

People Directorate
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Our Ref: Your Ref:
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Dear Parents and Carers

Just a reminder that until Thursday 19th September, P1 children should come to school from 8:55am, and be collected in the playground at 2:50pm. Thereafter, P1 pupils will finish at 3pm in line with the rest of the school.



Meet and Greet

We were so delighted to welcome families into school and EYC this week for our Meet and Greet event. 43% of our EYC families came along which is fantastic considering that parents have the opportunity to pop in there every day. My thanks go to the staff who worked hard to create such a nurturing place to play and learn for our youngest learners 😊

We had 64% of P1-7 families come along which is amazing! The school was absolutely buzzing! My sincere thanks go to all staff who were on hand to chat to parents and to point out the displays of children's work across the school. Special thanks also go to the P7 pupils who volunteered their time to come along to help sign in and escort families around the school and EYC. We hope that you enjoyed visiting our school and EYC. A short survey will come out early next week to capture your views about what you saw and heard and how you felt being in school and EYC, so look out for that coming via Group Call.

It was great that families took time to let us know the parts of our School and EYC Improvement Plan that you are interested in finding out more about. More information will follow regarding our actions.

Thank you all for coming 😊



Cashpot for Schools Fund Raising

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARENT COUNCIL

Parentkind – the charity that supports Parent Council's - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Parent Council. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.



Staged Intervention

Many thanks to those who have already commented, signed, and returned a copy of Staged Intervention for pupils with Additional Support Needs. Please could you ensure that you do this as soon as possible in order to update your child's profile. Your views and those of your child will inform any supports and interventions put in place.



School of Rugby Update

Our recent School of Rugby taster sessions have been a huge success! Due to the fantastic response, with 33 children wishing to join, we will be splitting the sessions into separate groups for boys and girls to accommodate everyone.

Girls will have their session this Thursday.

Boys will have their session next Thursday.

The groups will then alternate weekly.

Children should come dressed in their PE kit on the day of their session. We would like to thank Ayr Rugby Club again for this fantastic opportunity and look forward to working with them this session.



Intergenerational Learning

The preschool children from our EYC are joining up with pupils from P6 to visit John Hodge Court throughout the year. P6 will plan activities with the children in the EYC and then join up with the residents for songs and games. In return, we look forward to our children learning lots about the lives and careers of the residents. We will be sure to keep you posted with photos and stories. The first visit is on Thursday 19th September.



After school and Lunchtime Clubs – Term 1

Mrs Edmiston has been working closely with staff to plan some after school and lunch time activities for this Term. These activities are likely to change from term to term and all effort will be made to ensure that all who wish to join have the opportunity to do so. Letters will come home to classes and tear off slips should be sent back in as soon as possible.

Lunch Time Chess - Mrs Duncan offers a lunchtime Chess Club on Tuesday's for all P4 and P5 pupils! Whether our pupils are beginners or already know their way around the chessboard, they're invited to come along to learn new strategies, challenge their friends and have fun. The club is a great way to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and, of course, enjoy a game of chess during lunch time. All are welcome—no experience needed!

Lunch Time Playground Games - Josh O'Hara from Active Schools joins us every Friday lunchtime, working with some of our P7 pupils to lead fun playground games for our younger pupils. This not only helps keep the younger children active and engaged but also gives our P7s the chance to develop leadership skills and build a positive school community through play.

After-School Pantomime Club - Mrs Cairn and Miss McDonald are hard at work on Thursday's with P5-7 pupils, bringing the magic of theatre to life as they prepare for our school pantomime, 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' The Pantomime Club is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to get involved in all aspects of the production, from acting to singing. The big performance is set for Thursday 12th December, so make sure to come along and support our talented pupils as they climb the beanstalk and bring this classic tale to the stage!

After-School Coding Club - Miss Thomson offers an after-school Coding Club on Tuesday's for P4 and P5 pupils! At the club, pupils can learn coding skills in a fun environment. They'll get to develop their problem-solving skills, creativity and logical thinking while working on exciting projects. From creating their own games to solving puzzles with friends, this club is all about exploring the world of coding in a hands-on way.

