

## People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers



Covid

I hope that families who continue to be affected by Covid are keeping ok. Like most schools across the country, we have seen the highest numbers of positive cases in school and EYC this week, both in staff and pupils. Despite the hike in numbers, we have managed to continue to keep all classes operational within school, and from our discussions with families, almost all cases are showing mild symptoms only. Here is a run down of the guidance as it stands currently:

- If an adult within a house hold tests positive AFTER 6<sup>th</sup> January, the rest of the adults in the household don't need to isolate so long as they stay away from the positive case, be symptom free, return negative lateral flow results daily and are fully vaccinated. Obviously, the vaccination rule doesn't apply to children under 12.
- Children within the household should return negative lateral flow results daily too, have no symptoms and isolate from the positive case. This will allow them to come to school.
- Positive cases who return negative lateral flow results on day 6 and 7 of the isolation period, and who are symptom free can then come out of isolation.
- The biggest issue for parents with younger children, it is often difficult to keep them isolated from siblings. If families cannot isolate siblings from a positive case, we ask that siblings remain home too for the isolation period.
- We recommend children lateral flow test regularly prior to coming to school, and daily if a Stage 3 letter is issued.
- Anyone with ANY symptoms of feeling unwell, regardless of a negative lateral flow should book a PCR test. There is no need to book a PCR test if you have a positive lateral flow test – just ensure you record the result on the NHS website.



PI Online Registration – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January

The registration process for PI children closes today. Children who are 5 years old between 1 March 2022 and 28 February 2023 are due to be registered for Education. Parents should register their children online at [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools)

When registering your child, you should attach their birth certificate and proof of your residence in the catchment area in the form of a Council Tax Notice and Utility Bill to the on-line registration.

## Children's Mental Health Week



From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February your child will be taking part in a number of activities designed to mark Children's Mental Health Week.

It is so important that we take care of our children's mental health as well as their physical health. All activities have been designed to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in our children. Classes will also learn techniques which will enable them to be mindful of and self-regulate their feelings and emotions.

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is *Growing Together*. We will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow.

To find out more about this week please visit

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk> where you will find some really helpful resources.



### Scottish Culture

It has been wonderful to talk to our children this week about all the things they are learning about the Scottish culture.

Work is progressing well in all classes around poetry recitals.

This year, all classes will take part in Scots Verse, and children who wish to take part competitively can do so! Each class will put forward 2 pupils for final judging which will take place over 2 virtual assemblies in school on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January (P1-3) and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February (P4-7). Look out for more details on class Teams.

EYC and P1 classes are having an outdoor Burns event on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, and our P7 pupils will have their Burns Supper in school on February 8<sup>th</sup>. They are working really hard on the preparations for this, and we look forward to making this event special for them

Anna and the catering team will have haggis, tatties and neeps on the lunch menu on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January in addition to the normal menu.



### Have your say

South Ayrshire Council is participating in the national parental involvement and engagement survey (PIE). The survey is for parents/carers of children and young people in primary, secondary and special education.

We would, of course, like to see as many responses from Coyllton families as possible! The link to the survey can be found here:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PIE2022/> and will go live on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January. The survey will run from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

We have a duty to consult with parents and carers every two years to seek views on the delivery and impact of the expansion of early learning and childcare.

We are keen to gather information from current and future parents and carers which will help us to assess need, identify gaps and plan for future provision.

The information provided through the consultation will help us to improve services and

meet the needs of families in the future.

The consultation will run for 2 weeks from 24<sup>th</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> February. Again, please take time if you can to have put forward your views. Link to the consultation below and QR code attached.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKdRFd0JRaJI0t\\_QmdvOIBaIUNVg4SFZKVVJRU05WTIM3MINZNIkIVFUyUy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKdRFd0JRaJI0t_QmdvOIBaIUNVg4SFZKVVJRU05WTIM3MINZNIkIVFUyUy4u)



I will also ask that these links are sent on Seesaw to EYC families on Monday.



### Upgrades to our School

We have had meetings recently with architects and SAC regarding the upgrades being made to our school. The hope is that these upgrades will start later this term, and be completed by the start of the new school term in August.

The upgrades include:

- Moving the main entrance to the middle doors at the front of the school. This will include extending out very slightly into the front playground, and adding an accessibility ramp underneath the resource room window.
- Creating a secure foyer beyond these doors, with further fob access security doors to access the main school building. The removal of the wooden paneling and trophy display area will accommodate this. Seating areas plus an information screen will be supplied.
- Reconfiguration of the main office to allow for a sliding glass partition to meet and greet visitors.
- The ceiling along the central corridor and all offices to be slightly lowered and replaced with accessible tiles, instead of the fixed ceilings.
- All lighting along the central corridor, and new foyer to be upgraded.
- Decoration of all offices and corridor walls
- New flooring along the central corridor and offices
- Upgrading of the female toilets in the central corridor to allow for 2 unisex cubicles within that room, each with their own wash hand basin
- The removal of the toilets and sinks from the GP room storage area to create better storage
- The removal of the railings where the old nursery playground was and tarmacking of that area of the back playground to give more space to the back playground.

The safety and security of our pupils and staff during these upgrades will be paramount, and so we will be sure to keep everyone informed of any changes as they happen.



### Respect of resources

In order to prepare for the upgrades, staff in school will begin the process of auditing resources, and de cluttering.

Staff in classrooms are working very hard right now with pupils around respecting the resources that we all use and need in school. At the end of each day, we are seeing an

increase in resources being left lying on the floor or not fit for purpose, and so we ask that you encourage this respect with children at home too. Good tidying routines are being encouraged in all classes during the school day, and including lunch times where children are eating lunch in classrooms. All children still have access to their own supply of stationery due to Covid mitigations, but daily we are having to bin such items as they aren't being looked after and so are left lying around. Your support with this is greatly appreciated as we are sure that you will have your own routines in place at home too.

#### TERM 3 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ✓ Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January – EYC and P1 Outdoor Burns Event
- ✓ Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January – P1-3 Scottish Recitation Virtual Assembly
- ✓ Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February – P4-7 Scottish Recitation Virtual Assembly
- ✓ Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health Week
- ✓ Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February – P7 Burns Supper
- ✓ Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Growth Mindset Parent session on Zoom with Wendy Campbell
- ✓ Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Mid-term holiday, pupils return Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February
- ✓ Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Parent Drop In Phone calls with class teachers
- ✓ Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day
- ✓ Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Comic Relief
- ✓ Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March – P7 Dolphin House Week 1
- ✓ Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March – P7 Dolphin House Week 2
- ✓ Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – School closes for the Easter break

**HAVE A GOOD**



Enjoy the weekend everyone, and we look forward to another positive week next week (but not in the Covid sense! 😊)

Mrs Donnelly