

Educational Services  
Head Teacher: Fiona Donnelly  
Coylton Primary School  
Main Road, Coylton, KA6 6JP  
Tel: 01292 612491  
Email: Coylton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk  
Date: 10/01/25



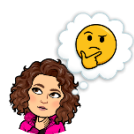
Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year from all at Coylton Primary and EYC. We hope that you have had a lovely break over Christmas – it has been great catching up with the children and hearing all their news. The start of the new school term has been a cold one, so please can we ask that ALL children come to school with an outdoor jacket and that names are on all items of clothing including gloves, hats, and scarves.



### Attendance

As you know, South Ayrshire Council are placing a great focus on raising attendance levels in all schools. Social media and radio campaigns have been on going this session, and all school have been tasked with looking at ways to increase attendance for all. I am pleased to say that our school is sitting slightly above the South Ayrshire average at the moment, and also that we are 1.6% up on this time last session at 95% attendance. However, this is a 3.7% decrease since the start of the session in August and so I hope we can work together to bring this figure back up. School systems generate attendance letters termly if attendance drops below 90% and for the most part, parents who receive these letters will know the reasons for absences. Please get in touch with me if you do receive letter and are unsure why.



### Parking

As always, please can we ask that you do not use our car park for dropping off or picking up at the start and end of the school or EYC sessions. In addition, for anyone who does have to come into the carpark, please remember if turning left when exiting to ensure you check both left and right as we have had a member of the public complain about cars exiting and driving onto the crossing when the green man is on.



### Primary 1 Online Registration – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Children who are 5 years old between 1 March 2025 and 28 February 2026 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)

The link will be available from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and all registrations should be completed by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

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 or Utility Bill to the on-line registration.



### Parent Council

The first Parent Council meeting of the new term takes place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January via Zoom. The meeting starts at 7pm. Please contact the Parent Council on email if you would like to join this meeting - [coyltonparentcouncil@yahoo.com](mailto:coyltonparentcouncil@yahoo.com)



### Scottish Culture

Traditionally, January is the month in school where we celebrate all things Scottish. This year, all classes in school and EYC will do so through lessons, songs, dancing and fun! In addition, P1-7 classes will learn some Scots verse. There are 4 categories for Scots verse:

P1	Mince & Tatties
Junior – P2 and P3 pupils	Street Talk
Intermediate – P4 and P5 pupils	Willie Wastle
Senior – P6 and P7 pupils	To A Mouse

Children from every class can put themselves forward and 3 finalists will be selected for each category. Pupils have been issued with their poems and we encourage them to read them aloud as much as possible at home as well as in school. Pupils do not need to put themselves forward if they don't want to.

The date for Scots Verse is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January, starting at 9:30. We will inform parents of the finalists on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Parents are invited to come along to the event if they wish.

EYC and P1 classes are having a small Burns event on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. More information on this will come home soon. Our P7 pupils will have their Burns Supper in school on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January. P7 teachers will provide more information about this event via Teams.



### Accelerated Reading

Accelerated Reading is a reading programme designed to encourage pupils to develop their reading skills, comprehension and a love of reading. All pupils in P4-7 actively participate in

Accelerated Reading and regularly choose books appropriate for their reading level from a wide selection available in the library. After finishing a book, pupils complete a Reading Practice Quiz to test their understanding. Pupils should aim to quiz within 24 hours of finishing a book in order to maximise their performance.

Each month, we review a report to celebrate the top readers in each class. This information is proudly displayed in a communal area, along with a summary of which class has read the most words. This month, P7 are leading the way, reading 4,767,405 words since August! Well done, P7. Our top readers for the month of December were:

P4 - Lochie with 102,049 words read.

P4/5 - Euan with 202,319 words read. A special mention goes to Murray who has read 187,021 words.

P5 - Anna with 484,918 words read. A special mention goes to Brodie who has read 405,338 words.

P6 - Jamie with 382,478 words read.

P6/7 - Finn with 446,681 words read.

P7 - Holly with 1,095,673 words read. Holly has achieved the incredible milestone of becoming a Word Millionaire by reading over a million words since August. What an amazing accomplishment!

It's important to note that for a book's word count to contribute to a pupil's total, they must pass the quiz with a score of 60% or higher on a 3, 5 or 10 question quiz and 70% or higher on a 20 question quiz.

To support your child's progress with Accelerated Reading at home, encourage regular reading habits and ensure they complete their quizzes within 24 hours of finishing a book. This will help reinforce their comprehension and inspire a love of reading. Quizzes should only be completed at school.



News from the EYC (provided by Nicola 😊)

After a busy Christmas the children in the 2 year old room have enjoyed being in the EYC and are settling back into the environment. We have explored water play, developing our pouring and emptying skills and due to the freezing weather we experimented with food colouring and ice where we used the hammers to try and break the ice!



In the 3- 5 room this week the children were excited to see the cherry picker taking down all the Christmas lights. This prompted a conversation about electricity and children were asking loads of questions about how the lights come on. They went to the sensory room to use the interactive board to explore where electricity comes from.



## 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. We have added a number of things to the Diary Dates this week!

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Ayr Academy Challenge Day 3 - STEM
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Early Level Burns Supper
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Scottish Lunch menu P7 Dolphin House meeting for parents -3pm
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	P7 Burns Supper
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	P1-7 Scots Verse Competition 9:30-10:30
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 1 EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	In Service – School and EYC closed
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 2
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	P7 Ayr Burns Club Burns Supper
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Annual Reports home to Parents
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Appointments
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes at 2:30 for holidays
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Reopens
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	In Service – School and EYC closed
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	EYC to P1 Transition I
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	School Sports Morning
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	P4-7 Championship events

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	EYC Sports morning
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	EYC to PI Transition 2
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	P5 and 6 Triathlon Event
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	EYC Parent Appointments
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 to SI Transition 1 Parent Drop In 3:15-5:15
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 to SI Transition 2 EYC to PI Transition 3 Whole School Bump Up
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Leavers service EYC Tie Ceremony P7 Leavers Disco - evening
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Treat Day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Close for holidays at 1pm