**WELCOME FROM MRS CLAPPERTON,**

**HEAD TEACHER**

Welcome to the new school session! I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all members of our school community – both returning families and those joining us for the first time.

A new year brings fresh opportunities for learning, growth, and achievement. We remain committed to providing a supportive, inclusive and inspiring environment where every child can thrive! Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a successful year ahead!

However, if you do need to get in touch, please do not hesitate to call the school on 01292 550364 or email laura.clapperton@eastayrshire.org.uk.

Laura Clapperton

Head Teacher

**STAFFING UPDATE**

I am pleased to share that I was appointed as the permanent Head Teacher for Dalmellington PS & ECC at the end of last session. It’s an honour to continue leading our wonderful school community.

Over the summer break, we held interviews for teaching posts, and we’re delighted to welcome two new members to our team:

* Miss Dayna Kelly, who joins us as the Primary 4/5 class teacher
* Miss Alison McCann, who will be working across all classes

We look forward to the contributions they will bring and know you will join us in giving them a warm welcome.

**PERMISSION LETTERS**

Your child will have brought home an envelope containing several permission forms. It is very important that these are completed and returned as soon as possible.

These forms ensure your child can take part in outdoor learning, digital activities, and have their photo included in Learning Journals. They also help us keep up-to-date medical information on file.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this.

**SHARING THE LEARNING ASSEMBLIES**

This session, we are excited to host Sharing the Learning assemblies, where each class will have the opportunity to showcase what they’ve been learning in the classroom.

These assemblies will take place throughout the school year, with each class having their own date to present. It’s a fantastic chance for pupils to share their learning experiences.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend – please see the schedule below for your child’s class assembly date. We look forward to seeing you there!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **P1/2** | Tuesday 26th May – 9.30am |
| **P2/3** | Tuesday 7th October – 9.30am  |
| **P4/5** | Tuesday 31st March - 9.30am |
| **P5/6 (plus P6s from P6/7)** | Tuesday 11th November – 9.30am  |
| **P7** | Tuesday 16th June – 2pm  |

**PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS**

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into the school throughout the year for a range of events and activities.

Before we begin planning, we’d love to hear your thoughts. We want to ensure the sessions we offer are both useful and enjoyable for you. Please take a moment to share your views using the QR code below.

Your feedback will help us shape meaningful opportunities for partnership and involvement.



**PE DAYS AND OUTDOOR LEARNING DAYS**

PE days are an important part of our school week, giving children the chance to stay active, build confidence, and develop new skills. To help your child get the most out of their PE lessons, please remember to send them to school with the appropriate kit on PE days.

PE days for the following classes will be –

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| P1/2  | Tuesday & Wednesday  |
| P2/3 | Monday & Wednesday  |
| P4/5  | Thursday & Friday  |
| P5/6  | Tuesday & Wednesday  |
| P6/7  | Wednesday & Friday  |

Each week every class will have the opportunity to participate in outdoor learning. Please ensure children have appropriate footwear and jacket is provided.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| P1/2  | Monday |
| P2/3 | Thursday  |
| P4/5  | Tuesday  |
| P5/6  | Wednesday  |
| P6/7  | Monday  |

**REFRESHED SCHOOL BLOG**

We’ve recently refreshed our school blog, which now includes a wide range of useful information such as our School Improvement Plan, staffing details, school meal menus, PE days, and outdoor learning schedules.

Each week, we’ll also be sharing photos of pupils who have received certificates and awards during our assemblies—celebrating their achievements with our wider school community.

To access the blog, simply search Dalmellington PS school blog on any search engine. We encourage you to check it regularly for updates!

**PUPIL LEADERSHIP GROUPS**

This session we would like to provide our children with more opportunities for leadership opportunities. This provides pupils with the opportunity to express their views and contribute to the life of the school. We look forward to providing opportunities for children to lead events/ assemblies and awards. The children will have a chance to choose which committee they would like to join and will meet every fortnight to drive forward different priorities within their group.

The pupil leadership groups will include Eco Committee/ Digital Leaders/ Global Goals/ Health & Wellbeing champions/ Pupil Council & Rights Respecting Group.

**WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS**

We always love hearing about our pupils’ achievements outside of school—whether through clubs, organisations, community involvement, or personal milestones.

If your child has received a certificate, medal, award, or has been involved in something they are proud of, please encourage them to bring it into school on Mondays so we can celebrate their success at our weekly assembly.

It’s a great way to recognise the amazing things our learners do beyond the classroom!

**ATTENDANCE/ LATE COMING**

In line with EAC policy we monitor children’s attendance and late coming regularly. Please note that we expect children to be in school and ready to learn for 9.00am. We are keen to continue the improvement in attendance percentages this session and will work with you to support your child attending school.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Thank you very much to those of you who participated in our consultation process by completing the Glow Form questionnaire before the summer. We have also consulted as a staff and with our children, other partners and community links. I will upload the school improvement plan to the school website over the coming weeks.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD**

We are currently putting together an annual booklet which will include key dates for activities and events across the school year. This will give families plenty of notice to plan ahead and make it easier for you to join us for the events that matter most to you and your child.

The booklet will be shared with all families soon, and we hope it will be a helpful reference throughout the months ahead.

**TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES – August to October**

**Monday 15th September** – Parent council AGM

**Thursday 18th September** – ECC walk in the community with parents

**Friday 19th September –** Holiday

**Monday 22nd September –** Holiday

**Thursday 25th September –** Parent Open Afternoon

**Friday 30th September –** ECC Book Bug sessions

**Thursday 9th October** – Parents Evening

**Friday 10th October –** ECC/School Fundraising event

**Friday 10th October –** School holidays

**Monday 20th October –** Inservice Day

**Tuesday 21st October –** Children return