

Barr Primary & EYC Newsletter August 2024



Dear parents and families

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and were able to relax and spend some precious time with your loved ones. A very warm welcome to all our families and we hope you are all settling in well and getting back into the early morning routines. The children have had a super start and have been working well in their classes, getting to know their new class teachers and spending time with their friends again. We look forward to working in partnership with our parents, families and community partners in the weeks and months ahead.

COMMUNICATION

A school newsletter will be issued termly, providing updates of what has been happening in school and informing you of any upcoming events. The newsletters will also be made available on the school website – <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sa/barrpsandeyc/welcome/school-blog/> All letters from the school will also be available on the school website, so please use this to check for details if you misplace an original letter. In cases where we need to send out important reminders, parents will receive an email from the school office.

We enjoy sharing daily school news via our twitter account <https://x.com/BarrPrimary> This is a closed account, so you must request to follow us before you will be able to see any information. It is a great way to share pupil achievements and photos of the daily life of the school.

Learning journals

You can stay connected to your child's learning journey through their Learning Journal. This platform provides detailed insights into their academic progress, participation in events, and special moments they wish to share with you. We also encourage you to contribute by sharing any achievements or experiences from home. If you need assistance with your login details, please reach out to Miss Burton via the School Office, and she will help you reset your account and provide a new link to set up a password.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

At Barr, we provide a nurturing and caring environment for your child to grow, learn and develop. We understand the importance of working together with our families to ensure that all children have a strong foundation on which to build in later years. Throughout the session, we will host many of opportunities where we encourage you to get involved, strengthening our partnerships between home and school. We will also issue a range of different information leaflets to help support learning at home and provide a variety of helpful information.

Family learning encourages positive attitudes to lifelong learning, helping all our children achieve the highest standards possible. It is our aim to ensure you are fully aware of the types of learning taking place within our Early Years Centre and School, and how best to support your child/children in their learning.

STAFFING NEWS & MEET THE TEAM

EARLY YEARS CENTRE

We have welcomed Mrs Fiona Brown to our Early Years team. Fiona is an Early Years Practitioner and has joined us from Braehead EYC. Also joining us this year will be Lynsey Hopper. Lynsey is an Early Years Principal Teacher and will be with us in school once a month.

SCHOOL

In our P5-7 class we have welcomed this year Mrs Caroline Menzies. Mrs Menzies is a newly qualified teacher and will share her class with Miss Emma Burton.

COFFEE & CHAT

We have arranged an informal Coffee and Chat session on September 3rd at 2.30pm. This will be a great opportunity for us to get to know each other and for you to meet our new staff. Or alternatively just to have a blether and eat cake!

HEALTH AND WELLBEING: PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Junior class PE days – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Senior class PE days – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

We are pleased to welcome back Caitlin Flanagan from Active Schools who will be starting off the session with our Junior Coaching Academy for our senior class. In addition to this we will also be offering an after-school club on a Thursday. The focus for the first block will be basketball. Further details will be sent out through the school office.

CHILD PROTECTION

Everyone has a responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in our communities. Should any parent or family member be concerned about the wellbeing of any child, this should be reported immediately to Miss McBean, our Head Teacher, who is the school's Child Protection Co-ordinator.

ABSENCE / LATE COMINGS

We hold the safety and security of pupils as highest priority. To this end, please could we ask that parents/carers notify the school office immediately if a pupil is going to be absent from school and on each day of their absence. Failure to do so will result in our clerical staff sending a text message asking you to contact the school. Pupils who arrive late to school must report to the main office before heading to class.

Please be aware that in line with the authority's 'Maximising Attendance' procedures, a letter will automatically be issued to parents/carers, when a child's unauthorised **absence falls below 90%**. Although you may think this figure is high, **an attendance of 90% over a whole school year equates to missing 4 weeks of education**. You will find more information on council policy and procedures at: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/absence.aspx>

THE YEAR AHEAD

Please note, all dates are subject to change; additional dates and opportunities will be added as the year progresses.

Date	Time	Event
20.09.24	All day	School holiday weekend
24.09.24	09:00	Return to school
27.09.24	10:00	MacMillan Coffee Morning
01.10.24	From 15:30	Parents' Appointments

11.10.24	15:00	Close for October holiday
21.10.24	All day	In-service day for staff
22.10.24	09:00	Return to school
25.10.24	All day	Outdoor play day
31.10.24	13:30	Hallowe'en Party
29.11.24	All Day	Outdoor play day
20.12.24	Afternoon	Christmas Party
TBC	Afternoon	Whole school Christmas show / Nativity
20.12.24	14:30	Close for Christmas
2025		
06.01.25	09:00	Return to school
20.01.24	13:30	Scottish Afternoon
31.01.25	All day	Outdoor play day
10.02.25	All day	Holiday
11.02.25	All day	In-service day for staff
28.02.25	All day	Outdoor play day
11.03.25	From 15:30	Parents' Appointments
28.03.25	All day	Outdoor play day
04.04.25	14:30	School closes for Easter
21.04.25	09:00	Return to school
25.04.25	All day	Outdoor play day
05.05.25	All Day	Holiday
12.05.25	All day	Sports Day
26.05.25	All day	Holiday
27.05.25	All day	In-service day for staff
30.05.25	All day	Outdoor play day
06.06.25	All day	EYC & School trip
10.06.25 – 12.06.25	All day	S1 transition events to Girvan Academy
20.06.25	All day	Outdoor play day
23.06.25	13:30	Celebration of Success
27.06.25	13:00	Schools close for Summer

As Acting Head Teacher, I look forward to a busy and successful school year with all our families at Barr EYC and Primary School. As always, should you have any queries about anything within our newsletter, or in connection with your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

I look forward to your support as we work together to provide the very best for the young people

Best wishes

Miss Eilidh McBean