

# Douglas Primary School & ELC

NEWSLETTER 2 - September 2024

## SCHOOL NEWS



Be Safe—Be Happy—Be All You Can Be!

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### PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Our settling in Parent Consultations will take place on Wednesday 2nd October.

Details regarding booking an appointment will be sent out via the new Parents Portal. If you have any difficulty in accessing the portal please contact the school office.



### COFFEE MORNING

Our Annual MacMillan Coffee Morning will take place on Thursday 26th September

Any donations of home baking or shop bought cakes would be greatly received. Please hand these into the school office prior to the coffee morning commencing.

Please see a timetable below for the times that each class will be visiting the Coffee Morning should you wish to attend with your child.

P1/2 9.30—9.50  
P2/3 9.50—10.10  
P3/4 10.10—10.30  
P5/6 & P6/7—10.45—11.05

ELC children can be collected at any point from the ELC main entrance and then returned to the playground once you are ready to leave.



### PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

In an effort to continue our Parental Engagement we have organised for each class to have a classroom visit this term for parents/carers to attend.

We hope that these visits will give you a greater insight into the learning and teaching that takes place in your child's classroom. It will also give your child the opportunity to showcase their learning and model how they work within the classroom environment.

All visits were listed in the termly calendar that was issued with the last newsletter and a paper copy was also sent home. Please see a reminder of the dates below:

P1/2 Wednesday 9th Oct 1.30pm

P2/3 Tuesday 22nd Oct 1.30pm

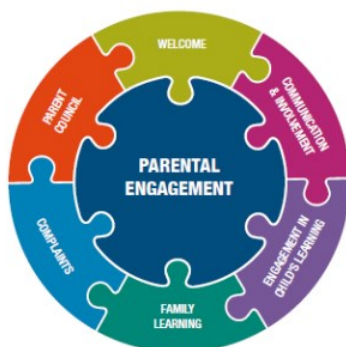
P3/4 Friday 1st Nov 1.30pm

P5/6 Tuesday 26th Nov 1.30pm

P6/7 Tuesday 12th Nov 2.00pm  
(Armistice Assembly—followed by classroom visit)

If you are unable to make your child's classroom visit then please feel free to send a member of your family or a friend to join in.

Additional parental engagement activities will be planned for term 2 and term 3.



### MORNING DROP OFF

Now that the children have been at school for over a month can we please ask parents/carers to start to drop children off at the school gate in the morning and allow them to make their own way around to class. This will help reduce the volume of people within the grounds.

Mrs Law & Mrs Campbell will be outside the infant area from 8.45am and Mrs Hughes or Mr Scobbie will be at the school gate to see the children in safely.

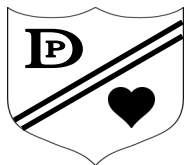
Parents/Carers can still collect children from the classroom doors at 3pm to reduce the volume of people gathering at the gate.

### FUNDING AWARD

We are delighted to announce that we have received funding from the Coalburn, Douglas and Glespin Community Fund to install a bird hide within the grounds at the back of the school and to create a bug hotel area to promote sustainability within the school site.

Work should be commencing in November and we will look forward to having an open afternoon come Spring time to showcase the work done and the new learning opportunities that it will provide for the children.

As part of our curriculum on developing the children's knowledge of local wildlife with a particular focus on bird watching all classes will be attending a session at Mainhill with Ranger Roddy in October. Further details will follow shortly.



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## PARENT COUNCIL

Our Parent Council are always keen to welcome new parents from both the school and ELC.

The group meet approximately 5 times throughout the year and support Mrs Hughes in the school and ELC's improvement journey and in organising a range of events for the children throughout the year.

They also work extremely hard on organising fundraising events and applying for funding in order to purchase resources and gifts for all the pupils.

If you would be interested in joining the Parent Council or have any matters that you would like raised at the meetings then please email the group at:

[Douglas.Parent.Council@gmail.com](mailto:Douglas.Parent.Council@gmail.com)

The Parent Council are currently planning their first meeting for this session with the AGM being held in November. Details regarding the dates will follow shortly.

Recent feedback has highlighted that some parent/carers felt that they were not informed about the work of the Parent Council. In order to address this, minutes of each meeting will be shared on the school website and we will continue to have a dedicated section within each monthly newsletter.

Please also find below a link to the annual report of the Parent Council for session of 2023-2024. I think you will agree that the money that has been secured by the Parent Council this session through both fundraising and grant applications will have an extremely positive impact on all children within the school & ELC.

[Parent Council Annual Report 2022-2023](#)

## HOMEWORK

We still have a number of children within the school who have not accepted an invite to join their Google Classroom.

Google Classroom is the platform that we use to share our weekly homework tasks and it also gives you an additional place to contact your child's teacher.

We issue homework in order to consolidate learning that is taking place in the classroom and to allow parents to engage with their child's learning. Within the infant stages reinforcement of phonics and reading is vital in supporting your child to become literate. We would therefore ask that you all engage with the Google Classroom platform.

Those children in middle and upper stages should be able to access Google Classroom independently and homework tasks are set at a level that should allow your child to complete them independently if required.

Homework remains a key focus at high school, therefore it is important that at primary school we are supporting our children to become independent in organising their time in order to complete homework tasks issued.

If you are not able to access Google Classroom then please contact the school office or speak to your child's teacher and a paper copy of your child's homework tasks can be provided for you.

## EARRINGS

If your child wears earrings can we please remind you that these should be removed for P.E. lessons. If your child is not able to remove their earrings please provide them with tape or plasters to cover the earrings for their own safety.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

A reminder of dates in the diary - dates in **red** are new ones or changed ones that will not be on the Term 1 calendar, please add these your paper copy of the calendar.

**Monday 23rd September**  
**Extra Curricular Clubs Start**

Thursday 26th September  
MacMillan Coffee Morning

Wednesday 2nd October  
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 9th October  
P1/2 Parent/Carer Classroom  
Visit 1.30pm

Week Beginning 14th October  
October holiday week

Tuesday 22nd October  
P2/3 Parent/Carer Classroom  
Visit 1.30pm

Thursday 31st October  
Halloween Fun Day - children  
can come to school dressed up  
or down

**Tuesday 5th November**  
**Photographer in (individual,  
family and class photos)**

## WELLBEING INDICATOR OF THE MONTH SAFE



**GROWTH MINDSET MOTO OF  
THE MONTH**  
**Everyone can learn!**