After-School Tennis Club - We are thrilled to announce the launch of a brand-new After-School Tennis Club for our P6 and P7 pupils at Coylton Tennis Centre. The club will run every Friday for six weeks, providing a fantastic opportunity for pupils to develop their tennis skills, connect with the local community and enjoy the excellent facilities at the centre. Professional tennis coaches will lead the sessions, making sure all participants, regardless of their skill level, have a great time learning and playing.

After-School Dance Club - This year we have not one, but two after-school Dance Clubs on Wednesday's: one for P2 and P3 pupils and another for P4-7 pupils. The club is led by Ayr Academy Dance Leaders and is overseen by Jade, our Active Schools Coordinator. At the club, our pupils have the opportunity to learn exciting dance routines and choreography, make new friends, build confidence and stay active in a fun way.

After-School Basketball Club - Josh O'Hara from Active Schools offers after-school basketball on Friday's, open to all P4 and P5 pupils! At the club, you can learn basketball skills in a fun and inclusive environment. Through interactive drills and games, pupils will develop teamwork, coordination and confidence on the court. They can look forward to playing friendly matches and working together to improve their skills while having a great time with friends.

After-School Football Club - Miss Cowie and our parent volunteer, Robert Madeley, lead an after-school football club for P6 and P7 boys. The team competes in league and cup games throughout the year, giving everyone the opportunity to play competitively and represent the school.



Toilets

Since the start of the new term, we have been aware of a high number of pupils who are not doing as they should within the toilets at school such as putting food stuff and paper towels down resulting in toilets being blocked and throwing water around. These incidents seem to happen more around break and lunchtime when the toilets are not so carefully monitored. It is the right of every child to be able to access a clean and safe toilet whilst at school, and unfortunately this has not always been the case which has caused upset for some. We are having regular conversations with classes around our school values which are Ready, Respectful and Safe and we would be very grateful if you would support us by having a conversation with your child at home around this.



Outdoor Learning

Just a reminder about Outdoor learning days.

Please find below information around the days when classes have outdoor learning. Please note, class teachers may also have additional days when learning will take place outdoors, and they will let you know via Teams.

P1	Monday
P1/2	Thursday
P2/3	Friday
P3	Thursday
P4	Thursday
P4/5	Wednesday
P5	Tuesday
P6	Wednesday
P6/7	Friday
P7	Tuesday

On these days, it would be beneficial for children to come to school with waterproof jackets and footwear. We did try to have a waterproof/wellie donation drive a year ago and so we do have a small number of wellies that were donated so let us know if we can help. At the very least, if children could bring a change of clothing/footwear on outdoor learning days. Please let us know if we can help.



News from the EYC

This week in the EYC, we've been having fun creating volcanoes and exploring the fascinating forces of nature. The children have loved getting hands-on with this activity, observing the effects of pressure and eruptions as they experiment with different materials. It's been a fantastic way to spark curiosity about science and the world around them!

We've also been engaging in "Play on Pedals", which has been a brilliant opportunity for the children to develop their gross motor skills and confidence on balance bikes. Through this initiative, the children are learning important coordination and balance skills while having lots of fun being active outdoors.

We are looking forward to working with Active Schools on a Mini Kickers programme over the next few weeks.

A big thank you to everyone who attended the meet and greet. It was wonderful to connect with so many of you, and your support and involvement in your child's learning journey means so much to us.

We are delighted that Nicola Keller will become Acting Senior EYP while Kelly is away. Nicola is a very experienced and established member of the team 😊

A message from Kelly

I'd also like to thank everyone for the kind words and best wishes as I step into the Acting Deputy Manager role at Prestwick North Early Years Centre. I'm excited for this new opportunity, and I'm sure the team here will keep me updated on all the wonderful activities and achievements the children will continue to experience in the months ahead.



Diary Dates

We will try and give as much advance notice of school events as we can to help fit in with your family plans. This list is subject to change and is not exhaustive.

