

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

Date: 4.12.20



Dear Parents and Carers

December is here...and today we see the first snow fall of the season. Between trees, jumpers, elves on shelves, advent calendars...and a full moon, it has definitely been a week full of energy and excitement! I am sure the staff will be using the weekend to recharge the batteries, ready for Week 2 of December and all the fun it will bring!

I am delighted that we have had another week of no positive cases of Covid within our school and EYC. I want to thank all families for sticking to the guidance with regards to having children remain at home if a member of the household is symptomatic, and for alerting us to the results of any subsequent tests. Hopefully, if we can all continue to follow this guidance, we will have a clear run up to Christmas, and families will be able to enjoy time being healthy and happy.



You may have heard through the media that the Scottish Government had considered further changes to the Christmas holidays. Currently, there will be no more changes within South Ayrshire and schools will close to pupils on December 22nd at 2:30pm. Staff have in service in 23rd which will be remote so school will not be open that day. If any further changes come around, I will contact families via Groupcall.



You may remember back in Term 1, we sent out a survey to parents around the return to school, and parent's views and feelings. In next week's round up, we will send home a similar form to capture your views now we are at the end of Term 2. Look out for that coming and please spend a few minutes completing it. We will then collate your views and share the results with you.



So far, children are really keen to have a go at the activities listed below! They still have all of next week to bring in some money and take part.



Guess the number of sweets in a jar - 50p a shot- 1 jar per class



Guess the Polar Bear's Birthday - 50p a shot to win a cuddly polar bear (sponsored by Visuplan)



Design a Christmas jumper - £1 a shot, winning entry is printed onto your very own Christmas Jumper! (sponsored by IM Prints)

Closing date for all these activities will be 11th December and winners will be announced then. Our thanks go to the Parent Council, Visuplan and IM Designs for supporting our school.

The Parent Council sent home a book of 10 raffle tickets to all families last week. Tickets are £1 each. Please return any money, the raffle stubs and any unused tickets in the same envelope where we will quarantine them for a period of time. The raffle will be drawn on 18th December, with over 40 great prizes up for grabs.

Also, the deadline for Calendar orders has been extended so use the link below if you want to place an order.

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/CoyltonPrimaryParentCouncil/ChristmasGiftOrderForm2020>



You will see from the Countdown that we are asking for donations to support the South Ayrshire Foodbank, especially at this time of year and given the year we have had! There will be a box at each of the entrances including the EYC on Friday 18th December prior to 9am for children to pop any donation in. I am hopeful that we can have our donations uplifted that day, to help families in our local community.



Thank you to all who have sent in orders for Christmas lunch next week. Just a reminder that normal menu choices won't be available over those 2 days as indicated on the letter sent last week.



I would like to take the opportunity to remind families that it is very important that children do not attend school if any member of the household is symptomatic or having to be tested as a result of track and trace communication. If test results are negative, children may return to school. A positive result within the household will mean a period of self-isolation for the entire household as directed by Public Health. Staying home at the symptomatic point or when someone is being tested will help spread the risk of infection greatly. Full guidance can be found here:

www.nhsinform.scot/campaigns/test-and-protect



Just a reminder, that due to Covid restrictions, we are not going to have children bring in Christmas cards to exchange with friends.



With the weather turning colder, and potentially wetter, we would advise that all pupils come to school wearing suitable footwear and waterproof jackets. You will have seen that Tier 4 restrictions mean we are not able to have PE indoors as planned. If you wish, your child would be able to bring a pair of waterproof trousers to wear over their sports trousers. These trousers can be put on and taken off at the doors as classes are heading out for PE.



Can we also urge parents and carers to always let the school know if your child is going to be absent from school. You can call on 01292 612491, email in to Coylton.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or send a text using Groupcall. This is particularly important if children are self-isolating as a result of their own COVID test, or because of a family member being tested. We also ask that you share with us the results of any COVID testing as the Scottish Government are carefully monitoring this data.



Please ensure that you follow us on Twitter @CoyltonPS and @CoyltonEYC for updates and photos of learning across all classes.



Mrs Donnelly