



Lanark Primary ELC Newsletter

October 2023



What a busy month we have had in the playroom, outdoors and in our Woodlands! Our early learners have been so excited with our new area in the Woodlands, designated just for them. They have been developing many skills in areas such as communication, problem solving, teamwork and resilience, as they experience daily opportunities to play in a natural environment. It is lovely to observe them taking ownership of their area and learning, and participating in daily risk assessments of the site, but most of all having fun!

We have also started our community link visits to McClymont House where the children will visit in teams each week and enjoy meeting the residents to chat with them and play some games- the piano at McClymont House has certainly been a favourite so far with our early learners!



As always, if you have any concerns or issues, please speak to your child's keyworker or call or email (through our dedicated address lanarkelc@glow.sch.uk) to speak with Mrs Lyons (Team Leader). You can also contact the school office through our communication app, many thanks.

The Staff Team



Staffing Update

We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Sophie Logan will return from her Maternity Leave at the start of December. She has reduced her hours to two days and we have advertised for the other three days- we will let you know as soon as the process has been completed.



Gentle Reminder

Our opening hours are 8.50am to 2.50pm. We decided to open earlier than 9am and close earlier than 3pm to help with school pick ups and congestion in our car park.

Our doors open at 8.50am and we open them five minutes earlier at pick up time, 2.45pm. Thank you for dropping off and collecting your child within our opening hours.



Loose Parts Play



We are currently revamping our outdoors and looking to develop our 'Loose Parts Play' area, both in the woodlands and in the outdoor area attached to the playroom. In this area, our early learners can use materials that can be moved around and used in lots of different ways- the versatility of the materials provides our early learners with endless ways to be creative and develop many skills. We are looking for items such as PVC pipes and guttering, logs, cones, crates, wooden blocks, large cardboard tubes (carpet rolls), buttons, shells, small stones/pebbles/rocks- the list is endless! We are also looking for pots, pans and utensils that you no longer need for our mud/ sand kitchen too! If you can help out with any donation of materials, please speak with a member of our team. Thank you for your continued support!

Possible Further Strike Action: Unison

Reminder: There is future planned industrial action on **Wednesday 8th November 2023** by Unison, meaning that the school and ELC is likely to be closed on this day. You should make contingency plans for childcare on this date. We will communicate any changes/updates as and when they come.

Happy Birthday to:

October

Finn B
Carrie



Parent/Carer Consultations

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended their child's consultation with their keyworker to discuss their strengths and development needs. We would also like to thank you for completing the 'Star and a Wish' sheet to provide us with feedback, as we work together in partnership to help your child achieve their full potential.



Wellbeing Indicator of the Month – Healthy

Every month we will introduce/reinforce one of the areas which helps our children explore their wellbeing and how this can be improved or supported. This month's focus is on HEALTHY- which includes healthy eating, hygiene, taking regular exercise and getting plenty of rest. We often showcase how each class and team stay healthy through their outdoor physical activity on our Twitter feed. Remember you can follow us **@LanarkPrimary**. Ask your child about the different ways that they are learning to be healthy!



Children's Achievements

If your child has any achievements outwith the ELC, please let us know through our dedicated ELC email address and we will share any photos on our Twitter feed. We like to celebrate the success of our early learners in and outwith the playroom!



Every week, a keyworker from one of the teams chooses a 'Star of the Week' and they receive a special certificate and sticker from Mrs Crook, our Head Teacher.

Stay and Play Sessions

We are delighted to invite our parents/carers into the ELC for two 'Stay and Play' sessions, one in our woodlands and one in our playroom/outdoor area. These will give you the opportunity to share in your child's learning experiences and join in with their play! Please see below for the dates and times.

- **Woodlands 'Stay and Play' Session**
Thursday 2nd November (8.50am-10am)
- **Playroom/Outdoor Area 'Stay and Play' Session**
Thursday 30th November (1.30pm-2.30pm)



Parent/Carer Bookbug Session

We would like to invite you to a Bookbug session in the playroom with your child. These will be led by Mrs Lyons- please see below for dates and times for each team:

Thurs 26th Oct- Red & Blue at 2pm

Thurs 23rd Nov- Green & Yellow at 2pm

Please come along and join in the fun with your child as they sing songs and rhymes, and listen to stories.

We look forward to seeing you!



Hallowe'en Party

On **Tuesday 31st October**, the children can come to the ELC dressed in their Hallowe'en costume. We will be taking part in some ghoulish games, freaky fun and will be having some tasty treats!

Please remember that children **should not** come with any accessories that can be easily placed down or lost (wands, cats, pretend weapons). These should be kept at home to ensure that they are not misplaced and can be used on Hallowe'en night- we cannot take responsibility for lost items.



Communication/'Keeping in Touch'

The Primary School App, website, Twitter and our dedicated ELC email address lanarkelc@glow.sch.uk are our main forms of communication, alongside our joint school and ELC sway newsletter. Please take the time to read through all the information.



We will also send out our monthly ELC newsletter.

Woodlands Play

Our early learners are enjoying their daily woodlands play experience to develop their personal and learning skills in areas such as communication, problem solving, teamwork and resilience- they are especially enjoying our new area and the mud!

Can we ask that your child brings a plastic bag/ bag for life to put their dirty clothes/wellies in and if they come with an all-in-one suit, they bring an extra jacket to go home in at the end of the day. We also recommend that they bring a spare pair of shoes to wear going home too, as their wellies/boots can become very dirty.

Thank you for your continued support.



Diary Dates

OCTOBER	
Tempest Individual Photographs	Monday 9 th October
HOLIDAY - October Week	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th October Children start back on Monday 23rd October
Visit to McClymont House (Red Team Only)	Wednesday 25 th October (PM)
Parent/ Carer Bookbug Session (Red & Blue Teams Only)	Thursday 26 th October at 2pm
Thursday 27 th October	Halloween Party
ELC Halloween Party	Tuesday 31 st October
NOVEMBER	
Visit to McClymont House (Yellow Team Only)	Wednesday 1 st November (PM)
Woodlands Stay and Play Session (outdoors)	Thursday 2 nd November (8.50am-10am)
Tempest Class Photographs	Monday 6 th November (no Woodlands Play Session)
Parent Council Meeting 3	Monday 6 th November at 6.15pm (in school)
In-Service Day	Monday 13 th November (Children should not attend)
Visit to McClymont House (Green Team Only)	Wednesday 15 th November (PM)
Visit to McClymont House (Blue Team Only)	Wednesday 22 nd November (PM)
Parent/Carer Bookbug Session (Green & Yellow Teams Only)	Thursday 23 rd November at 2pm
Homelink Folders	Issued- Monday 27 th November Returned by- Friday 1 st December
Rag Bag Collection	Wednesday 22 nd November
Playroom/Outdoor Area Stay and Play Session (indoors/outdoors)	Thursday 30 th November (1.30pm-2.30pm)

We are always looking to continually improve our ELC so if you have any suggestions for how we could do this, or tell us something that you think we do well, please use the box below and pop it into the suggestion box in the foyer. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help your child achieve their full potential.

