

Lochgoilhead Primary School

Lochgoilhead
Argyll
PA24 8AQ



Monday 30th June 2025

May-June 2025

June 2025, that's a great wrap to a great year! This term has been just as filled with invaluable learning experiences that we hope your child has truly enjoyed and benefitted from.

ELC Staffing

We are delighted to share that Kirsty Perkins has been successful at interview and has been appointed as Childcare and Education Worker. We are also delighted that Angela Baker has been successful at interview and has been appointed as Classroom Assistant from August 2025- June 2026 and temporarily as ASN Assistant until we recruit next session. We thank Melissa for her dedication as she is an invaluable part of our team.

We would like to sincerely thank Christine Hamilton for working in the ELC over the last year and for her support in years gone by. We would like to thank Iona Gove for coming back to Lochgoilhead to work temporarily in the ELC over the last year too. We would like to sincerely thank Kate Cowan who recently joined our team from April to July 2025, who very quickly became a valued ELC team member. We would like to thank Lorna Gillespie and Linda Leyland who have worked at times as part of our ELC team.

Teaching Staff

We are delighted to share that Briony Mair, Amanda Walsh and myself will be teachers in the Wee Class over the next year. We work very closely as a team and this has been working well during this term. I would like to sincerely thank Amanda, Briony, Gail and Linda for their unwavering support and dedication also with much time spent planning engaging learning and teaching experiences.

It goes without saying that we have fantastic ASN assistants- Anka, Kylie and Catherine who provide excellent bespoke support for our children. Nikki is amazing in every way ensuring excellence in communication as well as carrying out all tasks with impressive efficiency. Marie takes great care of our school, ELC and school grounds. At all times the school and grounds are safe in Marie's capable hands. It goes without saying that Tanya and Gillian make a great catering team ensuring everyone is well fed and looked after, going over and above every day! All efforts of staff never go unnoticed and are always fully appreciated.

Parent Council

Thank you to Kelly who works hard applying for grants or linking in with the community to help provide experiences for our children. Thank you to the Parent Council who create fundraising opportunities and actively support school events. Thank you to all families for

your support over the last year and years gone by. It continues to be a pleasure to work with children, staff and families at Lochgoilhead.

Children

Thank you to all children for your tireless energy and enthusiasm all year round! They have embraced a variety of learning opportunities provided by staff and outside services. We look forward already to what opportunities next year will bring.



Wider Achievement Awards

We have loved seeing your children's wider achievements throughout the year. They are truly a credit to each and everyone of you.



ECO Schools achievement- Fifth flag achieved

We are delighted to share that we have been accredited with our fifth Green Flag verified through Eco-Schools Scotland. They shared that whole school involvement was clear, impact/reflections of actions are measured and making a positive difference within the community and there is strong evidence of engaging learning through GRAB Trust, STEM and Forest Schools. Thank you to Mrs McCorquodale for leading ECO schools learning helping to embed learning for sustainability supporting SDG and to all pupils for their high level of engagement in ECO learning. This learning links to UNCRC Article 24 Health, Water, Food and the Environment as well as Article 12 Respect for children's views and 13 sharing thought freely.



Merits for the Big Class

We are delighted to share the merits for the Big Class. As you know, children really need to work for Bronze, Silver and GOLD merit awards. You must get 125 efforts to get to Bronze, 125 efforts to get to Silver and 125 efforts to get to GOLD.

Curriculum For Excellence Awards (June 2025)

Curriculum for Excellence places learners at the heart of education with the four capacities at its centre. The four capacities are aimed at helping children to become: Successful Learners, Confident individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors. These capacities reflect and recognise the lifelong nature of education and learning.



Outstanding Reading Awards

We are delighted to share our reading achievements in both classes. A very well done to Christiaan and Sophie for reading over one and half million and over two million words. Great effort



shown by Crawford, Richard, Leo and Mae who will be millionaire readers before we know it.



