

Drongan Primary and Early Childhood Centre Newsletter

January 2026

I would like to wish all of our parents, carers, children and the Drongan community a very Happy New Year!



Dear parent / carer,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school / nursery over the last few days.

I would once again like to thank everyone for the support that you showed during what was another very successful and enjoyable Christmas programme.

Staffing

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Mr Manson to Drongan Primary School. Mr Manson is our new Janitor and started before the Christmas Holidays.

P1 Registration

Registration week will take place from Monday 12 January 2026 until Friday 16 January 2026 for children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2026 and 28 February 2027, and whose parents/carers wish them to attend school

Registration forms should be completed online and submitted no later than Friday 16 January 2026.

To register you should complete an online application at:

- <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

To register your child, you will require to upload a copy of your child's birth certificate and two proofs of your residence in the catchment area in the form of a Council Tax Notice or Utility Bill. Should you require a copy of your child's birth certificate for Registration, this can be obtained at www.certificates.scot.

If you are unable to register online then please phone your local school who will assist you to register your child.

Placing Requests

Parents and carers who wish to make a placing request must first enrol their child/children at their catchment school.

Placing requests for the session beginning August 2026, should be received by 31 January. Requests must be completed and submitted online at: <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/schoolplacingrequest>

Parents and carers can also submit a placing request for Gaelic Medium Education for their child. For further information regarding Gaelic Medium Education at Sgoil na Coille Nuaidh on William McIlvanney Campus, please contact the school directly on 01563 558505

Transition

Our Nursery children will have the opportunity to visit Primary

1 classes in small groups between now and Easter. Further information regarding transition events in Term 4 will be shared nearer the time.

There will also be further information regarding our P7s transition programme to Robert Burns Academy.

S1 Registration

Our Primary 7 children will be due to transfer from primary to secondary education at the beginning of the new school session.

Please complete the online P7 transfer application at <http://eastayrshi.re/p7transfer>

Secondary school handbooks are available at: <https://eastayrshi.re/SchoolHandbooks>

Child Protection

Please note that Mr Maddocks HT is the Child Protection Officer for both Drongan Primary School and the Early Childhood Centre. Should you have any concerns about the wellbeing or safety of a child then please contact the school or ECC and ask to speak to Mr Maddocks. In Mr Maddocks absence, Mr McFadzean DHT would be the staff member to speak to.

Parent Council Meeting

The next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 2nd February at 7.00pm. All parents and carers of Drongan Primary School pupils are welcome to attend and we would appreciate your support. Please get in touch if you would be interested in supporting the Parent Council and we will

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pass your details to the relevant people.

P5 Swimming

We are currently arranging a 6-week block of swimming lessons for our Primary 5 pupils. We are able to provide this thanks to full funding from the 9CC. We would like to thank the 9CC for their support with this, and also for the secured funding for the next two years.



Children's Mental Health week



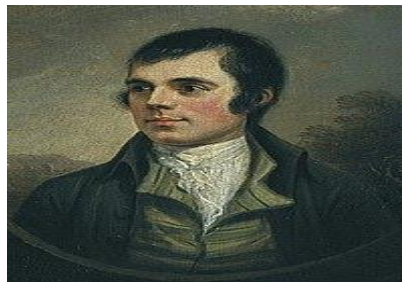
Children's Mental Health Week runs from Monday 16th February this year (please note different from official week due to Burns activities). Children will take part in a variety of activities to help raise awareness of mental health, further information will follow. There will be a 'Let's Connect' wellbeing afternoon on Wednesday 18th February that parents and carers will be invited to attend, more information on this will follow. There will be additional events

activities taking place across the week.



We will continue to promote the rights of the child through our 'Right of the Month' focus. These will be shared on the blog.

Scots Verse / Burns Recitation Competition



We are looking forward to holding our annual Burns / Scots Verse competition, which will take place on Wednesday 4th February.

All classes will be allocated with a poem to focus on. Children are expected to do their best to learn their allocated or chosen poem as part of their homework. Class teachers will also introduce the poems and work together with the children in class to develop their knowledge and confidence. Scots Verse and Burns together with Listening and Talking is part of the curriculum in Literacy and is also an important part of our national and local heritage. As a school we are keen to educate our children about the important heritage and local history with regards to Scots

verse and Robert Burns. We fully appreciate that some children are more confident than others when it comes to this sort of thing but encourage all children to do their best.

Two children will be chosen from each class to perform in the final in front of a judging panel where a class winner for every class will be chosen. Overall P1–3 and P4–7 winners will also be announced on the day of the competition.

Parents and carers are invited along to the event on 4th February. Parents / carers of finalists will be notified if their child is chosen as one of the class finalists.

P6/7 Burns' Supper

Our annual P6 and 7 Burns' Supper will be held on the afternoon of Friday 6th February. This is always a lovely afternoon where we celebrate the life of the bard. Parents and carers are welcome to enjoy the usual entertainment and fare.

The Scottish Poppy Appeal



Thank you for your support of The Scottish Poppy Appeal. We raised £52.73, which has been donated to the Royal British Legion.

P7 Residential

Our P7s are looking forward to their residential visit to Dumfries House on **Tuesday 28th April to Friday 1st May 2026**. The final balance of £120 is due to be paid by

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Friday 27th March 2026.
ParentPay accounts have been set up to pay in instalments if required.

We will provide more information about the activities and what the children are required to bring towards the end of term.

