



Livingstone Newsletter

6th September 2024

Welcome back to all our families and a special welcome to all the new members of the Livingstone family, both in Nursery and Reception and to those in other year groups.

Star of the Week:

In our Star of the Week assembly today, all class teachers made a point of saying what a super start to the year all classes had made and how hard it had been to choose their Star of the Week. Well done to everyone.

Nursery: Chuan

Reception: Theo

Year 1: Nancy

Year 2: Esmail

Year 3: Anna

Year 4: Austin

Year 5: Olivia

Year 6: Bella

Start and finish times:

All children should arrive at school between 8.45am and 8.55am. Children arriving at school after 8.55am will be marked as late. Children arriving after 09.30am will be marked as an unauthorised absence "U" code. The end of the school day is 3pm for Nursery, 3.10pm for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and 3.15pm for children in Years 3-6.

Welcome to Year session:

We are holding welcome to Year sessions on Wednesday 11th September. These sessions will be held in the classrooms and will last around half an hour. We will deliver the sessions twice – once at 3.30pm and once at 5pm. These presentations will give you a chance to meet the teachers, find out about routines and expectations and about any official assessments that happen in this year group. We hope as many people as possible will attend as it will provide lots of useful information.

As it is Fairtrade fortnight we will also be hosting a fairtrade coffee and tea stand outside Year 4 with coffee and tea to purchase to keep you going!

Nut and Sesame free school:

Please can we remind parents and carers that we are a nut and sesame free school. This means that children should not bring to school items for their lunch that contain nuts or sesame. This includes peanut butter or chocolate nut spread sandwiches or cake bars, cereal bars with nuts in them and the one that has been catching a few people out recently is hummus as this generally contains tahini which is sesame seed paste. If we see children with these items in their packed lunch we will substitute the item.

Snacks should just be fruit or vegetables. Water bottles should just contain water although other drinks (not fizzy) are allowed in packed lunches. Thank you for your help.

Nursery Snack Money:

This will be made live on School Spider today. There is a charge of £5 for each half term.

School Spider:

School Spider is the app we use to facilitate all payments (uniform, trips, school dinners, nursery snack money), permissions for trips and visits, surveys etc. Please download it from the app store and then select Livingstone. Then you should be able to log in with your email address if we have that on the system. If you are having problems, please check that we have your email address at the office.

Free School Meals:

If your financial situation has changed, and you are now receiving some benefits, please contact the office to see whether you might be entitled to Free School Meals. Eligibility is defined through the benefits that you claim but we can check eligibility at school with just a little bit of information. Once we have entered this information on the system, it will check regularly whether you have become eligible and will notify us automatically. It is worth doing this even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and already gets a universal free school meal or even if your child want to remain on packed lunches because it also brings additional funding in to school to support learning and can qualify you for other support such as holiday food vouchers or access to holiday clubs.

School Dinner Price:

The cost to parents for children in Nursery and Year 3-6 for a meal is now £3.25 which is still subsidised by school as we are charged more than this for each meal served. Please pay on School Spider. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still get free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals scheme.

School Pedestrian Gate:

We lock the pedestrian gate when children are out doing PE or outside for another lesson. This means that parents won't be able to access the playground for pick up until the children have gone inside and the gate has been unlocked. This might mean that you are only able to access the playground just before 12pm for morning nursery and just before 3pm for afternoon nursery. Please be patient and wait outside the playground until the gate is opened. Thank you.

WOW scheme:

To encourage children (and parents!) to walk to school, we are continuing with our WOW badges. As so many children received badges last year, we have made it a bit harder and children now need to walk 3 times a week to receive a badge each month. This is either from home, or if they live too far away, there is the option to park and stride which still counts. For this to count, children need to have walked either from the market ground / St Joseph's or the train station / the Gillery. Walking from the road closure sign doesn't count! Please do talk to your child about where they have walked from and whether this counts as park and stride.

School Streets initiative:

Even though the last bit of the road is closed, please ensure that as a parent or carer of a child that attends our school you park legally, considerately and safely. Parking should not obstruct a junction, stop access to someone's driveway, block the pavement to pedestrians or block the road. We have already had complaints about people leaving their cars even if just for 2 minutes in a place that blocks the road. Please consider parking much further away from school and walking the last bit. This is beneficial for both you and your child's physical and mental health and provides a positive start or end to the day with time to talk to your child. It will ensure everyone's safety and mean that the journey to and from school is more pleasant for everyone.

I have had many positive comments from parents about the scheme who appreciate the difference it has made. If you feel that you would like to support the scheme, we are always looking for more volunteers even if you are only available occasionally or on one morning or one afternoon each week. Full training is provided and Little Stones will look after your child if you need childcare for free for the time you are volunteering for School Streets. Please let me know at school or contact the office if you would be prepared to help the scheme be a success.

Uniform:

We are already getting lost and abandoned uniform and coats. Please make sure your child's name is in all pieces of uniform and if you have bought second hand uniform on School Spider, please change the names!

PE kits:

All children from Reception up need a PE kit in school. This should be a t-shirt, a pair of shorts / leggings and some black pumps. Whilst we try to help where we can, this is not school's responsibility to provide. Please send your child in with a PE kit on Monday if they don't already have one in school.

Active Tameside who also provide some of our PE sessions will not allow children to have earrings in for PE. So please remove earrings and tie long hair back on PE days.

Year 3 Artist in Residence:

Year 3 are going to be working with an Artist in Residence this half term on a Friday morning. They are going to focus on producing art on the theme of staying safe. We look forward to seeing the results!

Office staffing:

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are currently operating without full staffing in the office and in site staff. Please bear with us as we try to get things done between us. Thank you.

Asda Cashpot for Schools:



We have registered with Asda cashpot for schools scheme – just follow the simple steps

Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#) [Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

1

Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app

Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.

2

Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com

Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.

3

Asda does the rest

The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.

Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 9th September: Year 5 first swimming lesson

Wednesday 11th September: Welcome to Year group meetings for parents and carers 3.30pm and 5pm.

Friday 13th September: Year 3 artist in residence starts

Monday 7th October: Nasal Flu immunisations

Tuesday 8th October or Wednesday 9th October: Year 3 Spanish morning at MHHS

Thursday 17th October: Individual and sibling photos

Thursday 24th October: Hallowe'en disco – am Nursery and Reception, 5pm – 6pm Year 1 / 2, 6.15pm – 7.15pm KS2

Friday 25th October: End of term 3.15pm

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November: Autumn half term holiday

Monday 4th November: Children back to school

Thursday 7th November: Debate Society Meeting at MHHS

Tuesday 12th November: Livingstone Open Day and Evening for prospective Nursery and Reception for September 2025

Wednesday 13th November: Y6 Maths Interschool challenge

Tuesday 26th November: Parents' Evening 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 27th November: Parents' Evening 4.00 – 6.30pm

Saturday 30th November: Christmas Fair 11pm – 1.30pm

Tuesday 10th December: EYFS nativity 9.30pm; Y1/2 nativity 2pm

Wednesday 11th December: Y1/2 nativity 6pm

Thursday 12th December: EYFS nativity 9.30pm

Monday 16th December: pm Y3/4 party

Tuesday 17th December: pm Y1/2 party

Thursday 19th December: am EYFS party

Thursday 19th December: pm Y5/6 party

Friday 20th December: Carol Concert; End of term 3.15pm

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January: Christmas holidays

Monday 6th January: INSET Training day for Staff

Tuesday 7th January: Children return to school