Level 1 and Level 2 Bikeability

Our Primary 6s have successfully completed Cycling Scotland Level 1 Bikeability and Primary 7 Level 2 Bikeability training. Bikeability Scotland is the national cycle training programme for school children. Level 1 and 2 Bikeability's aim is to give children the skills and confidence they need to cycle on the road and

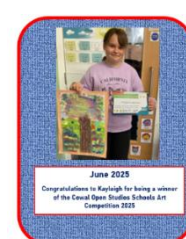


encourage them to carry on cycling into adulthood. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 31 Rest, play, culture and arts.



Cowal Art Competition

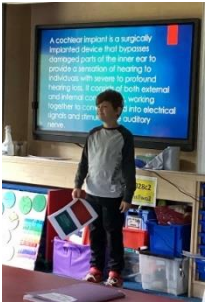
We are delighted to share that the winners of the Cowal Art Competition at Lochgoilhead were Teodors Ikers and Kayleigh Jackson. It was great to see the effort and artistic talent displayed by all pupils across the class.



P7 Transition week

Tel: 01301 703 338 Email: enquiries-lochgoilhead@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Our P7 students had a fantastic week at DGS, experiencing life as new S1s! On the first day of their transition, they learnt more about registration, timetables, lunch clubs and school faculties, as well as key values such as: Be Ready to Learn, Be Safe and Be Respectful. They also answered questions about themselves, including their hobbies, interests and what they're most looking forward to about coming to DGS. Other activities included solving riddles, playing human bingo and lining up in order from youngest to oldest — tasks that required collaboration and teamwork. They impressed everyone at DGS with their enthusiasm and positive attitude and we are very proud of them.



Deaf Awareness week

Thank you to Teodors for designing and delivering two very informative lessons, sharing his journey of living with cochlear implants and explaining how the implants help him to process sounds. The class have an enhanced understanding of how we can provide support. Teodors, we are truly proud of you! This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 12 Respect for children's views and Article 13 Sharing thoughts freely.

Woodwork session (Big Class)

The Big Class had a fantastic day of learning and fun. The day started with Paul Malcolm visiting to teach the class how to create a wooden planter, safely using a variety of tools. The children worked beautifully in their groups, showing excellent communication skills and listening



carefully to instructions. They created three amazing planters and developed a range of transferable life skills.

Woodwork sessions (Wee Class)

Many thanks to Paul Malcolm for delivering a fun and creative woodworking session for the Wee class. Children handled tools such as a saw and hammer sensibly, worked collaboratively and made some creative signs for our playground. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 28 Access to Education.





Trip to Sealife Centre in Loch Lomond

We had an absolutely fantastic day at Loch Lomond Aquarium. There was so much to see and do. From watching the otters being fed to experiencing the interactive rock pool. Journeying through the Tropical Ocean Tunnel to see Blacktip sharks, rays and other critters of the sea to learning about seahorses and sea urchins. Thank you to Neil & Ross of 'Live In Loch Goil' who generously fully funded the trip. This learning experience links to Article 28 Access to

Education.



Coding in the Big Class

There has been Coding and collaborative Lego building in the Big Class. Two teams worked well together to create a small vehicle and then coded it to carry out various manoeuvres. A fun and fantastic example of STEM learning. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 13 Access to Education.



Big Class Trees Assembly

Both classes have been learning about Trees as part of their IDL. Their learning has been very much child led. The Big Class celebrated and shared their learning with families through their assembly, 'The Man Who Planted Trees'. Their assembly was informative, creative and fun showing the depth of their learning. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 24 Health, Water, Food and Environment.





Fire Brigade Water Safety Talk

It is so important that children know how to keep themselves and others safe near or in water. Emma and Colin from the Fire Brigade shared an eye-opening and important session on water safety for both classes. Emma shared that our children were able to recall high level messages from previous safety sessions as well as engaging well with today's session.



