

Educational Services  
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Dear Parents and Carers



### Parent/Carer Appointments

Thank you to all parents who took the time to attend parent appointments last night. We appreciate that 7 minutes is not that long to have with your child's teacher, but we hope that you were able to ask any questions you may have had regarding progress and achievement and progress reports. Please remember, we have another opportunity for you to come and chat with teachers at the drop-in session on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June between 3:15 and 5:15. No appointments will be set for this session, and it will give you the chance to see around the classes and sample your child's learning through jotters and displays.

That said, should you feel that you need more clarification on anything, just phone the school office at any time and we can arrange for a phone call with a teacher – 01292 612491.



### School Lunches

You will have received a letter this week from South Ayrshire Council around School Meal debt. Pupils from P1-P5 are entitled to a 2-course free school meal, as well as some eligible pupils in P6-7. The ParentPay system has allowed children to choose a 3<sup>rd</sup> course if they wished which took the amount over the allowance and so small amounts of debt have been building up across all schools as a result. Although South Ayrshire Council cleared off the food debt before Christmas, moving forward schools will have to clear off their own debt through their own budget! In order to minimise this, the option to choose a 3<sup>rd</sup> course will be removed – you will now see soup in the dessert section meaning you can choose soup and a main, or a main and dessert but not all 3. Our office staff will contact families directly around clearing debt. As always, we will NEVER have a child go without a lunch and a sandwich, fruit and water will be provided if required. Don't hesitate to get in touch to discuss this further.



### Comic Relief 2025

It's Comic Relief Day!!!! Everyone is looking amazing, dressed in red or as though its 1985 😊

This morning, P5 are holding a Bake Sale for all classes to come along and buy a sweet treat to have at break or lunch. All classes will have an allocated time slot to purchase a cake and.....this year, we would love to have our parents and carers pop in too! Please remember that Mrs Duncan's classroom will be open to parents between 9:15 and 10:00 this morning to come along and purchase a cake. Pupils from P5 will be on hand to help with the selection. Pupils from P5 will also be on hand to escort parents along to the GP room where we will offer a complimentary cup of tea or coffee to wash down your cake. We would love to see as many of you as can make it along on the day.



#### Your Mission: Discover Local World War II Stories!

Thank you to those who showed an interest in this project. The plan now is to gather the evidence and create a short video which will be sent to South Ayrshire Council. I will be in touch very soon with some families to give more information.

In addition, P7 are looking forward to welcoming Dr Gareth Powell to school on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Dr Powell has a passion for the history of WWII and is coming to enhance the interdisciplinary learning in our P7 class.



#### P7-S1 Transition

We would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff at Ayr Academy for organising 4 Challenge Days for our P7 pupils this year, each one offering a taste of the learning in the various subjects offered by secondary schools. Although we know that not all P7 pupils will transfer to Ayr Academy, these challenge days have provided all pupils with the experience of secondary school life. I am aware that P7 parents have been finding out about their chosen secondary school this week, which is much earlier than usual. This will allow us to plan transition for all a bit earlier too and so we will be in touch with families once all secondary schools outline their transition plans with us. Please remember that all South Ayrshire Secondary schools have their 2 day 'Bump Up' at the same time – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June.



#### Offensive Language

We would like to thank PC McPheat, Campus Police Officer at Ayr Academy for coming up to school to talk to P4-7 classes about the use of offensive language. We had become aware of some children using language in school which could be deemed as racist, sexist, or homophobic. Through conversations with classes about this, we discovered that there was a lack of understanding around the difference between inappropriate language and offensive language. PC McPheat was able to provide the children with a better understanding about this subject, and so far, we have not heard of anything more being said. We will continue to monitor the situation.



#### Digital Schools Award

Miss Thomson and our Digi Leaders have been working hard preparing for our Digital Schools accreditation visit which is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. The accreditation team will speak

to Miss Thomson and myself, as well as other staff and pupils too, and some classes will showcase learning in Digital Technology. We are keeping everything crossed that it goes well, and we will let families know of the outcome as soon as we can.



### P3 Egyptian Showcase

Pupils in Miss McDonald's P3 class are working really hard to learn all about life in Ancient Egypt. They would love to invite families into their class on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April from 2:15 – 3:00 to show off all their amazing work. Come along to the main entrance and you will be escorted to the classroom to experience the learning there.



### Daffodil Tea

We are looking forward to welcoming families of pre-school children and P1 children to our Daffodil Tea on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April from 2pm. The children have been busy working together to create a 'transition showcase' of our learning together. We will be sharing our joint learning with you, while you enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some cakes. We have produced some daffodil artwork that we would love you to buy, and we will be entertaining you with some songs we have been learning together. We ask only for a donation to purchase artwork, with any money raised going towards a Teddy Bear's picnic in term 4.

Plans are already underway for transition to P1 for our pre-school children. Ali and I will be in touch with parents of children starting school in August very soon.



### Outdoor Classroom request – advance notice

Parents/carers of pupils from P4-7 are invited to partner with their child/children in the morning of Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April to help with building and carpentry activities in our outdoor classroom. We are looking for some creativity and carpentry skills to help us plan and build some secure storage for our outdoor resources using some pallets that have been donated. Materials, (wood and screws will be provided) and a battery-operated drill/screwdriver and a saw are available too. We have other odd jobs that need to be undertaken too; resetting one of the benches, setting a weather station into the ground using post-setting concrete; and addressing the need to deter people from accessing the roof. With your and your child's/children's help, we can work together to improve the space and make it more secure for the future. Please email the school office to note your interest or require further details.



### News from the EYC (provided by Nicola 😊)

In the 2- room this week we have spent lots of time outdoors enjoying the Spring sunshine. The children have been interested in the road works that has been happening in the village, so we walked along and watched how the road workers used the diggers to dig up the road. Some of the children didn't like how noisy the machines were! We have also been experimenting with creative mark making across 2D and 3D surfaces both indoors and outdoors.



In the 3-5 room this week we have been showing care for the local environment. We went on a walk around the school and used Mr McKnight's litter pickers to pick up the rubbish in the school playground. We have also been using the recycling bins in the playroom and sorting items for recycling and talking about how it helps the environment. Information has been sent out on Learning Journals this week regarding our upcoming Daffodil tea for the Pre-schoolers and Primary 1. Parent/Carers will have the opportunity to purchase their child's artwork on the day.



## 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 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Comic Relief Bake Sale
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	P3 Egyptian Showcase for parents 2:15 – 3:00
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Parents as partners – Outdoor Classroom - am Daffodil Tea for Pre-school and P1 families – 2pm
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
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	P6&7 The Greatest Showman - evening
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	P6&7 The Greatest Showman - afternoon
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