

## People Directorate

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**Our Ref: Your Ref:**

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Dear Parents and Carers, and our wonderful pupils

Welcome back! We hope that you are all safe, healthy and looking out for one another at home. Easter holidays were like no other for all of us....but the sun shone every day

which made everything a little more bearable.

Hopefully by now, you will have had the chance to browse around the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of Home Learning Grids that our teaching staff have prepared. My thanks go to the amazing creativity from our staff team as they embrace this unique style of teaching. Believe me, we would all much prefer to be in our classrooms with all of you and we all think the job is much easier to do there! Again, you will see that a new grid has been uploaded for every class. As well as those grids, we have additional grids which link to many curricular areas and can be adapted to suit the age and stage of all our pupils from EYC to P7.

The Home Learning Tab on the website has been split into 5 different tabs where you can find out more information about Home Learning Grids, Additional Home Learning Grids, Accelerated Reading, Weekly HT updates and a Celebration of Success.

Some teachers will include task sheets or additional information sheets relating to work on their Learning Grids. These will be displayed on the sub-tab 'Additional Learning Grids' and will be clearly labelled with class stage and task name for the pupils to access online.

This week, we have been so delighted with the higher number of families getting in contact with class teachers via email....please keep that going, even once a week as staff are keen to know that everyone is doing ok.



Again, please prioritise the health and wellbeing of your family above everything else....anything you do in terms of learning is fantastic, but we fully understand that it is not equitable across our school, and our staff will be ready to work with pupils wherever they may be in their learning once we can get back together in school!

Our EYC staff are very much missing all the children too, and I have included below their email addresses in order that families can get in touch with them too. I appreciate that our EYC parents are not yet on Groupcall so it isn't as straightforward to send information to them. My thanks go to the Parent Council for uploading our Weekly Roundup onto their social media pages, and for the amazing Coylton Community for spreading the word to our EYC families. Another reminder to follow both school and EYC

on Twitter as so many pieces of rich information can be found there, as well as it being another form of communication.

As promised, here is a brief run down of some of the things our staff have been up to this week, as well as working on school related tasks. Miss Shimmons and Miss Thomson are hoping to create a short video of the staff home learning, similar to the one on Twitter with the children last week so please check out Twitter for this soon

- Mrs Green has been painting stones she and her family have been finding when out on country walks, designing whacky sunglasses and being VERY competitive playing volleyball in the garden.
- Mrs Wilcox has been star gazing at night which has been very relaxing, and she even saw a few shooting stars. She has been busy celebrating Earth Day by building a hotel for insects in the garden, and enjoying a daily walk around local woodlands where she found a pond which has some amazing pond life including tadpoles. She is so excited to watch them grow into frogs!
- This week, Mrs Campbell has been walking in the sunshine, eating lunch and reading in the garden and she has been doing lots of yoga.
- Mrs Cobbedick is unable to visit her new baby granddaughter who was born much earlier than planned but who is doing so very well! She has daily video chats with her family so still gets to see her every day. 😊
- Mrs Moseley had an interactive comedy night which was great. She has been attempting more home workouts out in the sun, when her dogs weren't stealing her dumbbells. She has also been continuing to paint her fence and made a banana bread that didn't quite go to plan! But she will try again until it is perfect!
- This week, Mrs Burns has been busy painting her garden fence too. She also made her first gluten-free pizza from scratch...she said it tasted better than it looked! She is still running/cycling as much as she can and even completed the NHS 5K. Well done!
- Miss Dickie has been enjoying the sunshine in the garden. She has had a wee BBQ so she really enjoyed that! She has also completed the 'Teaching Sustainable Development Goals' course online so watch out P5 for information on that coming out to you soon!!
- Mrs Symington has been pottering around in the garden. Her seedlings of basil, tomato, peppers and chilis are coming along nicely. She has edged the lawn, cut the hedge and weeded all the borders. She still has to paint the fence, that's the next job!
- Miss Marr has been in the garden enjoying the nice weather and has been running 5K most days. She completed the run for heroes 5K challenge, nominated by the lovely Miss Thomson 😊 She also took part in Face Time bingo with friends and family which was fun.