Emma and Colin delivered a car seat safety session to families. Car seat safety is crucial for protecting children in vehicles. Key points include: choosing a car seat dependant on child's age and size, correct installation of car seats preventing injuries, knowing current car safety regulation and laws and checking your child's seat regularly for wear and tear. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 6 Life, survival and development and Article 28 Access to Education.



Ecology, Geology and Engineering workshops

Cheryl Campbell and her team from AtkinsRealis who are representatives of the A83 team, delivered a Nature Explorers workshop focused on geology, ecology and engineering. Pupils from P1-P4 were split into three groups and worked with professionals currently involved in the A83 project to explore various aspects, such as cost, safety, constraints, and journey time. They also learnt that a



geologist helps decide where a road can be safely built by studying the rocks, landforms and stability of the ground. Meanwhile, an ecologist looks at how the road construction might affect plants, animals and habitats and helps find ways to reduce environmental impact. It was a truly engaging and informative workshop – thank you!



Our master builders rose to the challenge of designing solutions to the A83 real life problems using their engineering skills. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 28 Access to Education, Article 12 Respect for Children's views and Article 13 Sharing thoughts freely.





Den Building with Mrs Leyland

Inspired by the den building that the children have been involved in during playtimes, Mrs Leyland helped to create a variety of communal dens for the children to share and enjoy. This learning experience

links to UNCRC Article 31 Rest, Play, Culture and Arts.



Sponsored Walk

The ELC, Wee Class and Big Class have been involved in a variety of sponsored walks around the Arboretum, River Walk and village. We are doing this to raise money for the NSPCC Childhood Day Walk, the Skyward Challenge for Scotland Charity Air Ambulance where they completed 194 laps and the CHAS Rainbow Walk. Thank you for all your support in donating for these very worthy causes. This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 28 Access to Education.

Pool Party for the Big Class

As you know, the Big Class were very successful recently with their Enterprise learning. Children had to build their own business which involve: creating a concept, carrying out market research, sourcing materials, visiting the school bank, developing their idea and product, launching their product and then selling their product to children and families. They made a profit and raised over £100. The Big Class agreed they would like to spend their profit on a pool party at Drimsynie. They had an absolutely fabulous time. This learning experience links to Article 31 Rest, Play, Culture, Arts.



Special Thanks to John McCulloch

John has been the chair and then the secretary for the Parent Council. John has been amazing by supporting all PC events to support fundraising. John has been lots of fun to work with during school events. He has also helped to provide excellent BBQ cuisine on our annual Fun days as well as having a great community spirit.

John has supported RRS, providing Rights workshops covering the impact of war on children and significant events such as the Holocaust and also taught Spanish to pupils. John is well known for having a cup of tea so you are welcome to come in and we'll pop the kettle on. Thank you for everything you have done to support the children, staff and families here.



Wee Class Assembly

The Wee Class have been learning about what makes a healthy lifestyle and how we can take care of our well-being. They've explored the importance of exercise, rest, sleep, social interaction and love as key ingredients for a healthy life. The students have also been learning about balanced diets, including the need to eat from all the major food groups. They presented their knowledge beautifully at their assembly. Well done to everyone! This learning experience links to UNCRC Article 24 Health, Water, Food, Environment, Article 12 Respect for children's views and Article 13 sharing thoughts freely.



Fun Day 2025

We began our Fun day 2025 with the traditional water fight at the end of the school day where fun was had by all. We continued our celebrations with our families and community at the Village Hall. We had three activities: football, bouncy castle and foam axe throwing/fencing. Thank you to James from Cove UK, staff and families for supporting all activities. Thank you to the parents who helped organise the food, as well as helping to set up and clear up. Thank you to Kelly from the Parent Council and Nikki for coordinating the arrangements. Thank you to Colin and Anne Mitchell and chef Gavin from The Gail for so generously ordering and preparing the food. It was truly delicious! Thank you to the Parent Council for paying for the bouncy castle and the food. This experience links to Article 31 Rest, Play, Culture, Arts.



