



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that everyone enjoyed the half term break last weekend. Hard to believe that we are halfway through February already, and it is really nice to see lighter mornings again! On a personal note, I am pleased to be back at work and be with the children and staff again. Mrs Docherty and the team were fantastic in my absence, and I am very thankful!



### Staged Intervention

Please return one Block 1 plan and one Block 2 plan to school for our records. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.



### Dolphin House

We are looking forward to our 2<sup>nd</sup> group of P7's returning from Dolphin House later this afternoon. Both groups have had a wonderful time, making amazing P7 memories! We would like to thank the staff team at Dolphin House for their hospitality, expertise and support of our pupils, not to mention the amazing food!!! I would also like to thank the school staff team who made the whole 2 weeks happen by supporting the pupil's day and night!! A nice restful weekend for all I would say!



### YMI - SingFest Event, 12<sup>th</sup> February

Pupils in P4 and P5 classes had a fantastic time participating in the SingFest event in Ayr Town Hall yesterday. They represented our school extremely well and we are very proud of them. We are also very proud that Brodie and Robbie from P7 performed songs from Oliver during the day, following from their success at Christmas time! Look out for photos on Twitter!

It was unfortunate that due to space, parents were unable to attend the event. However, we are delighted to offer parents and carers the chance to come along to school on THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH at 2:15pm where you can see the performance! We will send reminders out nearer the time but for now, save the date 😊



### Persuasive writing in P2/3

Following some very persuasive writing from the pupils in P2/3 to Mrs Docherty recently, it has been agreed that for THIS CLASS ONLY, they can have a dress down day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February! Some future politicians there perhaps 😊



### Parking

I would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of safe, lawful and considerate parking around Coylton Primary School and EYC. The safety of our pupils and respect for our local community remain our top priorities at all times.

The school car park MUST NOT be used for dropping off or collecting children during busy periods. Spaces are reserved for staff, blue badge holders and taxis/minibuses. Clear signage is displayed; however, some parents and carers continue to ignore this guidance and enter the car park when the gates open at 9am. This has resulted in an increase in pupils arriving late due to families waiting for access. We ask that you arrive in good time and help set a positive example for your child by being punctual.

We also ask all drivers to show courtesy to local residents by keeping driveways clear, observing the 20mph speed limit and avoiding parking in locations that could cause danger or traffic build-up. We are working closely with Police Scotland, who have been patrolling the area during mornings and afternoons to support safe parking. Your cooperation is essential in helping us keep everyone safe and maintain positive relationships within our community.



### Homework Review and Next Steps

We are pleased to see many more families on Teams to access homework now. That said, we are encouraging all families to access Teams not only for homework, but as a method of communication. Just a reminder of the homework agreement:

- Every class will be set up on Microsoft Teams, and pupils will be issued with login details.
- At the beginning of each month, teachers will post a short overview of prior learning and upcoming learning in Literacy, Numeracy and Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL).
- PE days and Outdoor Learning days will also be shared in these monthly overviews.
- Homework will be set on the first Monday of each month, starting Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb.
- Tasks will include a variety of written, digital and practical activities linked to learning from the previous month, helping to reinforce key skills and deepen understanding.
- Homework may also link to Meta Skills and our Rights Respecting Schools work.
- Pupils will be provided with a jotter to record homework such as phonics, sentences or research tasks. Teachers may also issue worksheets.
- Teachers will not provide written feedback on homework activities.
- Families may choose to complete all, some or none of the suggested tasks; staff will not be monitoring completion.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for working in partnership with us to ensure our approach to homework continues to promote both learning and wellbeing.



### Darts Coaching and Event

Our P7 pupils have started an exciting darts coaching programme led by Ryan, our Sports Development Assistant. Ryan has already delivered the first session and will return after the P7 residential trip to run a further three sessions.

Following this, Ryan will work with a selected team of eight pupils to prepare for a competition taking place on Thursday 2nd April at Riverside Arena. All P7 pupils will attend this event as either a competitor or spectator, along with P7 classes from our cluster primary schools, to support the teams and enjoy the competition.



### 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.



### National Standardised Assessments (NSAs)

Over the 8 weeks, pupils in Primary 1, Primary 4 and Primary 7 will be completing their National Standardised Assessments (NSAs). These online assessments help teachers understand how children are progressing in literacy and numeracy and support future learning and teaching.



### Meta Skills Focus

This month, our whole-school Meta Skill focus is CRITICAL THINKING - an essential life skill that helps children make thoughtful decisions, solve problems and become confident, independent learners.

How can families support Critical Thinking at home?

- Encourage questions – welcome “why?”, “how?” and “what if?”
- Ask open-ended questions – “What do you think will happen?” or “Why did you choose that?”
- Talk through decisions – involve children in planning meals, outings, or routines.
- Solve problems together – encourage them to suggest ideas before stepping in.
- Play thinking games – puzzles, board games, and building activities build reasoning skills.
- Discuss books and TV shows – talk about characters’ choices and consequences.
- Reflect on the day – what went well? What was tricky? What could be done differently next time?
- Celebrate mistakes – treat them as learning opportunities.

By building these habits into daily life, you are helping your child grow into a thoughtful, resilient problem-solver.



### 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](mailto: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 have been exploring block play. We used large blocks and small blocks and worked alongside our peers to create different structures. We have also been enjoying singing nursery rhymes together and independently.



In the 3-5 room this week we have been practising our fine motor skills using tools to cut up vegetables. We have also been exploring forces using different concepts such as magnets. Some of the children were able to discuss why the cars were sticking to the magnets. Our first PEEP family learning session of term 3 took place this week and we look forward to welcoming our families to the next session where we will look at matching and sorting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 9.15.

Just a reminder our early years registration for the 2026-2027 session takes place on the week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026. If your child already attends the centre and is attending next year then you must re-register your child for the 2026-2027 session.





## 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 16 <sup>th</sup> February	EYC REGISTRATION WEEK
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	P7 Ayr Burns Club Burns Supper
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents in school for P4 and P5 pupils SINGFEST performance
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	P6 year group to Riverside Church, Ayr for Easter Workshop
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	P5 & P6 classes visiting Culzean Castle
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Early level Daffodil Tea
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	PARENT APPOINTMENTS
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	P7 Darts Event @ Riverside Arena School closes at 2:30 for holidays
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	School Reopens
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	INSERVICE DAY – SCHOOL AND EYC CLOSED
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	School Sports Morning
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	EYC to PI Transition 1
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	EYC Sports
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	EYC to PI Transition 2
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	EYC Parent Appointments
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 to SI Transition 1
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 to SI Transition 2 EYC to PI Transition 3 Whole School Bump Up
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Leavers Disco
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Leavers Service EYC Tie Ceremony
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Treat
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	School closes at 1pm

