



Glengowan Primary School and Nursery Class

Newsletter - November 2023



Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to everyone who supported 'Beat the Street'. As you can see from the image below, Glengowan performed very well. Although, 'very well' is a bit of an understatement when you look at the results. I am delighted to announce that the school will be awarded a book voucher worth £500.

Congratulations!

Schools - Total Points

1st - Glengowan Primary School
2nd - Robert Owen Memorial Primary School
3rd - Lanark Primary School
4th - Crawforddyke Primary School

Schools - Average Points

1st - Glengowan Primary School
2nd - Robert Owen Memorial Primary School
3rd - Lanark Primary School
4th - New Lanark Primary School

Active Little Stars - Total Points

1st - Sanford Primary School
2nd - Gilmourton Primary School

Community & Workplace Teams - Total Points

1st - Lanark Moor parkrun
2nd - St Luke's
3rd - Green Apple Nursery

Community & Workplace Teams - Average Points

1st - Lanark Moor parkrun
2nd - Coalburn Nursery Class
3rd - St Luke's

Small Teams - Total Points

1st - Lanark YFCL

Individual Leaderboard

1st Adult - Hurlford Boy

1st Child - Laythen s

Charity

Kilbryde Hospice - £500

Sumdog Success

Another incredible set of results for Glengowan. 8 of our classes finished in the Top 20. 3 of our classes were awarded 'Daily Winners'. The overall winner was a Glengowan pupil, along with another 11 children who finished in the Top 20. This was celebrated at one of our Friday assemblies.



South Lanarkshire Maths Contest - 10 Nov to 16 Nov



1st		578
2nd	Primary 3A Room 8 (2023/24), Glengowan Primary School	549
3rd	Primary 2B Room 6 (2023-24), Glengowan Primary School	422
4th		390
5th		343
6th		323
7th		321
8th		315
9th	Primary 7A Room 15 (2023/24), Glengowan Primary School	302
10th	Primary 4 Room 10 (2023-24), Glengowan Primary School	296
11th	Primary 5 Room 12 (2023-24), Glengowan Primary School	285
13th	Primary 3B Room 9 (2023-24), Glengowan Primary School	263
18th	Primary 6 Room 14 (2023/2024), Glengowan Primary School	237
20th	Primary 2A Room 5 (2023/24), Glengowan Primary School	235

Christmas Parties

P2-7 may leave the school at 12 noon if you wish your child to get changed into clothes for a party. Children are welcome to bring clothes and get changed at school if this would be more convenient.

As the Primary 1 party is in the morning, children should come dressed for their special event.



Glengowan was featured in the November edition of Teaching Scotland. Until recently, this magazine was delivered to every registered teacher in Scotland. It now has a much wider audience as an online publication. The article can be accessed here:

<https://readymag.com/gtcscotland/TeachingScotlandIssue98/12/>

I am also pleased to announce that the literacy development work undertaken at the school will be featured in an Australian publication next year. I have had the opportunity to read a draft of the chapter which references Glengowan and our particular section is very positive.

In a further development, literacy training for teachers from other schools will begin in the new year, based on the Glengowan model.

Girls' Football Festival

On Thursday 9th November, a group of Primary 7 pupils represented the school at the second Girls' Larkhall/Hamilton Football Festival of the session. The team played 6 matches and ended the Festival with 4 wins, 1 draw and 1 defeat, scoring some excellent goals in each of the games.

All of the children showed that their weekly training is paying off with some superb passing, shooting and defending.

Thanks to parents, carers and relatives who came to support the children. The next Girl's Football Festival will take place on Thursday 22nd February, 2024.



Football Festival

On Wednesday 15th November, a group of Primary 7 pupils represented the school at the third Larkhall Football Festival of the session. The Festival took place at Larkhall Academy's outdoor pitches.

The team played 7 matches and ended the Festival with a mixture of wins and losses. The children all performed very well, demonstrating enthusiasm, commitment and excellent sportsmanship in each game.

Thanks to parents, carers and relatives who came to support the children. The next Football Festival will take place on Wednesday 7th February, 2024.



