

People Directorate

Head Teacher: Fiona Donnelly
Coylton Primary School
Main Road, Coylton, KA6 6JP
Tel: 01292 612491
Email: Coylton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Our Ref: Your Ref:
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Dear Parents and Carers



Good morning everyone and welcome to Term 4! What a great start we have had weather wise – the playground areas have been full of children learning and playing! Long may this continue.

All Covid mitigations that were in place before the holiday remain the same. Doors to all areas of school will be open from 8:50am, staggered break and lunchtimes will remain, and P1 children will continue to be dismissed at 2:50pm. We still ask that the number of adults in the playground is kept to a minimum, with social distancing and face coverings being worn. The car park is still not available to parents. We know of some positive cases arising in South Ayrshire schools since the full return on Monday, and so it is more important than ever that we all play our part in suppressing the virus.



Some exciting news to share with you all! We have 3 new babies on the way within our staff team! Mrs Gray, school assistant will leave us mid May to have baby number 3. Mrs Burns will leave at the beginning of June to have her first baby, with Mrs Wallace not far behind her! This will be Mrs Wallace's first baby too.

This is an exciting time for all, and I am sure you will join me in wishing all 3 staff members all the very best for safe arrivals. We will keep you up to date on baby news when it comes!



Great news to share! We have been awarded our 4th Green Flag for Eco Schools. This is no mean feat considering that the pupils and staff started the process of submitting last school session before the first lockdown and have continued the hard work during this year. Congratulations to pupils past and present who contributed to this achievement, and to Mrs Baird and Mrs Kilmurray for leading the committee so ably. We look forward to continuing our Eco journey next year.



Homework for some classes may already have started this week. For others, it will start on Monday. All homework tasks will be posted onto Teams. This will ensure that the IT skills that were developed during remote learning don't disappear! Tasks will focus mainly on Literacy and Numeracy. Please check in with your child's class team for info!



Staff across school and EYC are in the process of working on a transition programme for new P1 pupils. We have 42 children registered to start P1 in August, and we will work with 2 P1 classes again next year. Information will come to all families regarding classes and teachers later this term. Plans are being made for our current P1 children to be involved in this programme, and details will come out to all parents soon.



Dolphin House.

Firstly, apologies, I couldn't find a dolphin picture! 😊

I have been in touch with staff from Dolphin House. They have had to redeploy a number of staff during the pandemic, and so we are able to take both groups of P7 pupils down for one full day each this term. I had expected it to be a little more than that, but with the staffing situation there, we are just happy to be able to go down at all. More information will come out to P7 pupils regarding clothing and what they need to take with them but for the moment, save the dates! P7 will go on Tuesday 11th May, and P7 of 6/7 will go on Thursday 13th May. Buses are booked to take children to and from Dolphin House at Culzean, and all children must wear a face covering when on the bus. There is NO COST for this outing. We will be able to give more information about the activities and timings as soon as Dolphin House have confirmed with us.



Keeping with P7, we are starting to explore options to provide P7 pupils with a send off as they leave school at the end of June. Obviously, we are having to look into outdoor options given we are not able to have events indoors and so will let you know as plans unfold. We will be discussing this at Parent Council on Wednesday 28th April. If you wish to join this meeting, please feel free to email coyltonparentcouncil@yahoo.com



Next Friday would have been Captain Sir Tom Moore's 101st birthday. The charity set up in his name are inviting children and families across the country to take part in Captain Tom 100 – Do It Your Way challenge to celebrate his life and to raise funds. Classes in school are invited to take part in a non uniform day and each class will challenge themselves to do 100 'somethings'. Each class will choose their own challenge. If possible, we would suggest a donation of £1 and all donations will be sent to the charity. We will take lots of photos and post them on Twitter so check them out next Friday!



Later this term, you will receive a tracking report for your child. This report will outline the progress within a level for Literacy, Numeracy and Health and wellbeing as well as providing you with a general comment from class teachers. These reports are scheduled to come to you on Friday 4th June.

Following the report coming out, we will invite you to have a telephone appointment with your child's class teacher, similar to those we held back in November. The date for these

calls will be Thursday 10th June. We will send out information ahead of this date to allow you to book a time slot.



We have been asked by Active Schools to advertise a great walking group working within South Ayrshire. Have a look at the poster and the link below for more information.



https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/vics-walking-group-tickets-151846118829?utm_campaign=post_publish&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite&utm_content=shortLinkNewEmail



As restrictions continue to lift, I wish you all a lovely weekend. Enjoy the great outdoors and the forecast sunshine!

Mrs Donnelly