End of Year Awards Ceremony

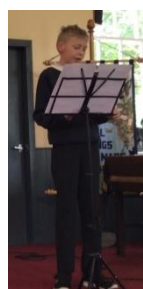
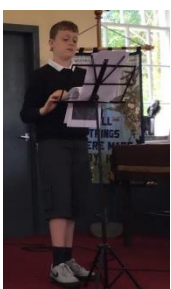
It is always wonderful to have the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of the pupils in their various academic, extracurricular and wider community achievements. To congratulate them and acknowledge their hard work, dedication, and positive contributions to the school community. All children are stars in our eyes. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the day and joined us to appreciate the children's accomplishments. Thank you to Anka who created this lovely momento of this special celebration.





Leaver's Service 2025

Thank you to families, carers and members of the local community who joined us on Thursday to celebrate the achievements of our ELC children and Primary 7's as they transition to Primary 1 and Dunoon Grammar next term. Congratulations to our ELC graduates of 2025. We are very much looking forward to being part of your journey as you move in and through the Primary.



We couldn't have been prouder of our Primary 7's for the Powerpoint presentations they wrote and shared with us. It was amazing to hear their journey from when they started Lochgoilhead until today.

Our loss is Dunoon Grammar School's gain. They really are a credit to you all. We know they have three stars coming their way. It is a

privilege to have you as a part of the Lochgoilhead family. We know DGS will take good care of you and serve you well. We wish you all the very best for future as you embark on your next new exciting chapter.



Thank you to Nikki for ordering the P7 hoodies and to our Parent Council for paying for them.



ELC highlights June 2025

The ELC have been learning about our friends the bees and exploring how they help us. The children created honeycombs using their fine motor skills and decorated it using their cutting and sticking skills. The children created a volcano in the sand tray and went on a volcano adventure. They explored what a volcano is and created their own models and paintings. They went for a walk to search for signs of volcanoes and found some amazing rock formations on the river walk. The children added dinosaurs to their models and they spent some time exploring dinosaurs.



In STEM, the children used their MakeDo skills to create cardboard beehives. They used their shape knowledge to create circles and their fine motor skills to thread them together. They created a volcano science experiment mixing different substances together to create an eruption. The children used their knowledge of capacity to measure with sand and water and continue to create wonderful structures using their engineering skills.



In Literacy, the children have been practising their pencil control skills to mark, make and write letters and numbers. They have been using floor mats to explore sounds and letters, while playing the game, 'the floor is lava'. We were gifted some beautiful blankets and the children used this as an opportunity to role play as ghosts in



the nursery. They have been telling their own stories by creating small worlds together. They have been exploring rhyme using our book of the week and matching sounds as a group.

In Numeracy, the children continue to select a shape and number of the week. They search for these in their environment and

use this knowledge in their play. The children loved exploring tessellation and were able to follow instructions to create images.



We have been creating numbers outdoors using natural materials and exploring capacity in the mud kitchen. Exploring dinosaurs supported the children to use their knowledge of length and height to compare dinosaurs using blocks. Technology supports the children in developing their numeracy skills and they have been developing their skills using online games to count and order numbers.

Overall, their learning links to

Thank you to the Wee Goil for their generous donation which we used to buy an ipad for the Big Class, as this will further enhance learning and teaching.



Important dates over the next couple of days are Police Sports for the Big Class on Friday, Scouts activities on Monday and Talent show on Monday afternoon. Highlights of these events will be shared in the August 2025 newsletter.

We would like to sincerely thank our children, staff, Parent Council as well as families for their ongoing hard work and dedication across the year.

Lochgoilhead ELC and Primary will close at 1pm on Tuesday 1st July 2025 and reopen on Thursday 14th August 2025.

We wish children, staff and families a very happy and healthy summer holidays where you can spend lots of time with your loved ones making precious memories.

Kind regards,

Louise