

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers



December is here!!! Between trees, jumpers, elves on shelves and advent calendars, 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!



Covid cases in school and EYC remain low at the moment I am glad to say. 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. With news circulating of the new Omicron variant of the virus, let's all double our efforts around face coverings in and around school and EYC, and regular handwashing and sanitising. Staff in school and EYC will continue to social distance from all other adults..



P7-SI transfer

Information has come out via Groupcall to P7 parents regarding SI transfer. This is an online process, and a link was included in the text. It has also been attached below: This link is live until 12th December.

www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/

Please call the school office if you need any more information. Letters from Ayr Academy have also been sent to all P7 parents.



Christmas Lunch

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 previously. Children in EYC, P1,2 and 3 classes will have lunch on Tuesday 7th December and children in P4, 5, 6 and 7 classes on Wednesday 8th December.



Christmas

Here are our plans so far for Christmas in school.

Parties – each class will have access to the main hall for a party this year. Children are welcome to come to school in party wear or non uniform on their day. We won't be able to have children go home to change or change clothes as we have in the past, and so please have children come to school dressed for the whole day. Parties will consist of games, music, dancing and refreshments. Dates for parties are:

Monday 6 th December	P2/3	Tuesday 7 th December	P4
Wednesday 8 th December	P4	Thursday 9 th December	P5
Friday 10 th December	P1a	Monday 13 th December	P6
Tuesday 14 th December	P4/5	Wednesday 15 th December	P6/7
Thursday 16 th December	P7	Friday 17 th December	P1b
Monday 20 th December	P2	Tuesday 21 st December	EYC

Pantomime – sadly, we will not be going together to The Gaiety this year. Instead, we are supporting 2 local companies. We have bought a production called Winter Show Toyland for all EYC -P3 pupils. This is a live, interactive show with the children accessing it via the interactive panels in their classrooms. We have also purchased a production of Aladdin – 3 Wishes, 2 Vaccines and a Genie from The Takeaway Theatre company for all children in P1-7, and again, children will access this through the interactive panels in their classrooms.

Movie afternoons – all classes will choose a Christmas movie to watch and children will be provided with movies snacks for the afternoon. Sssshhhh....we are also hoping that a special visitor might get in touch with the children at some point too!!!!

Christmas Jumper – instead of wearing a Christmas jumper for one day in December to support a charity, we have decided to make it Christmas Jumper December! Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school sweatshirt from Wednesday 1st December until the end of term! Please note, this is not compulsory and some children may not want to – that is totally fine too! 😊

Christmas Lunch – Anna and the catering team are planning to have Christmas lunch. Please ensure you have sent in your lunch order.

Christmas Crafts – obviously we won't be able to have our Christmas Bazaar but all classes are going to have an afternoon of Christmas craft, so look out for something wonderfully creative coming home.

Parent Council

Raffle tickets have come home this week. Each child will have an envelope containing 10 raffle tickets, each ticket costs £1. Please return raffle ticket stubs with your details on, along with payment for those sold by Monday 13th December. Please also return any unsold tickets. Additional tickets will be available from the school office upon request.

Please see the attached flyer from Parent Council about the activities available for

Our sincere thanks go to Parent Council who will provide refreshments for all children in school, and EYC for their Christmas parties.



December Kindness

Throughout December, we will encourage children to consider the gift of giving. All staff will have a bundle of wooden tree decorations and these will be given out where random acts of kindness are observed. These can be hung on class Christmas trees, and the class with the highest number of decorations will select a charity to gift £100 to this Christmas.



Firepit storytelling

We have planned some Christmas story telling around our firepit for next week. This will of course be weather dependant. If the weather doesn't allow, we will transfer story telling to the man hall. We have fully risk assessed this activity and we will follow all health and safety guidance. Thanks in advance to P7 pupils for story telling, and for Anna and the catering team for making hot chocolate!!



Christmas Cards

In terms of Christmas cards, pupils are permitted to bring in Christmas cards to give to pupils in their class. All classes will have a box to store cards in, and they will ALL be distributed to pupils on Monday 20th December. Last day to bring in Christmas cards will be Friday 17th December!

As always, please get in touch with us if you have any queries or questions!

Mrs Donnelly
Head Teacher