Fun 5z Netball Festivals

On both Thursday 2nd and 16th November, two groups of Primary 6 and 7 pupils represented the school at Fun 5z Netball Festivals. The Festivals took place in Larkhall Academy's games hall.

Having only been attending the after-school netball club with Mr Broadhurst for a few weeks, all pupils performed admirably against local schools. The pupils had to adapt to playing in a variety of positions and Mr Broadhurst was hugely impressed by the level of skill on display.

Thanks go to Mr Broadhurst for providing the opportunity for the children to learn about the basics of Fun 5z Netball.



Sports Hall Athletics

On Thursday 23rd November, a group of Primary 7 pupils represented the school at the third Larkhall Sports Hall Athletics event of the session. The event took place in the games hall at Larkhall Academy.

All pupils took part in a variety of both track and field events against another four schools from the Larkhall area. The children's performance in all events was very good and we ended the day with a number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes.

The next Sports Hall event is the Larkhall Final, which Glengowan won last year. This will take place on Thursday 1st February, 2024.





As 'adventure' was the theme of Book Week this year, our Reading Leadership Group created a display of adventure filled books for others to read in our library.

Well done everyone for taking part in Book Week Scotland 2023.

Financial Education



On Wednesday, 22nd November, Primary Seven received a visit from Dorothy Linn, Bank of Scotland representative.

All pupils took part in activities ,which involved learning about budgeting, digital money and how to stay safe online when making purchases.



Glengowan Nursery Class

**Building
community
partnerships.**



Larkhall Community Growers visited the nursery class and helped our children to plant daffodil bulbs, wall flowers, polyanthus and violas in our recently donated planters. Funding for this gardening project was secured from the Beeline to Nature group. The Larkhall Community Growers will continue to support us with our garden and we will post regular photos on Learning Journals to update you on progress.

Dates for your diary

Nursery Christmas Lunch -12th December.

Nursery Sing-a-long - 19th December

Nursery Christmas party- 21st December with special guest arriving in the afternoon.



School Improvement - Reminder

Our improvement priorities for 2023/24 are:

Priority One

Further improve learning & teaching in P1-7 through consistent use of the 'Learning Intentions & Success Criteria' and 'Effective Questioning' sections of the SLC Pedagogy Palette.

Priority Two

Develop our curriculum offer with a focus on Technologies and Art & Design.

Priority Three

Attain our first Reading School Award.

Priority Four

Develop a Nursery Class 'Learning at Home' Numeracy programme for parents/carers and children.



Parents Portal

All parents/carers of P1-7 children must register with parentsportal.scot as soon as possible.

To access parentsportal.scot go to <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>

Our current school app will no longer be used by the end of January 2024.



<i>Tuesday 12th December</i>	<i>Christmas Lunch</i>
<i>Wednesday 13th December</i>	<i>P1-3 Nativity</i>
<i>Thursday 14th December</i>	<i>P1-3 Nativity P7 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Friday 15th December</i>	<i>P1-3 Nativity P6 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Monday 18th December</i>	<i>Pantomime (am) P5 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Tuesday 19th December</i>	<i>Nursery Sing-a-long P4 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Wednesday 20th December</i>	<i>P3 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Thursday 21st December</i>	<i>Nursery Class Party P2 Party (pm)</i>
<i>Friday 22nd December</i>	<i>P1 Party (am) Early close - 2.30pm</i>

Improving Learning and Teaching

If your child has come home saying, "Mr Murray was in my class taking notes today", this is indeed true. Coming to the end of a series of classroom observations has allowed me to have a deeper understanding of how learning experiences for the children are improving. The commitment of our teaching staff to improve is very evident. Special mention must also be made about our support staff who seem to be 'on the go' all day at the moment, dealing with a wide range of administrative tasks, working one-to-one with the children and fulfilling an ever-widening range of requests.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who took the time to complete our recent Nursery survey. We received a huge number of positive responses and I am grateful to our staff team who continue to innovate and seek opportunities to develop our early learning provision.

*Yours faithfully,
Graeme Murray, Headteacher*