- Mrs Duncan has been busy finishing painting the garden fence, out walking round Prestwick and remembering to water the garden in this lovely sunny weather, and she is so proud of her 6 wee sunflowers that are all doing really well. She also been measuring the height of her boys as they are eating her out of house and home! Lewis is 5'11 & Struan is 6'6 & 1/2!! She is freaking out!!!!!!
- Mrs Wallace has painted a shelf and put it up so her DIY skills are improving all the time. She has also been baking muffins and banana loaf for her husband to take into work with him! Mrs Wallace also completed the 5K challenge, although she hadn't realized just how red her face could become! Very well done!!
- Miss McFarlane is loving going for walks in the evening and seeing some spectacular sunsets! She has also increased the height of her WIFI tower so she can work out in the garden, where her neighbours always chat to her about the things she is doing for work which is lovely!
- Mrs Cairn has been in the garden a lot with her girls. She has also been interacting lots with her family online, and they even tried a few Escape Rooms games which were tricky, but good fun!
- Mrs Davidson has taken to playing the guitar in the garden, providing free music for all her neighbours.....she didn't say what the reviews have been like so far!
- Miss Cowie has walking loads, and feels blessed to have so many lovely areas to walk from her home! She has also tried her hand at digger driving – she has hired a small one for a garden project, so she is our resident Bob the Builder! Another new set of skills!!
- Mrs Baird has been trying to walk at least 5K every day. The best thing about doing this is that she meets - social distancing of course – lots of our pupils and families and so she is very much enjoying seeing them.
- Miss Thomson has completed the 5K challenge too, and has been involved in lots of family and friends quiz nights.....she still hasn't won, so she is brushing up on her general knowledge in the hope of a win soon!
- Mrs Stewart lives quite near the beach and so her daily walks have taken her onto the shore, where she has found some really interesting shells, and even a few crabs!
- Mrs Kilmurry has been researching the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Earth Day and has lots of new information to share with the Eco Committee! She has also been growing some plants in the garden too!

Over in the EYC,

- Miss Cairnie celebrated her birthday this week, and she had a love birthday cake to share with her son with lots of sweeties on it...Happy Birthday from all of us!
- Mrs Brown's favourite new story book is Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson. Maybe you should have a look at it too!

- Mrs Kotze has been running 5K for the NHS challenge and has also been looking for Venus up in the night sky.
- Mrs MacDonald has planted some potatoes in a big container, has been participating in some online quiz sessions with her friends and has been helping her daughter on her school project which is lighthouses.
- Mrs Ingram has been looking after her grandchildren and doing lots in the garden. She has also been working on the Hub school for Key Workers children over the past week or so.
- Miss Nisbet has been trying out lots of new, delicious recipes as well as running 5K...she managed it in under 35 minutes – WOW!!!!
- Miss Glendinning has had a busy week, going on lots of walks and enjoying the sunshine, collecting flowers then making frozen flowers which turned out lovely!
- Mrs Imrie has been going for long walks with her dog Daisy and has been spending time getting her garden beautifully tidied.

The EYC staff are in the process of preparing a special message for the children and families....watch this space 😊

Miss Shimmons' weekly round up revolves around food!!! She had a new bbq delivered to the house last week and has enjoyed eating dinners in the garden ever since! She has also taken part in a recipe exchange over WhatsApp and received lots of new ideas from people she doesn't even know!

And as for me, I have been thinking back to all the places I have visited on holidays with my family and so I bought a pop-up globe that I can put coloured pins in to show all the places I have visited.

For any queries or generic comments, please continue to use the Groupcall service and the Coylton mail box for emails. Miss Shimmons and I are checking these regularly each day. Continue to check out the website and Twitter for ideas and updates, and thanks go to the Parent Council for updating their Facebook page for us too!

Here are the email addresses for the EYC staff:

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[alison.ingram@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:alison.ingram@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)  
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I watch the updates from both the UK and Scottish Governments every day, which can be a challenge in terms of predicting what the next steps will be for education. Please be assured that if any changes are to be made, I will communicate them to our families as soon as possible. Until then, staff will be working every day for the children in our school and we hope that you will all reach out to them in emails, through Groupcall or Twitter to either share learning or just to say hi!

Please also get in touch with myself, if you feel that I could be sharing any other bits of information with you each Friday in this roundup.



Mrs D x

Fiona Donnelly  
Head Teacher