

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers



I hope this finds you all well and coping as best you can with the current situation. Since our last round up, the Scottish Government has extended the closure of schools and EYCs until mid February. For Coylton Primary and EYC, this means that we are going to extend the service we are currently providing. I know that there is a high level of communication between parents and staff and I am delighted to hear this! As I said, no question is too small or silly, and we are here to support!

I understand that soon you will be sent a link from South Ayrshire Council to complete a survey on remote learning. I will ensure that this link comes out to you whenever it goes live.



Online Learning

Now we have Teams working well, the expectations for all classes from P1-7 will be that teachers will upload at least one literacy and one numeracy task each day, as well as some other activities that children can engage in. We are really keen to ensure that all children access literacy and numeracy each day, and although the school day is normally 9am-3pm, we understand that for working parents, those hours of engagement will not be possible. Therefore, teachers know that pieces of work may be uploaded at any time and they will respond to children as soon as they can. The amount of activities being set will not match that of a day in school, and we are carefully monitoring what is being asked of children in order not to overwhelm but as a baseline, all children should be engaged in literacy and numeracy tasks every day. Reading daily, either with your child or independently is actively encouraged and we know we will see a difference in attainment once back in school if daily reading takes place.



We are really encouraged by the high levels of engagement across all classes! I know that many class teachers have been in touch with parents to support them navigating Teams. Whilst we are confident that children are engaging in learning, teachers are very keen to ensure that completed pieces of work are sent to them.

Uploading completed work is an important part of home learning. There are various ways to upload completed pieces of work and your child's class teacher is on hand to help you to do this. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER IF YOU REQUIRE SUPPORT TO UPLOAD PIECES OF COMPLETED WORK.



Learner Engagement

Daily attendance will be submitted on registers and recorded on SEEMIS in school. We understand the challenges for many parents, balancing working from home with supporting your child with remote learning. We have an expectation that all pupils will engage but understand that you may need to find a flexible approach to achieve this. It is also really important that you still let school know if your child is unwell, as there is no expectation that children will engage in learning if they are not fit to do so. Their sickness would be recorded on school systems in the usual way, and teachers would be informed.



A Reminder of Expectations

Each morning, we would ask children who are working from home to log into Teams for 9am. Class teachers will set out the learning activities which will focus on Literacy and Numeracy predominately, as well as HWB and other areas where appropriate. Teachers will upload videos they will have recorded to direct the learning and these videos can be replayed at any time throughout the day to allow children and parents the chance to revisit any aspect of learning. In addition to this, all classes will have at least one live meeting on Teams with their teacher and class every day. Times for these meetings will be outlined by your child's class teacher too. It is worth noting that your child's class teachers will be working from home most of the week in order to reduce footfall within the school building. All class teachers will use a Wednesday afternoon for planning and preparation time so will not be on TEAMS during this time.

We are actively encouraging parents to keep in regular contact with staff. However, it is worth noting that staff also need to take a breath and so if you do email or contact staff after 4:30, it may be that you don't get a response until the next morning.



Hub Lunches

Mrs Falconer has trialled hot lunches this week. There were very few children who ordered and so therefore, from Monday 25th January, we will be offering a soup and sandwich lunch service only for those in the hubs. Children may also continue to bring a lunch from home if they would prefer.



Burns Supper

P7 pupils – look out for a delivery coming your way on Wednesday 27th January!!! Please ensure you have a look in the bag! You will have a task to complete before your Burns Supper on Feb 1st.....just don't be tempted with the rest of the contents of the bag!!!!

Many Thanks!



My thanks once again go to Spar Coylton who have agreed to hold a box of stationery items for you to access should you need to. This is available now.



Our thanks go to all families for continuing to work with us to ensure that the progression of learning for our children remains! All school and EYC staff are working full time to support you with this, some in school and some remotely. We do not underestimate the challenges that remote learning brings to families, and so we ask that you do what you can, keep in touch with us, and most importantly, stay safe!!!

Mrs Donnelly

