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 Date: 27/9/24



Dear Parents and Carers

Hello! I hope that this round up finds all families well, and that the long weekend was a positive one. It has felt like a very long week this week, despite it only being 4 days.

Just a reminder, P1 pupils now finish school at 3pm in line with other classes.



Meet and Greet Feedback Survey

The feedback survey following the Meet and Greet event has now closed and I can now share the results with you. We had 61 responses and so than to those who took the time to give us feedback. This will be used to inform future events. We asked you about what you saw and heard around our school and EYC, and how you felt. A similar survey has been carried out with pupils recently.

QUESTIONS	NUMBER	%
SEE		
Did you see safe, nurturing spaces to learn and play?	61	100%
Did you see displays of learning in learning areas and corridors?	61	100%
Did you see staff positively interacting with families?	61	100%
Did you see Senior Pupils taking a leadership role?	60	98%
HEAR		
Did you hear friendly chatter around school and EYC?	60	98%
Did you hear staff welcoming families?	61	100%
Did you hear staff talking positively about learning?	60	98%
Did you hear nurturing conversations between families and staff?	61	100%
FEEL		
Did you feel welcomed and valued?	61	100%
Did you feel staff were approachable?	61	100%
Did you feel you were listened to?	61	100%
Did you feel your views were valued?	61	100%

We had several comments and some pointers for next steps:

Your Comments	Your suggestions for Next Steps	We say.....
	No, everything is fab	
The event was conducted extremely well. Pupils were polite and courteous. Staff were welcoming, approachable and supportive	All good	
	It all went very well for us.	
	I really enjoy coming to meet the teacher. Such a great, informal way to see around the school and talk to the staff. Great to see some of the children's work and my children were excited to show me where everything is. Be nice to have this maybe once a term to see the work the children have been doing.	We will have another drop-in session in Term 4 😊 and although some classes had children's trays available, we will ensure that's the case in all classes next time
	Keep up the great work! Lovely environment.	
Didn't get the chance to speak to the actual teacher as one parent took up all the time	Time slots to speak to the teacher	We will have 2 formal opportunities for progress chats in October and March which will have time slots allocated, plus another informal drop-in in June.
A very warm and friendly welcome from all staff.	It would be good to visually see the class topics and what literacy and numeracy are to be covered this term on the boards on repeat. This would be good when you are waiting to speak to the teacher so you can ask any questions related to the term ahead	We think this is a great idea and one we will look into for next time 😊
	Possibly provide times to parents as many parents waiting to speak to teacher at same time and didn't get a lot of time with teacher to discuss child's progress	We will have 2 formal opportunities for progress chats in October and March which will have time slots allocated, plus another informal drop-in in June. 😊
	We enjoyed seeing our child's place of learning and work displayed on the wall. Loved the Proud Cloud in P1/2, such a great way to show appreciation to the learners in the class.	
Lovely welcome from P7's	No, a perfect informal meeting	
It was great to come into school and meet the boy's teacher so early in the school term. I loved seeing their work and speaking to their teacher. She was fantastic and listened to me and my concerns and put me completely at ease.	I wonder if say, once a month (an allocated time and date) there was an opportunity to speak to the teacher about any concerns/comments we have regarding the children. I know Teams is there and email, but sometimes a quick chat after school is better.	Please always let us know if you have any concerns or comments by phoning in. Teachers will always give time for a phone call or a face-to-face chat 😊
	Maybe make it longer than an hour to allow all families enough time to meet and greet the teachers.	We will take this on board for next time 😊
	No, I think this was run brilliantly. My P7 enjoyed having a role to play and I didn't feel rushed by any teachers.	
School was lively and welcoming as always. Lovely to see learning and leadership opportunities	Perhaps more time to speak to staff or a reminder to parents about ensuring they don't take up too much of the teachers time to ensure everyone gets a chance for a quick chat.	We will take this on board for next time 😊
	Time slots maybe better as we had to wait a little while but we do appreciate that everyone wants the chance to speak to their child's teacher	We will have 2 formal opportunities for progress chats in October and March which will have time slots allocated, plus another informal drop-in in June.
	No, it was a nice event and nice to see the P7's getting a wee bit more responsibility.	
	I would have liked to have seen what the children are currently working with regards to maths and reading so that conversations can be focused at home	We will take this on board for next time 😊
A great opportunity to see the school and the classroom. Lovely to meet teachers	Was a great event.	

