



# Machanhill Primary Newsletter



Safe, Successful, Respectful

February 2026

## **Dear Parents/ Carers,**

Welcome to our latest school newsletter. This is a lovely opportunity to share highlights from across the school, celebrate our children's achievements, and keep you informed about upcoming events and important dates. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

### **P7 Transition Visit**

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January we welcomed staff from Larkhall Academy, who met with the P7 children and shared information and answered questions on life as a pupil at Larkhall Academy.

### **Holocaust Commemoration Event**

We are incredibly proud of the eleven P7 pupils who with pupils from other Larkhall primary schools, have worked together with commitment, sensitivity and creativity, culminating in a powerful Learning Community Choir performance of *Love Will Build a Bridge* at the Holocaust Commemoration event. This year's theme, *Bridging Generations*, was brought to life through music, as young people used their voices to honour the past, reflect on shared values, and connect meaningfully across ages and communities. The performance was a moving reminder of the role music plays in remembrance, unity and hope for the future.

### **Larkhall Indoor Athletics Final**

As proud winners of the Larkhall Indoor Athletics competition, a group of 16 pupils attended the South Lanarkshire final in East Kilbride. The team achieved an excellent fourth place out of 24 schools at the recent competition. With just six points separating us from the winning school, it was a closely contested event and a fantastic achievement for all involved. The pupils demonstrated determination, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout, and represented the school superbly.

### **Parent Council Ladies Day**

The Parent Council is delighted to invite you to a Ladies' Day - **Glitz and Glamour** event on Friday 7th March 2026, 4-9pm. Tickets are just £15 and promise an evening of fabulous food, great entertainment, and plenty of fun with raffles and games throughout the night. Ladies, it's a perfect opportunity to relax, socialise and support our school at the same time. We would love to see as many parents and carers there as possible for what is sure to be a sparkling evening.

### **Nursery Stay and Play**

Our recent Nursery Stay and Play session was a lovely success, with the children thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to share their learning and play experiences alongside their adult. It was wonderful to see such positive engagement and special moments being created together. We look forward to hosting the next session, with the date to be shared soon. Feedback is very welcome and can be

shared with Miss Scott, as we continue to shape these sessions to best support our children and families.

### **The School Gates & Parking**

We continue to have issues with parents and carers not using the carpark and drop off area appropriately. The safety of our pupils is paramount therefore only park vehicles in designated bays. If there are no bays, please do not park on the road or block other vehicles. Children should only be dropped off at the drop off point in front of the nursery. Children should not be walking unsupervised in the busy car park.

When parking vehicles close to the school, on Machanhill, Islay Gardens or Miller Street and the other surrounding residential streets, please park your car safely. Avoid parking on the pavements, across corners and blocking driveways. Please be aware that a Road Traffic Order is in place outside the school and parking on the yellow lines can result in fines being issued.

Children should not be left to walk in the carpark unattended.

Rather than bringing a vehicle to school please encourage your child to walk, scoot or cycle to school.

### **Indoor Shoes**

Children are required to change into suitable indoor shoes at school. Black plimsolls with non-marking soles or trainers are preferable. Please check regularly with your child that their 'gym shoes' still fit. Several pairs of indoor shoes are now in a condition where they need replaced. Please check with your child if they require new shoes.

### **PEER School Review**

Recently, pupils took part in a peer school review visit to two partner schools, where they learned about peer reviews and participated in learning conversations. This experience gave pupils a valuable opportunity to share their views, ask thoughtful questions, and contribute meaningfully to discussions about learning and school life. Their involvement supports our approaches to quality management by ensuring pupil voice plays a central role in school improvement.

### **SCHOOL and NURSERY ABSENCE**

#### **If your child needs to be off please telephone the school before 9am**

When your child is absent a note should be brought to school on their return. If no note is sent to school the absence will be recorded as unauthorised (even if a phone call has been made earlier). Holidays during term time are recorded as unauthorised parental holidays as part of the local authority attendance policy. Absences below 90% will result in the local authority attendance procedures being followed. Letters with attendance and lateness information will be sent to parents across the session, where concerns arise. **Missed days are missed learning!**

### **Use of Electric Scooters (e-Scooters)**

Following recent incidents, South Lanarkshire Council have asked us to remind parents and carers of the current guidance regarding e-scooters. Under Scottish law, privately owned e-scooters are not permitted on public roads, pavements, cycle paths or in any public place and may be seized by Police Scotland if used illegally. As a result, **pupils cannot lawfully use e-scooters for travel to and from school.**

In line with this guidance and to ensure the safety of our school community, **e-scooters must not be brought onto or used anywhere within school grounds**, including playgrounds, paths, car parks and entrances.

Pupils who travel using a **non-electric scooter** should stop at the school gates and walk their scooter into the campus. Scooters should be stored safely in bike racks and are brought to school at the owner's risk.

## Important Dates:

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb - HOLIDAY  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - HOLIDAY  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb - In Service Day - School closed to pupils  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - Room 10 visiting Sky Academy Livingston  
6.30-pm P7 Lockerbie Meeting  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb - 6pm Parent Council Meeting  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day - A day of activities to encourage reading  
P6 and P7 Cross Country competition  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Dental Inspections P1 and P7  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Lockerbie Manor Residential trip P7  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - School closes at 2.30pm  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - HOLIDAY  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - School re-opens 9am



Machanhill Primary School

## Comments, Feedback and Suggestions

Comments / Feedback:

Name:

Pupil Name:

Date:



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