

Educational Services
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Health Update – Illness in School

There has been a high level of sickness amongst pupils in the school and EYC this week. To help reduce the spread of illness and keep our school community safe, we are asking all families to follow the current NHS guidelines regarding when children should return to school after being unwell.

Key points from NHS guidance:

- Vomiting or diarrhoea: Children should stay off school for at least 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.
- Fever: Children should only return to school when they are fever-free, without the use of medication.

General guidance:

- Encourage children to wash hands frequently and practice good hygiene.
- Keep your child at home if they are unwell or displaying symptoms of sickness.

We appreciate your support in keeping our school a healthy and safe environment for all pupils and staff. If your child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you promptly to arrange collection. For further guidance, please refer to the NHS Scotland advice: [Illnesses and conditions | NHS inform](#)



HMIE Inspection Report Publication Date

We are pleased to let you know that the inspection report for Coylton Primary School and Early Years Centre will be published on Tuesday 20th January 2026. The report and accompanying Summarised Inspection Findings will be available on the HMIE website here – [Inspection reports | His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in Scotland](#) from this date.



Primary 1 Registration – closing date Sunday 18th January

Children who are 5 years old between 1st March 2026 and 28th February 2027 should be registered for education this week.

Parents/carers should register their children online at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools
The link will be available until 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.



Tree of Knowledge

Primary 7 marks an important time of change for our learners, and in collaboration with our cluster primary schools, we have invited expert speakers to deliver engaging workshops to support pupils as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

On Thursday, our P7's took part in the first session of workshops delivered by staff from Tree of Knowledge. During the first session, titled *"Who's in the Driving Seat?"*, pupils explored the concept of self-regulation and learned how they can apply it in their daily lives. They also focused on identifying the qualities that make someone a good team player and an effective learner, while developing the ability to view situations from multiple perspectives. The session also encouraged pupils to reflect on their own actions and behaviours, fostering greater self-awareness and personal growth. We are looking forward to future engaging and insightful sessions for our pupils!



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/carers (of finalists) are invited to come along to the event if they wish.

EYC and P1 pupils are having a small Burns event on Wednesday 21st January. The children are working hard to learn Scottish songs and dances. Children are invited to wear something tartan on this day, if they wish! We will share pictures of this event on Learning Journals and X for parents / carers to see.

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.



P6 and P7 School Show

Building on the success of the P6 and P7 Christmas Showcase and previous school productions, we are thrilled to announce that Mamma Mia will be our next show in June 2026!

This promises to be an exciting, action-packed performance for all P6 and P7 pupils, so please save the dates:

- Tuesday 23rd June – evening performance
- Wednesday 24th June – afternoon performance
(Exact times to be confirmed.)

Pupils from all P6 and P7 classes have already started to rehearse some songs with their teachers and Mr Thomson, and we are confident it will be a fantastic event!



Bikeability in Coylton – We need YOU!

Before Easter, we will begin planning our upcoming Bikeability sessions for our P5 learners. Our P6 pupils have already completed their Level 2 Bikeability training in October.

We are looking for parent/carer volunteers who would be interested in supporting children during the training sessions, as well as anyone who may wish to attend Bikeability Instructor training.

Instructor training is provided free of charge through Cycling Scotland for parents and carers. You do not need to be an expert cyclist — just confident on a bike and willing to learn.

If you are interested in attending the training and helping with future Bikeability sessions, please inform the school office. Once we have a list of interested parents/carers, we will work with our local Bikeability Coordinator to arrange training dates and further support.



Meta Skills Focus

This month, our whole-school Meta Skill focus is LEADING. Meta Skills are essential life skills that help children develop confidence, resilience, and responsibility, supporting them in all areas of learning and life.

Our Primary 6 pupils delivered a short lesson to each class, helping their peers understand what it means to be a leader. They also demonstrated how leadership can be expressed through everyday actions and choices within the school.

How can YOU 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, Calvin from the Dolphin House team, visited our P7 pupils to provide an outline of what to expect from their visit. He also provided an information session after school for parents/carers. If you have any further questions about the upcoming residential trips to Dolphin House, please contact the school office.



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.
- Learning Journals (EYC only) – Main communication tool and able to view your child's profile

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 & P1 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.



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 – Sunday 18 th January	PRIMARY 1 REGISTRATION WEEK
Wednesday 21 st January	Early level Burns Supper
Thursday 24 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