Friday 13 th September	P5 swimming week 3
Thursday 19 th September	P6 Bikeability 3
Friday 20 th September	HOLIDAY
Monday 23 rd September	HOLIDAY
Thursday 26 th September	P6 Bikeability 4
Friday 27 th September	P5 swimming week 4
Tuesday 1 st October	P6 Bikeability 5
Thursday 3 rd October	P6 Bikeability 6 P5-7 After School Panto Club 1 3:00-4:00
Friday 4 th October	P5 swimming week 5 Sense over Sectarianism for P7
Tuesday 8 th October	P6 Bikeability 7
Thursday 10 th October	P6 Bikeability 8 P5-7 After School Panto Club 2 3:00-4:00
Friday 13 th October	P5 swimming week 6 STOP AT 3PM FOR HOLIDAY WEEK
Monday 21 st October	In Service – school and EYC closed
Tuesday 22 nd October	School and EYC re open
Thursday 24 th October	Photographer in school and EYC P5-7 After School Panto Club 3 3:00-4:00
Friday 25 th October	P5 swimming week 7 Photographer in school and EYC
Wednesday 30 th October	Parent Appointments
Thursday 31 st October	Halloween Fun – costumes can be worn P5-7 After School Panto Club 4 3:00-4:00
Friday 1 st November	P5 swimming week 8
Thursday 7 th November	P5-7 After School Panto Club 5 3:00-4:00
Friday 8 th November	P5 swimming week 9
Monday 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 13 th November	SAC Collaborative Visit
Thursday 14 th November	SAC Collaborative Visit P5-7 After School Panto Club 6 3:00-4:00
Friday 15 th November	P5 swimming week 10 – FINAL SESSION Flu Immunisations P1-P7 Children In Need Day
Monday 18 th November	Book Week Scotland
Thursday 21 st November	P5-7 After School Panto Club 7 3:00-4:00
Thursday 28 th November	P5-7 After School Panto Club 8 3:00-4:00
Thursday 5 th December	P1 – 7 MOTHER GOOSE PANTO AT AYR GAIETY P5-7 After School Panto Club 9 3:00-4:00
Tuesday 10 th December	EYC Nativity 2pm
Wednesday 11 th December	EYC Christmas Lunch P2 Christmas Party
Thursday 12 th December	School Christmas Lunch P5-7 After School Panto Club performance of Jack and the Beanstalk. Time TBC
Friday 13 th December	P1 Christmas Party
Monday 16 th December	P3 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December	EYC TRIP TO THE CUTTY SARK, AYR 10am P6 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	P4 Christmas Party

Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Service P1-3 9:15-10:15 and P4-7 10:45-11:45 P5 Christmas Party P7 Christmas Disco - evening
Friday 20 th December	EYC Party School closes at 2:30pm
Monday 6 th January	School reopens. Start of Scottish Culture focus
Thursday 23 rd January	Scottish Lunch menu
Thursday 30 th January	P7 Burns Supper
Friday 31 st January	P1-7 Scots Verse Competition 9:30-10:30
Monday 3 rd February – Thursday 6 th February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 1 EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Monday 10 th February	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 11 th February	In Service – School and EYC closed
Monday 17 th February – Thursday 20 th February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 2
Tuesday 25 th February	P7 Ayr Burns Club Burns Supper
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Monday 10 th March	British Science Week
Friday 14 th March	Annual Reports home to Parents
Thursday 20 th March	Parent Appointments
Wednesday 27 th March	
Friday 4 th April	School closes at 2:30 for holidays
Tuesday 22 nd April	School Reopens
Monday 5 th May	Holiday
Monday 26 th May	Holiday
Tuesday 27 th May	In Service – School and EYC closed
Wednesday 28 th May	EYC to P1 Transition 1
Friday 30 th May	School Sports Morning
Monday 2 nd June	P4-7 Championship events
Tuesday 3 rd June	EYC Sports morning
Wednesday 4 th June	EYC to P1 Transition 2
Friday 6 th June	P5 and 6 Triathlon Event
Monday 9 th June	EYC Parent Appointments
Tuesday 10 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 1 Parent Drop In 3:15-5:15
Wednesday 11 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 2 EYC to P1 Transition 3 Whole School Bump Up
Wednesday 25 th June	P7 Leavers service EYC Tie Ceremony P7 Leavers Disco - evening
Thursday 26 th June	P7 Treat Day
Friday 27 th June	Close for holidays at 1pm

Have a great weekend and see you all on Monday!

Mrs Donnelly
Head Teacher

