

P Statutory Consultation

The consultation on the proposal to alter the distance that a mainstream secondary school pupil must live from their catchment school in order to qualify for free school transport from more than 2 miles to more than 3 miles is now open and runs until 1 March 2024.

The link below provides further information, including a response form, and advice on enrolling to attend a public meeting for those wishing to know more.

Any proposed change would not take effect until August 2025.

Paper copies are available in schools and libraries.

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200140/education_and_learning/2196/secondary_school_transport_-_consultation

**P Holocaust Memorial Event**

Well done to Sophie Ward, S6, who represented Lesmahagow High School at this year's Holocaust Memorial Event in Strathaven Academy. Sophie played 'War Song' on piano and delivered an excellent performance. Well done and thank you to everyone involved in planning, organising and participating in this year's event.

B Lee

P Pupil Council Meeting

A Pupil Council Meeting will take place on Friday, 9th February, Period 1, in the School Library. Pupils will be invited to share their views with the Chair of our Parent Council regarding the statutory consultation on school transport at the meeting. Class Representatives should register with their Period 1 teacher and then go to the school library.

B Lee

P S1 and S2 pupils – Humanutopia Workshops

We are delighted that trainers from Humanutopia will join us on Tuesday, 6th February, to deliver three workshops to S1 and S2 pupils. The workshops will encourage pupils to consider their future goals and how to achieve these. S2 pupils should report to the Games Hall for Assembly during Tutor time on Tuesday, 6th February. S1 pupils should go to Tutor time on Tuesday, 6th and then to the Games Hall at the start of Period 1 for the start of the first workshop. Further information about Humanutopia can be found at <https://www.humanutopia.com/>.

B Lee

P Charity Week

S6 students will lead a range of charity events at intervals and lunch-time from 7th-9th February to raise funds for Calum's Cabin.

B Lee

P February Break

Monday, 12th and Tuesday, 13th February are holidays and Wednesday, 14th February is an in-service day. School closes at 12.30 pm on Friday, 9th February and re-opens to pupils at 8.50 am on Thursday, 15th February.

B Lee

P Young Musician of the Year

We are delighted to confirm that the Young Musician of the Year competition will take place on Monday, 18th March (evening).

B Lee

P Lost Property

A number of lost property items (including expensive outdoor jackets) remain unclaimed in the lost property store. Please check with Joan and Lynn if you have misplaced any items within the school.

B Lee

P Community

A reminder of the importance of placing litter in the bins provided. It is important that we look after the local environment and show respect for our community.

B Lee

P ParentsPortal

Thank you to all parents and carers who have signed up to ParentsPortal, our new digital communication service. ParentsPortal enables parents to update contact information, complete consent forms, view canteen menus and attendance information, link to ParentPay and other functions. From this session, school reports will also be available through ParentsPortal.

Further information can be found in the Parent letter issued last session at:

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Information-Letter-to-parents-and-carers.pdf> Please contact the school office if you require any further information.

B Lee

P 'Too good to go'

Unsold sandwiches/wraps/baguettes left over from lunch-time can be collected from a fridge in the Pupil Support corridor at the end of the school day or by arrangement with PTs Pupil Support/SMT/PTs Equity. Please speak to SMT, PTs Pupil Support or PTs Equity for further information.

Please also remember that a supply of toiletries are available in Mr Mallaghan's Pupil Support Office. There are also some porridge pots if anyone has missed breakfast.

B Lee

P Uniform

Our school uniform is:

- White shirt/blouse;
- School tie (red and black/ senior/ international);
- Plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan without logos;
- Black trousers/black skirt;
- School blazer, with option of braiding for S6;
- Plain black footwear (including laces); and
- P.E. kit (white, red or black t-shirt, black shorts).

Please speak to Mrs McCallum, your Pupil Support Teacher, Miss Leckenby, Mrs Miller or any member of SMT if you need any uniform items. Alternatively, you can request uniform items at the links below:

School uniform <https://forms.gle/AWcqcQ7seyd5c91i9>

We would welcome any donations of any pre-loved items of school uniform, particularly school blazers to add these to the supplies available to pupils. Please pass any donations to the School Office. Thank you.

B Lee

P Windfarm Connect2 Renewables Employability Fund – S4-S6 pupils

The following information about the Windfarm Connect 2 Renewables Employability Fund has been shared with S4-S6 pupils and posted in S4-S6 Google Classrooms:
Due to your proximity to the Kype Muir and Middle Muir windfarms, if you plan on leaving at the end of this school year, you could be entitled to up to £500 (if going to college/university) or £200 if going into employment/apprenticeship.
This is a grant payment that does not need to be paid back. The only real requirement is that you live within the required postcode areas.
I would encourage you all to apply if eligible - it is free money that could be really useful as you start your post-school journey.
To apply, you really just need to complete a form (copies of the form are available from the school) - but you won't receive the money until you start college/university as they will need to see your student card. You can make enquiries now though by contacting:
connect2renewables@southlanarkshire.co.uk or telephone 0800 9520 070

J Mallaghan

P Homework

Homework will be shared using Google Classroom. Please make sure you are a member of all your Google Classrooms, including your Year Group Google Classroom.

LA Cimmino

P Young Scot Card and Free Bus Travel

If you need a new Young Scot Card, or still have to renew your card to access free bus travel, your Tutor teacher can give you a form to complete, which will allow us to apply for your card on your behalf. Completed forms should be returned to the School Office.

B Lee

P EMA – S5/6

EMA application forms can be downloaded from the South Lanarkshire Council website. On the Council website, click on 'Education and Learning', then 'Secondary School Information', then 'Education Maintenance Allowance'. If you need any help with this, please see Mr Robertson or your Pupil Support Teacher.

It is your responsibility to complete and send the application form.

When you receive an award letter with your EMA number on it, bring this to Mr Robertson who will then issue a copy of the Learning Agreement to be signed by your teachers and Parent/Carer. You should then return the completed Learning Agreement to Mr Robertson and the school office will then process your EMA.

Only when you have completed all of the above will the payment process begin. Please see Mr Robertson if you have any questions about EMA.

D Robertson