



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.



Staff News, from Mrs Docherty

I wanted to let you know that Mrs Donnelly will be away from school for a period of time due to a family bereavement. I am sure you will join me in keeping Mrs Donnelly and her family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

The school continues to operate as normal, and the leadership team is working closely together to ensure the smooth running of the school and the ongoing care and education of all pupils. In the meantime, I will be overseeing the day-to-day running of the school, supported by Mrs Cairn and Mrs Campbell who will take on Depute Head responsibilities.



Primary 1 Registration – Monday 12th January

Children who are 5 years old between 1st March 2026 and 28th February 2027 should be registered for education during the week commencing Monday 12th January 2026.

Parents/carers should register their children online at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools
The link will be available from Monday 12th January 2026 and all registrations should be completed by Sunday 18th January 2026.

When registering your child, you should attach their birth certificate and two items of proof of your residence in the catchment area, e.g. a Council Tax Notice, Utility Bill, etc.



Parent Council

A huge thank you to our Parent Council for organising and running a variety of Christmas activities throughout December. We are delighted to share that an amazing £995.81 was raised!



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	The Wee Rid Motor by Sandy Thomas Ross
Junior Category	P2 & P3	The Sair Finger by Walter Wingate
Intermediate Category	P4 & P5	Igor by Susi Briggs
Senior Category	P6 & P7	The Ballad of Janitor Mackay by Margaret Green

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 30th January, starting at 9:30. We will inform parents of the finalists on Friday 23rd 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 21st January. More information on this will come home soon.

Our P7 pupils will have their Burns Supper in school on Thursday 29th January (date change). P7 teachers will provide more information about this event via Teams.



Meta Skills Focus

This month, our whole-school Meta Skill focus is LEADING. Meta Skills are essential life skills that support children in all aspects of learning and life, helping them grow in confidence, resilience, and responsibility.

On Monday 12th January, our Primary 6 class will lead learning across the school, delivering a short lesson to each class to help pupils understand what it means to be a leader. This is a valuable opportunity for our P6 pupils to model positive leadership while encouraging all children to recognise that everyone can be a leader in different ways. We want children to understand that leadership can be shown through everyday actions and choices.

How you can support LEADING at home

- Give your child opportunities to take responsibility, such as helping organise family tasks or leading a game or activity.
- Encourage decision-making and talk about the outcomes of choices.
- Discuss examples of good leadership you notice at home, in the community, or in sport.
- Praise positive leadership behaviours such as helping others, including everyone, and showing empathy.

By working together, we can help our children develop strong leadership skills that will benefit them now and in the future.



Dolphin House Parent Meeting

We are getting very excited about our up coming residential trips to Dolphin House with P7. On Monday 12th January, members of the Dolphin House team will visit our P7 pupils to provide an outline of what to expect from the visit. They will meet with parents after school to allow them the chance to find out a bit more about the residential experience and to ask any relevant questions.



Communication

We are currently in the process of getting Microsoft Teams back up and running for all classes. Please look out for information in your child's school bag, which will include details of their username and password.

Microsoft Teams will allow class teachers to share information about class learning each month and will also be used to communicate important information such as PE days and Outdoor Learning days.

Please note that parents/carers should continue to use the usual communication methods to report absences. Whole-school events, Round Ups and messages will continue to be shared via Eduspot. This remains our main communication tool between parents/carers and the school, alongside Coylton Mail.

We appreciate that there are several platforms used for different purposes, and we hope the breakdown below provides clarity on what each one is used for:

- Eduspot – Our main communication platform for parents/carers. Used for whole-school messages, events, Round Ups, letters and important updates.
- Coylton Mail – Used for more detailed school communications sent directly to parents/carers.
- Parent Portal – Used to update and view your child's information, including emergency contacts, permissions and attendance-related information.
- ParentPay – Used for school payments such as lunches, trips and other school activities.

As always please just pick up the phone too!!!!!! 😊



YMI - SingFest Event, 12th February

The Youth Music Initiative (YMI) is an integral part of our music service provision for young people in schools across South Ayrshire. This term, our P4 and P5 pupils are taking part in an exciting SingFest project, which focuses on developing skills in singing and performance. Pupils will participate in a combined SingFest event at Ayr Town Hall on Thursday 12th February. Sessions are already underway, and we look forward to seeing pupils grow in confidence, teamwork and musical ability as they work towards their special performance.



Share the Learning

We are always keen to provide opportunities for parents to share the learning in classes. Over the course of the session, we hope that all classes will get involved.

Here are some of the ideas we have so far and more information will follow in due course:

- Polytunnel building in the outdoor classroom with senior pupils. - TBC
- Outdoor DIY Day with pupils from P4-7 - TBC
- Science Showcase in P4/5 - TBC
- Summer School show for P6 and P7 – Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June
- EYC & PI Daffodil Tea – Monday 30th March
-and more to follow 😊



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 House Assemblies. Photos will be added to our Wall of Fame which is displayed in the gym hall.



News from the EYC (provided by Nicola 😊)

In the 2-3 room this week we are beginning to recognise familiar books. They have been exploring the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children used the story to explore different textures. We have also been exploring pushing and pulling using toy cars and ramps.



In the 3-5 room we have had some new friends join us, so we have been working on building friendships and transitions. We have also started to explore symmetry and are looking at how everyone's faces are different. We went on an environmental print hunt in the playroom and had to find the different prints both inside and outside. In the outdoor area the weather has been very cold and icy, the children found large bits of ice which they enjoyed breaking up.





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. Please note, any changes to diary dates are highlighted in yellow.

Monday 12 th January	PRIMARY 1 REGISTRATION WEEK Dolphin House Parents Meeting 3pm
Wednesday 21 st January	Early level Burns Supper
Thursday 29 th January	P7 Burns Supper (NEW DATE) Burns themed Lunch
Friday 30 th January	P1-7 Scots Verse Competition 9:30-10:30
Monday 2 nd February – Thursday 5 th February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 1 EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Friday 6 th February	HOLIDAY
Monday 9 th February	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 10 th February	In Service – School and EYC closed
Tuesday 10 th – Friday 13 th February	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL WEEK 2
Thursday 12 th February	P4 and P5 SingFest Event at Ayr Town Hall – more details to follow
Monday 16 th February	EYC REGISTRATION WEEK
Tuesday 24 th February	P7 Ayr Burns Club Burns Supper
Monday 30 th March	Early level Daffodil Tea
Tuesday 31 st March	PARENT APPOINTMENTS
Thursday 2 nd April	School closes at 2:30 for holidays
Monday 20 th April	School Reopens
Monday 27 th April	EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Monday 4 th May	Holiday
Thursday 7 th May	INSERVICE DAY – SCHOOL AND EYC CLOSED
Thursday 21 st May	School Sports Morning
Monday 25 th May	Holiday
Wednesday 27 th May	EYC to P1 Transition 1
Tuesday 2 nd June	EYC Sports
Wednesday 3 rd June	EYC to P1 Transition 2
Monday 8 th June	EYC Parent Appointments
Tuesday 9 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 1
Wednesday 10 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 2 EYC to P1 Transition 3 Whole School Bump Up
Thursday 25 th June	P7 Leavers Disco
Friday 26 th June	P7 Leavers Service EYC Tie Ceremony
Monday 29 th June	P7 Treat
Tuesday 30 th June	School closes at 1pm

Mrs Docherty
Depute Head Teacher

