



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2026



WELCOME FROM MRS CLAPPERTON, HEAD TEACHER

A very warm welcome back to all our pupils, families and staff as we begin a new school session. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful break and feeling ready for the term ahead!

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back and to see the school full of energy and enthusiasm once again. We are looking forward to another busy and exciting term, filled with learning, achievements and opportunities to grow together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to working in partnership with you and sharing all the wonderful things happening across the school community.

However, if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch –

laura.clapperton@eastayrshire.org.uk

Laura Clapperton
Head Teacher

STAFFING UPDATE

This session, we are delighted to welcome a few new members of staff to our school community.

Within the Primary School, we would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Megan Schofield, who will be teaching Primary 2/3, and Mrs Tammy Withers, who will be teaching Primary 4/5.

Within our Early Childhood Centre, we are also pleased to welcome Miss Nicole McAllister, who joins us as an Early Years Support Assistant.

We are delighted to have them as part of our team and hope they enjoy settling into their new roles and becoming part of our school and ECC community.

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.

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 & Thursday
P2/3	Tuesday & Friday
P4/5	Tuesday & Thursday
P5/6	Tuesday & Wednesday
P6/7	Wednesday & Thursday

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	Friday
P2/3	Monday
P4/5	Monday
P5/6	Monday
P6/7	Friday





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DIGITAL SCHOOLS AWARD – TRIPLE SUCCESS!

Prior to the holidays, we were absolutely delighted to receive some fantastic recognition for our work in Digital Technologies through the Digital Schools Awards programme.

A massive well done and thank you to Miss Kelly and our Digital School Leaders Leadership Group, who have worked incredibly hard to develop and promote the use of digital technology across our school.

The team originally applied for one award, but during the verification process, the verifier was so impressed by the quality and extent of the work taking place that they felt our achievements merited three awards!

We are incredibly proud to have achieved:

-  Digital Schools Award
-  Digital Wellbeing Award
-  Digital Schools Equitable Creative Coding Award

This is a fantastic achievement and wonderful recognition of the hard work, creativity and commitment shown by our staff and pupils. Well done to everyone involved!

DIGITAL DAY – SPONSORED EVENT

To celebrate our fantastic Digital Schools Awards achievements, we are excited to announce that we will be holding a Sponsored Digital Day on **Friday 9th October!**

This special day will give all of our children the opportunity to take part in a wide range of fun, engaging and creative digital experiences, celebrating the fantastic digital learning that takes place across our school.

As well as being a fun-filled day for our pupils, the event will also help to raise funds for the school, supporting us to continue providing exciting learning opportunities and resources for our children. More details about the day and sponsorship information will follow soon.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

This session, we aim to continue providing parents and carers with a range of opportunities to engage with and be part of their child's learning. These will include Sharing the Learning assemblies, open afternoons and other opportunities to visit the school and celebrate learning together.

A parent/carers booklet will be provided with key dates for the session, highlighting the different opportunities for you to come into school and take part in your child's learning.

Our first Open Afternoon will take place on **Thursday 24th September** from **2.00–2.45pm**. The focus for this session will be Literacy, with a particular focus on Spelling. During the afternoon, we will share some of the approaches and strategies we use in school, with the aim of helping parents and carers feel more confident in supporting spelling and literacy learning at home.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible and look forward to continuing to work together to support our children's learning and progress.

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.





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BREAKFAST CLUB – COMING SOON!

We are delighted to confirm that our Breakfast Club will begin on **Tuesday 22nd September**, running every school day from **8:15am until 8:45am**.

Thanks to the funding we have received, and following the level of interest from families, Breakfast Club will be provided free of charge until the Christmas holidays. The provision will be reviewed towards the end of this period and families will be kept informed of any changes to costs going forward.

Breakfast options will include cereal, toast, yoghurt, milk, water and diluting juice.

Further information, including an online registration form and details of arrangements, will be shared with families closer to the start date.



PARENT COUNCIL- WE NEED YOU!

Our Parent Council plays an important role in supporting our school, and we need parents and carers to get involved!

The Parent Council works in partnership with the school to support fundraising, contribute to important discussions and decisions, and help make a positive difference to our school community. Getting involved is a great way to have your voice heard, meet other parents and carers, and help shape the future of our school. Come along and find out more!

We understand that you may want to know a little more about what being part of the Parent Council involves before deciding whether it is for you.

We will therefore be holding a Parent Council Information Session with Mrs Clapperton and a representative from the Parent Council on **Monday 7th September at 2.30pm**

Come along for an informal chat over tea, coffee and cakes while you hear about what the Parent Council does, how you can get involved, and the difference your support can make.

Parent Council AGM

Our Parent Council AGM will take place on **Wednesday 16th September at 6pm**.

We would love to see more of our parents and carers represented. Whether you can offer a little time or a lot, your ideas, experience and involvement really can make a difference to our school and our children.





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WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS

We would like to celebrate all our pupil achievements both in and out of school. If your child has a wider achievement they would like to share with us during our assemblies, please complete this form by scanning the QR code. If you have a photo which could be emailed to us, please send it to:

claire.stevenson@eastayrshire.org.uk

**Dalmellington ECC & Primary
School - Wider Achievement
2026/27**



IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD –

August 2026 – October 2026

Monday 7th September – Parent Council
information session – 2.30pm

Wednesday 16th September – Parent Council AGM –
6pm

Friday 18th September – Holiday

Monday 21st September – Holiday

Thursday 24th September – Primary Parent Open
Afternoon (Literacy) – 2pm

Tuesday 29th September – ECC Book Bug session
2pm

Thursday 8th October – Parents Evening

Friday 9th October – ECC/School Digital Day
Fundraising event

Monday 12th October – School holidays

Monday 19th October – Inservice Day

Tuesday 20th October – Children return