

NEWSLETTER



Speeding towards the end of term

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the session. The weeks are passing so quickly and we have so much happening in the last few days of term. It has been such a busy term so far. Scotland fever has gripped the school and the children are enjoying celebrating our National Team getting to the World Cup. Our celebration for the World Day of Dance was incredible, the whole school was out on the field doing the 'McTominay Two Step' and singing 'No Scotland, No Party!' Our P5-7 children loved the Nick Morgan gig at the Pavillion too. We know how to party at Alloway. There has been lots of activity in the school for Health and Wellbeing fortnight which has been lovely to see. Huge thanks to all our volunteers who helped support this.

Thank you all for your continued support this session. It means a lot. We would like to wish our EYC children and Primary 7 children all the very best as they move onto the next chapter of their story. We hope you all have a lovely summer holiday.

Kind regards,
Fiona Meney, Head Teacher

Reminders

- Primary 7 Bowling @ LA Bowl 5-7pm 23rd June
- Primary 7 Leaver's Assembly Thurs 25th June @11am
- Summer Celebration and Tartan Trek – Friday 26th June. All children should bring a packed lunch.
- Church Service Tues 30th June at 9.45am – parents welcome to walk to church with us, meet at reception at 9am
- School closes Tues 30th June 1pm

Staffing next session

As our session comes to an end we have to say farewell to some member of our staff team; Miss Gardener, Mrs Parkinson, Mrs Hedges and Mr Stewart. We are very grateful to everything that they have done for us and wish them all the very best for the future. We will also be waiting to hear some lovely baby news over the summer from Mrs Baird and Miss McNeil who stop for maternity leave. We can't wait to hear your good news.

School Trips

Children have enjoyed a variety of trips this session that have linked to learning; Little Acorns (EYC), Dumfries House (P1), Maritime Museum (P2), Science Centre (P3), Vikingar (P4), Titanic (P5), Craufaurdland (P6) and Inverclyde (P7). It is so good to continue learning beyond our school walls. Thank you so much to everyone who helped on these experiences, we are very grateful.

Uniform Next Session

We very much promote the wearing of school uniform. This shows that we all belong to the same place and it helps children feel included. We are aware of huge pressures on parents to buy the latest item of clothing or footwear which can be very expensive and these items can get easily lost. School uniform takes away this pressure and helps all children feel the same. Working together we can achieve this.

We have a school uniform recycling centre in the Alloway Public Library that parents are welcome to take from or add to.

The Parent Council have sourced navy PE t-shirts. Children will be welcome to wear these for PE lessons and for any sports events/teams in the new session. They also have quarter zips and school hoodies that children can wear as part of our uniform.

Children often like to bring their own pencil case with resources for the new term. Please also ensure that children have a named water bottle and PE kit/shoes. Information about PE days will be sent out in the new term. Children can also bring a waterproof and or wellies to store in school for outdoor learning. Again, we would appreciate it if all items are named. Please contact us if you need any support with this.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time. We know and appreciate that children can get ill and unable to come to school but would encourage to develop positive attendance patterns within school. There is a focus within the local authority this session on attendance. School attendance is monitored on a regular basis and any attendance issues followed up with parents or carers. We will follow up attendance or late coming. Please continue to phone in to the school office when your child is absent. This is the only way to report absence. School starts at 9am. Please encourage prompt attendance. Any late coming or drop off or pick for appointments should be through the school office. Mrs Park our Principal Teacher has this on her remit and is there to support families to help promoting positive attendance patterns.



School Show

We were so proud of Primary 4-7 with their performance of 'Follow the Alloway Road!' Everyone worked so hard and really impressed us with their singing, dancing and musical talents. Huge thank you to all staff who supported this and to the Parent Council for running the tuck shop and buying the children ice lollies.

Parent Council

Thank you so much to our Parent Council for all their hard work this session. We really do appreciate it. The children loved the 'No Scotland, No Party!' disco. Huge thanks to Haley Knowles who was our resident DJ and kept the children entertained.
allowayparentcouncil@gmail.com

Alloway Parent Council Lottery

On behalf of the Parent Council we invite you to participate in the Alloway Primary School lottery. It's a fantastic way to bring the wider community together, in partnership with our school, and at the same time give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children. The lottery is £1 a week with a minimum 4 week cancellation period. Every week someone from the Alloway community will win 25% of the takings, with 40% going to our school fund. Visit <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play> and search for 'Alloway Primary' to sign up. Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!

Extra Curricular

We have had a busy year of extra curricular activities across the school. This session, our activities have included dance, athletics, Scripture Union, choir, multisports, badminton, coding, chess, reading, and arts and crafts club. A huge thank you to all our volunteers who have delivered activities across the session.

