

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers, and our wonderful pupils

How quickly are the weeks going in. We are almost at the end of May, and the end of another week in our lockdown. We heard today from the First Minister's Parliamentary Address that schools for all pupils will not be opening prior to the summer holidays. Furthermore, when schools do go back in August, children will explore a mixture of in school and at home learning. Our Local Authority, like all across Scotland, is drafting clear guidelines about what this will mean for families in South Ayrshire as we move forward. We hope to have more information next week and I will endeavor to get information out to you as soon as I can. In the meantime, you can see the Scottish Governments Strategic Framework for Reopening Schools on the Scottish Government Website.

Just a reminder that Monday 25th May is a Bank holiday, with Tuesday 26th as In Service. Children wouldn't normally be at school on these days so full permission given not to do



any home learning those 2 days

Hopefully, all families will have accessed the Home Learning Grids for this 2week block. New grids will be uploaded on Sunday 31st May. Remember, do what you can to engage in tasks, whether on line or practical. Every little helps, and as we have said before, do not stress over these tasks...little and often is the best way!

Just as a reminder:

- 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.

Many Thanks!



Massive thanks go to Spar Coylton for working with us this week. They now have a fully stocked stationery box that families can access to help with any home learning, and they will alert me if stocks run low! It's so heartening to see community spirit in action.

TEAM



WORK

Great news!!! All P1-3 pupils have now been set up on Teams too!! This allows them all to be involved in live chats about their learning and also gives them a safe place to chat to one another. Staff are delighted with the numbers of children joining teams, and would encourage all to do the same. Please get in touch if you need some support accessing Teams!!



So, how are you all getting on with our Then and Now competition?? Families can have a look at the photos, write their answers on the sheet, and then email the sheet to the school mail address which is Coylton.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk Although this is a bit of fun, we will randomly select 3 answer sheets, and a small prize will be delivered to the 3 winners!! Be aware, this is NOT as easy as you would think!!!!



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. All our staff remain hard working at home, and are contactable via email! Miss Shimmons and Miss Thomson work each week to prepare a Celebration of Learning video on Twitter so look out for yourself if you have sent us any photos of your week!

- Mrs Green has had a busy week baking and eating! She made a delicious Banoffee Pie and even made her first batch of pancakes! She has been enjoying looking at the photographs P7 have been sending and keeping in touch with them via Teams.
- Mrs Wilcox has been enjoying BBQ's when the weather has been nice. She made a guitar this week to go with the kazoo last week so she is well on her way to making a band! She would also like to take this opportunity to apologise to the parents for the noise level attached to these tasks. She has one more planned for you all to work on!!
- Mrs Campbell has tidied out THE kitchen drawer. She has been doing more lopping, no bush is safe! She is onto the 4th week of the couch to 5K and is now 'running' for longer than walking, but she uses the word running very loosely!
- Mrs Moseley has had a quiet week, but she has had family zoom calls, games of Scatagories and quizzes! She also managed to take advantage of the one nice day this week and have a BBQ!
- Miss Dickie was delighted to win the Zoom family quiz at the weekend, although her prize is to make up the next one. She is not really sure that is a prize. Her bike has finally been fixed so she has been enjoying cycling again. She also learned new skills using the iPad, earned all the badges and is now an Apple Teacher.
- Mrs Symington has been back out in the garden getting the planters and hanging baskets ready for the summer. Her tomato plants are now 60 cm high and she has so many basil plants after thinning them out that she has started giving them away to the neighbours!

- Miss Marr has been enjoying cuddles with her cat, Buster as he doesn't like going out in the rain! She has also been speaking to p2 using teams on Glow which has been fab. She taught Blaine how to play chess and he is loving it - he said he thought it would be boring!
- This week, Mrs Duncan celebrated her birthday and Lewis made her a fabulous birthday cake. She had a family projection show of all her old photos which was amazing. She has also been out enjoying long walks and loving the colourful blooms in the garden.
- Mrs Wallace's week has flown past! She had a zoom chat with her friends and they all did their makeup together and had so much fun! She also tried a new recipe this week- Gok Wan's sweet and sour chicken- It was delicious. She is still obsessed with her new Hoover and she says her house has never been cleaner!
- Miss McFarlane watched Joel Baker's live music gig online. She also started a charity fundraiser climb of Kilimanjaro, climbing at least 1140 stairs a day to reach the summit. She has a long way to go-23 days of climbing! It's a killer on the thighs she says! She also got dressed up in a ball gown to attend her friend's 30th birthday via Zoom. She says it was so great seeing so many friends together!
- Mrs Cairn has enjoyed spending some time indoors when the weather hasn't been as nice. She made some cupcakes and worked on a Trolls puzzle! She still managed to get out for a daily walk and only got caught in the rain once which was fine as the girls like splashing in puddles anyway!
- Mrs Davidson has enrolled to do a National 5 in Gaelic, so that will certainly keep her busy over the year. The best bit of her week is that she won £250 in a weather lottery. You need to guess the temperature for each day and after 15 years she guessed correctly!!
- This week, Miss Cowie celebrated her birthday too, lockdown style. She was lucky that the sun was shining for her. She got some lovely gifts and had an afternoon tea delivery which was absolutely delicious and she also got two bouquets of flowers delivered. She feels extremely lucky!
- Miss Thomson has enjoyed taking part in some Little Art School daily draws at night. She had a long walk to the Cooshed to get some milk and treats too! The best part of her week was receiving a lovely video from her class. She can't thank you all enough!
- Mrs Stewart has taken a few walks along the River Doon and saw another nesting swan and a grey heron waiting to catch fish! She has had the sprinkler on for Logan to play about in as well as the paddling pool! Long may the sunny weather continue!
- This week, Mrs Burns has been wearing in a new pair of running shoes on lots of runs and walks. She has been busy painting her utility room and planting flowers in the garden. She also completed the Apple Teacher certificate and has now learned lots new tricks on the iPad.