and staff and feel welcomed. Thank you.		
	Maybe put some of their jotters out so parents can see what their child has been learning about while waiting to speak to the teacher	Some classes had children's trays available, but we will ensure that this is the case in all classes next time 😊
	Maybe have some of the children's work out for them to show their parents while parents are waiting to speak to teachers	Some classes had children's trays available, but we will ensure that this is the case in all classes next time 😊
It was a lovely evening. Credit to the pupils who directed parents and families, they were fantastic	It would have been lovely to have the opportunity to visit during the school day	This might be something we look at on a class-by-class basis. Something for us to think about, thank you 😊
The time of the event was helpful for working parents and easier to attend.	Happy with the informal drop in format	
I love the opportunity to see where our children learn	Maybe we can get to see their drawer and day to day work when in	Some classes had children's trays available, but we will ensure that this is the case in all classes next time 😊
	Think time and info all there and very well organised	
	Very well organised and wouldn't change it	
	Great event, impressed with the P7 pupils	
The P7's that were tasked with showing parents where to go and checking us in were so polite and very helpful		
Staff are always friendly and very approachable		
	Very grateful for the opportunity to visit and so much easier to chat to my daughter about her day knowing the class layout, who the teacher is etc. She showed us her work so far and was pleased to have a quick chat with the teacher to say hello and hear her early thoughts (in this case, accelerated reading). Perhaps if the parents' questions are similar, a presentation, talk or poster about specific learning areas would be beneficial. We quite enjoy the opportunity for an informal explore around the classroom to see their work	We like the idea of displaying learning information on the whiteboard – we will look into this for the next time! 😊
	Opportunity to see the other areas of the school utilized by the EYC such as the sensory room, library etc	Sorry you didn't take the chance to do so this time round – please do next time as all areas were open to parents from school and EYC 😊



Celebrating success

We are always eager to hear about your child's wider achievements, both in and outside of school. This could be an achievement in sport, music, arts, community involvement or any other area where your child has excelled or shown dedication.

If your child has a wider achievement that you would like to share, please provide us with details and a photo. You can send this information to

Coylton.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

These achievements will be discussed and celebrated with your child in class and during an upcoming assembly. We would love to create a display of achievements across school to celebrate success.



Borrow a Book

In order to develop our reading culture within school and EYC, we would love to involve our parents and the community. One of the things we want to do is to set up a 'Borrow a Book'

scheme for adults. Over the next few weeks, we will have a trolley of books set up before 9am and before 3pm every day under the canopy at the front entrance and the EYC entrance. This will be for adults in the community, parents, and staff to borrow a book. In order to get started, we are asking for donation of books that you are finished with and wish to share with others. Once we have enough, we will set out the trollies and encourage you to come along and help yourself. Our hope is that if pupils see the adults in their lives enjoying reading, it will encourage them to do the same. We will let you know when the trollies will be ready and please hand any donations into the main office. This scheme will help us work towards our Reading School's award and so I hope that you find it enjoyable.



Halloween Costume Swap

Once again, we are happy for children to come to school in costumes for Halloween on Thursday October 31st. We are aware that costumes can be pricey and may only be worn once or twice and so therefore we would be happy to accept any costumes that you no longer use in order that we have a costume swap where anyone can come along and take a way a preloved costume to use at Halloween. Please hand in any preloved costumes to the school office from next week, and we will have them available to look through from Tuesday 22nd October. (Please note, we will also do this for Christmas jumpers later in the term)



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 Caira 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.



Parking

We are very aware that parking around the school is an issue, particularly at drop off and pick up times. Our car park remains closed to parents at these times. We have had a request from some of the local residents that families are mindful of where they park during drop off and pick up as some have had issues accessing their driveways. We appreciate your support with 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. We are STILL happy to receive donations of preloved outdoor clothing and footwear 😊 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 (provided by Nicola, our brand new Senior EYP 😊)

It's been a busy couple of weeks in the EYC with lots of different activities taking place. The children in the 3-5 room have been exploring the world of Make-Believe Story Telling with Susie. The children used their imagination to create their own stories and they then performed their stories on our stage for their peers. The children were learning about being the author of their own story and then got the opportunity to be the illustrator in our 'Big Make-Believe Book'.

In the 2-3 room the children have been enjoying the lovely weather and exploring the local community where they visited the local cafe and enjoyed their morning snack. The children have been working on developing friendships with their new peers which has been lovely to see.



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.

Monday 30 th September	Rescheduled Parent Council Meeting 7pm in school
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