As part of our extra-curricular programme, children have had the opportunity to take part in a range of events out with school. These events have included Flipfest, Funhouse Fitness, Swimming Championships, Touch Rugby festival, Sporthall Athletics, Belmont Dance Show, Badminton Festival, Dance Mania, Orienteering, Superteams, Beach Run, and basketball festival. A huge well done to the children who attended these events and represented the school so well. Staff and volunteers give up a huge amount of their time to facilitate these events, and we are so grateful.

Well done to our P5 pupils who completed their Level 1 Bikeability, and to P6 who completed their Level 2. Thanks to Mrs Wylie and school staff for delivering this.



Football

We are so proud of the successes of our football teams this session. Our League Team won the league, well done! Our Cup Team took the shield at the 3 Pillars of Ayrshire tournament - congratulations. Our girls team won the Ayr & District Primary School cup, the Brownings Ayrshire League cup and the 3 Pillars cup. Throughout the season, we have been so impressed by the sportsmanship shown by all players. A huge well done, and thank you to our coaches, Mr Stewart, Kenny MacPherson and Evan Ferguson.



School Improvement Plan - Update

- This year, we have made significant progress in Year 1 of our School Improvement Plan, with a strong focus on raising attainment and ensuring every child is supported to reach their full potential.
- Our first priority focused on improving literacy through the implementation of the Science of Reading approach across both the EYC and school. Through our continued partnership with South Ayrshire Reads, staff have engaged in high-quality professional learning, new reading and spelling approaches have been embedded, and resources have been aligned to support phonics, fluency and comprehension development. The impact has been very positive, with significant improvements in literacy attainment across the Early Years Centre and strong progress in reading, phonics and fluency demonstrated across all stages of the school. Children have also benefited from a growing culture of reading, strengthened partnerships with families and the local library, and targeted interventions which have successfully supported learners requiring additional help.
- Our second priority centred on empowering learners through a rich, inclusive curriculum and robust systems to support attainment, wellbeing and engagement. Across the school and EYC, nurture approaches, play pedagogy, outdoor learning, digital technologies, STEM learning and sustainability education have all been further developed. Staff have strengthened approaches to adaptive teaching, learning environments and the use of numeracy resources, while regular attainment tracking ensures support is targeted effectively for every learner. These developments have contributed to strong progress in numeracy attainment, improved pupil engagement, increased creativity and problem-solving skills, and continued success in wider achievements including Eco Schools accreditation.
- We will share our 'Standards and Quality' report and updated 'School Improvement Plan' with you in the new session.

Parking

This session I received numerous complaints about dangerous parking in and around the school. This is still an issue. The safety of all our pupils is paramount and again, I would ask parents to consider where they park in and around the school. Please do not park on the pavement, double park or block driveways. I am becoming increasingly concerned about unsafe dropping off and parking in Upper Crofts as this cul-de-sac becomes very busy. I would ask you to avoid this street and under no circumstances turn with the area in front of the school gates or stop on double yellow lines or zig zag lines. I have been in continued talks with South Ayrshire Council about this. Keeping children safe is important to everyone so I really need everyone's support with this. I really need ALL parents support with this.



Child Protection

At Alloway Primary School and EYC we continually strive to keep children safe and protected from harm. This is the responsibility of all. We recognise our legal and moral duty to promote the well-being of children and protect them from harm.

In our School Mrs Fiona Meney (HT) is the Child Protection Co-ordinator and Mrs Lauren Miller (DHT) is the Depute Child Protection Co-ordinator. For more information about this, please see our school webpage - [Alloway Primary - Child Protection Webpage](#)

Mobile Phones and Devices

We would ask that children do not bring mobile phones or devices to school. This is becoming more of an issue in school. These can get lost or damaged and we want to ensure all children are using the internet safely. In some cases, parents give permission for children to bring mobile phones in due to walking home or after school activities. In these cases we would ask children to keep these devices in their bag or hand into their teacher to keep safely until the end of the day. We would ask that children do not use phones or , smart watches or devices during school hours. We really do need and appreciate your support with this. Technology is developing all the time and very often smart watches can take photos and text etc. The same rules applying to mobile phones apply to smart watches and devices. Children should not use these in school. Here is a link for information for parents on children using mobile phones safely and appropriately.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/phones>



Lost Property

Lost property can be an issue in school. Please ensure all items of clothing are named, this makes lost items very easy to return.

As we approach the end of term we will put a lost property trolley in the playground and would encourage everyone to have a look as we try to reunite lost items.

ASN websites

More information can be found in the following website - South Ayrshire Young Carers Service. We understand that sometimes children and families require additional support for specific issues. Please see below for a range of ways that we can support our children and families. We have compiled a page on our website that has links about our Staged Intervention Process, Neurodiversity, Sleep Scotland, Dyslexia and NEST. Please visit:
[ASN page - Alloway Primary Website](#)

South Ayrshire Council provides a Young Carers service for children who have caring responsibilities. Please see this webpage for more details and speak to us at the school for more information.

[Young Carers Webpage](#)