Over in the EYC,

- Miss Cairnie's week has been spent painting stones which are out in the garden, and doing some colouring in a new book she bought herself. She put up new, colourful ladybird solar lights on her fence and she says they look lovely at night.
- Mrs Brown has had a quiet week. She has been enjoying reading and playing with lego.
- Mrs Kotze has invested in a new bike, as her boys are always teasing her for being so much slower than them! She hopes now to pick up some speed!
- This week, Mrs MacDonald walked to Symington where she was brought up. Home schooling is keeping her busy as her daughter has been learning about symmetry. She has enjoyed being together with her family around the fire pit in the garden.
- Mrs Ingram has been outdoors lots and even managed to walk 3.1 miles!! She took part in a family quiz and the next quiz will be in fancy dress!! She made cakes with the grandchildren and managed to get 2 tubs of Percy Pig ice cream from Marks and Spencer!!
- Miss Nisbet has been baking again and had a go at making a traybake which is something she has never done before! She is still doing yoga every morning and she feels great for it!
- Miss Glendinning has been grateful for Disney+ watching some old time favourite films this week. She had to phone the SSPCA to rescue a wee bird from the garden - it had a broken wing. Eve gave her a beautiful makeover, and she found an old candyfloss maker and is attempting to make big candyfloss....yum!!
- Mrs Imrie has used the fruit and vegetables from her weekly delivery to make a fruit salad and also a yummy hidden vegetable pasta sauce. She is taking part in another quiz night on Friday as the last one was a lot of fun....and she won!!!
- Mrs Keller has had a busy week and has been doing lots of reading & baking. She helped her girls make empire biscuits they were very tasty - a great first attempt!

Miss Shimmons embraced the message of Mental Health Week which was all about Random Acts of Kindness, and she sent a surprise Afternoon Tea to her friends in Aberdeen who were celebrating their wedding anniversary

I have enjoyed visiting the woods near my house, and haven't been there since Jack and Tess were small. We were delighted that the Fairy Wishing Tree is still there, and we were amazed at the colours on the bushes and trees. We reckon we saw every colour of the rainbow!



A fantastic Vlog by our School Captains appeared on Twitter yesterday. I am so impressed by the leadership they have shown. Please check it out if you can!

I know that Miss Dickie is working on Teams with our House Captains. Plans are also starting to take shape around a Virtual Sports Day with families being able to complete challenges, but more information will follow on this. The creativity from our pupils never ceases to amaze me!



Claire Rogerson, our Active Schools Coordinator, has been out and about in Coylton, looking at ways to try to build some fun things to do into daily walks in the community. She has set up an orienteering course around the school grounds so check it out if your daily walk takes you near the school. Thank you so much Claire!



We are still waiting to hear what school is going to look like moving forward, and when that might be. For those about to start S1 or P1, we know that you may be feeling concerned and anxious as we would be right in the middle of transition work, preparing you for your new school. We are working in conjunction with secondary staff to plan transition activities for our current P7 pupils and will be in touch with families soon. We are also planning to create a virtual tour of our school, and give information to our new start P1 families around the start of June.

I have been in touch with Blu Design who supply Coylton Primary uniform items. Leanne would normally come and do a Pop- Up shop in school but instead, please follow the link below to view and order any items!

<https://business.facebook.com/Coylton-Primary-School-Uniform-by-Blu-Design-1381000331943513/shop/?rt=19>



Please note, we **ALWAYS** provide our Pre School children with a school tie for whichever Primary School they are moving on to, and this will **STILL** be the case this year!! It will be a Tie Ceremony done a little differently!! Staff are planning transition packs which will be delivered to our new start children during the first week in June. Part of transition is always a **Teddy Bears Picnic** with the current P1 children. In the transition pack will be the book *We Are Going on a Bear Hunt*. New P1 pupils will have some activities they can do to support this book, whilst current P1 pupils will receive a copy of the book with the plan being that in the afternoon of **Monday 22nd June**, all current and new P1 pupils could take their teddies into their garden (or indoors if the weather is poor) and have a picnic with either an adult or a sibling reading the story with them. We may even have a special reading of the book available to see on Twitter! Take some photos and send them in to us and we can collate them in our Celebration of Learning.

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.



Mrs D x