Should you have any questions about the residential, please contact Mr McFadzean at the school.

Bug Club Reading Books

Since moving to physical copies of reading books being sent home for homework, we have noticed a decline in the number of books across all levels coming back to school. We would appreciate it if you were able to check if your child has any copies of Bug Club Reading Books at home and return them to school, as replacing them costs around £5 - £7 per book. This will allow us to make sure we have enough copies for pupils as they move onto new levels and books.



Class Assemblies

It has been lovely to welcome parents and carers into the school for our class assemblies. The children have loved sharing their learning with you, please see dates for diary page for class assemblies this term.

Christmas Fundraising



The Christmas Fundraising activities in school were a real hit with the children and wider community.

We would like to start by saying a huge thank you to our pupils, parents and wider community for supporting us with these events and activities. It was great welcoming the community into the school for our Christmas Fayre once again.

The activities raised over £4100 for the school fund, an incredible amount. Thank you once again to all of the local businesses and organisations for your contributions and support.

Wider Achievements



Wider achievements continue to be celebrated at our whole school assembly on a Friday. Please remember to send trophies, certificates, medals or any other news of your children's achievement in to school on a Friday morning to be shared with their class. They will also have their photograph taken for our display.

World Book Day

Once again we will be celebrating World Book Day, this year on Thursday 5th March. More information will follow nearer the time.



Communication



The Safer Schools Scotland app will continue to be our main form of communication with parents and carers. Once downloaded, you will need to create an account. You will be asked to select your school and add in the **Parent/Carer code**, which for Drongan PS is **1383**. You are also able to add in additional schools if you have the need.

You can also find a lot of information about the school on our Glow Blog / website and we also have a Twitter feed to provide more regular updates as well as celebrating good practice and children's achievements. If you are on Twitter please follow us @DronganPS. I have also put a link to the Glow Blog, which we have developed over the last couple of years. The blog can also be found by simply searching 'Drongan Primary School blog' in Google.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/dronganpsecc2016/>

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Easter Service

Our Easter Service will take place on Wednesday 1st April at 9.30am. All parents, carers and community members are welcome to join us.

Parking and Road Safety

It has again been brought to my attentions that there have been issues with on street parking as well as unsafe driving almost resulting in serious accidents. Please park with consideration during pick up and drop off and take care when driving during these busy times to ensure everyone's safety.

Bikes and Scooters

While we encourage our pupils to bring their bikes or scooters to school, we have to remind

them regularly to dismount them when they get to the school gates. This is for safety reasons and to cut down on the risk of accidents.

If your child is going to bring their bike or scooter to school, please encourage them to be sensible when on school grounds. Please also encourage children to wear helmets.

Please note that **children should not be using electric scooters or bikes to get to school.**

In the UK, privately owned electric scooters are currently illegal to use on public roads and pavements, and electric bikes are only legal for riders aged 14 and over, provided they meet certain requirements.

Thank you for your cooperation.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-users>

<https://www.gov.uk/electric-bike-rules>

Uniform

We are proud of the fact that almost all of our pupils wear school uniform. We are keen to promote pupils wearing school uniform and want to remind you that there are items of school uniform available from the 'Helping Hands' food provision.

School & ECC Holidays

Children are off school on 9th and 10th of February.

The school will close for the Easter break on Thursday 2nd April at 2.30pm and re-open to pupils on Monday 20th April.

Thank You

Yours sincerely
Mr S Maddocks
Head Teacher
Sean.maddocks@eastayrshire.org.uk

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Dates for your diary: January – April

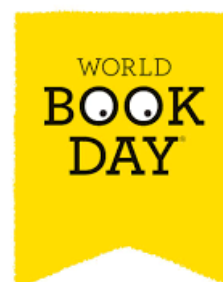
**Mon 5th -
Mon 12th -
Wed 28th Jan:**

**School re-opens
P1 and S1 Enrolment Week
P2 class assembly, 2.00pm**



**Mon 2nd Feb:
Wed 4th Feb:
Fri 6th Feb:
Mon 9th Feb:
Tue 10th Feb:
Mon 16th Feb:
Wed 18th Feb:
Wed 25th Feb:**

**Parent Council Meeting
Burns / Scots Verse Competition Final
Primary 6 / 7 Burns' Supper
Holiday
In-service Day
Children's Mental Health Week
'Let's Connect' Parent Afternoon
P3/4 class assembly**



**Thurs 5th March:
Wed 18th March:
Wed 25th March:**

**World Book Day
P1 Assembly, 2.00pm
Parents' Evening**



**Wed 1st April:
Thu 2nd April:
Mon 20th April:**

**Easter Service - 9.30am
School Closes - 2.30pm
School reopens**



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Drongan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre Vision, Values and Aims



Vision

In Drongan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre our vision for all is:

To have a sense of belonging and pride in our local community where everyone is valued and we work together to be the best that we can be.

Values

Within our school, ECC and local community, the values that we feel are important to instil in all are:



Resilience

Aims

In Drongan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre our aim is to develop the **four capacities** outlined in Curriculum for Excellence in all of our pupils to prepare them for future life.

We will encourage our children to be:

Confident individuals by promoting self-worth, ambition and resilience

Responsible citizens by promoting diversity, communication skills and confidence

Effective contributors by promoting community spirit, enjoyment and participation

Successful learners by promoting skills development, challenge and engagement in learning