be working really hard to learn the words to lots of new songs. Further details of what the children should wear will be sent home, in due course, in a separate letter.

Reminders

Can we remind parents/carers to label children's jumpers, jackets and shoes? This is to ensure children's clothes and shoes don't get muddled up or lost. *Thank you.*

Can we also remind parents/carers to send children with suitable clothing and footwear for outdoor play during the winter months? *Thank you.*

Dates for your diary

Room 5 Bistro Café	Tuesday 14 th November at 9.30am
Room 8 Bistro Café	Wednesday 15 th November at 9.30am
Room 7 Bistro Café	Thursday 16 th November at 9.30am
Choir singing at Dobbie's Family Fun Day	Saturday 18 th November at 2pm
In-service Day – no children please	Monday 20 th November
Room 9 Bistro Café	Wednesday 22 nd November at 9.30am
P7/S1 Transition	Friday 24 th November 1.00pm
Law Community Trust Christmas Lights Switch On	Friday 24 th November at 4.30pm
Choir sing at the South Lanarkshire Christmas Concert at The Town House, Hamilton	Monday 27 th November at 6.30pm
Room 4 Bistro Café	Tuesday 28 th November at 9.30am
Room 11 Bistro Café	Wednesday 29 th November at 9.30am
Sportshall Athletics	Wednesday 29 th November
P5 Swimming starts	Wednesday 29 th November
PTA Christmas Fayre	Thursday, 30 th November 6.00pm
Nursery Excursion	Wednesday 6 th December
Christmas Show	Wednesday 6 th December 7.00pm Thursday 7 th December 1.30pm
P4 Christmas Party	Friday 8 th December
P5 Christmas Party	Monday 11 th December
P6 Christmas Party	Tuesday 12 th December
Panto in school – The Snow Queen	Wednesday 13 th December
Christmas Lunch day and Wear a Christmas Jumper Fundraiser	Monday 14 th December
Infant Nativity	Friday 15 th December
P7 Christmas Party	Friday 15 th December
P3 Christmas Party	Monday 18 th December
P2 Christmas Party	Tuesday 19 th December
Nursery Concert	Wednesday 20 th December 9.15am
P1 Christmas Party	Wednesday 20 th December
Nursery Christmas Party	Thursday 21 st December
School closes at 2.30pm	Friday 22 nd December

ACHIEVEMENT SUPPLEMENT

Alistair Forman

Alistair has been awarded his Black Belt in Taekwondo after just six years of training. He also attended the Taekwondo-UK British Open event in Stratford recently and won **Gold** in both Sparring and Patterns

An Outstanding Effort Alistair!

Sarah Tait

Sarah placed 1st at the recent Falkirk Duathlon, earning gold. She also competed in the Scottish Mountain biking series securing a 3rd place for Girls Under 8.

Well done Sarah!

Caela Connell

Baked cakes which she sold at a kidney and cancer charity event. She was told that her Malteaser Cake was amazing. She was also named as Top Baker

Great job Caela!

Lilly MacDonald

Lilly raised an amazing £160 for the Little Princess Trust by having her long golden locks cut off. The donated hair goes to make wigs for children undergoing chemo therapy

Great achievement Lilly!

Eve Grierson

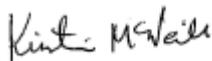
Eve recently participated in the SL Schools Swimming Championships 2017. She won a Bronze medal for the 50m Backstroke and a Silver medal for the 50m Freestyle. Eve is waiting to hear if she has gone through to the Scottish School's Championships.

An outstanding achievement, Eve!

School Closure Guidelines

- Children and Teachers go to classes.
- Teacher sends up-to-date register to the office.
- A school closure text is sent by the office to the Parent/Carer.
- The adult collecting a child must report to the office first and a member of the Support Team will collect the child from the classroom.
- No parent/carer should collect a child directly from the class.
- Children must only leave the school accompanied by a responsible adult.
- If emergency contact or parents are unavailable, children will be supervised until alternative arrangements can be made.

Yours sincerely



Kirstin McNeill
Head Teacher