

Educational Services
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Dear Parents and Carers,



Staffing

This week we were delighted to welcome Mrs Donnelly back to school! The boys and girls have been absolutely thrilled to see her return, and it has been lovely to have her back in the building!



Holiday Weekend

Pupils in our Early Years Centre and school will be off on Friday 6th, Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th for the February weekend. We hope you have a lovely long weekend and we look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school and nursery on Wednesday 11th.

The only exception is the P7 Dolphin House group, who should arrive at school by 9am on Tuesday 10th February, as they will be departing for their residential trip from Tuesday to Friday.



Staged Intervention

Staged Intervention Block 1 has now been evaluated by staff and partner agencies, and new targets have been written to support next steps. This process applies only to pupils who are currently on Staged Intervention. The Block 2 paperwork is being sent home today for your information and records. Parents and carers are asked to take time to carefully read through the paperwork and support their child in completing the pupil comment section, either by scribing for them or allowing them to write their own response. Please return one Block 1 plan and one Block 2 plan to school for our records. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.



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.



Dolphin House

The first group of P7's had an amazing time at Dolphin House this week and took part in activities such as team games, beach art, rock pooling at night, building a campfire, a hill walk up Byne Hill, caving, biking, beach conservation, archery and abseiling! I'm sure they will be requiring a long rest tonight after all these activities! Huge thank you to the staff who have supported the pupils this week during day activities and overnights stays.

The second group of P7's will be spending the weekend packing for their turn. They leave on Tuesday morning and will return on Friday. Please could parents ensure that pupils are at school nice and sharp. They should come into school with their luggage and head to the gym hall. Parents are more than welcome to hang around till the bus leaves shortly after 9am. Just a reminder MOBILE PHONES MUST REMAIN AT HOME! Parents should check out the school's X account as staff will post photos of all the shenanigans there daily.



Homework Review and Next Steps

Class teachers shared the first homework grid and monthly learning overview on Monday 2nd February via Microsoft Teams. Please ensure you have logged in to Teams using your child's username and password to access this information. A homework jotter, along with all necessary usernames and passwords for online resources, has been sent home with pupils.

We have agreed the following: -

- 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 2nd 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.

Accelerated Reading

Pupils in P4-7 work through an Accelerated Reading programme in school and can also use books from this programme to read for enjoyment at home. After each book has been read, the children take a quiz which will influence their reading levels as they move through the school year. Each month we update our Accelerated Reading board which shows the cumulative number of words read in a month across P4-7 as well as class by class figures. The children love to see these figures every month, and we like to share these on the round up at the start of every month. Here is the most up to date information:

<u>Top Readers</u>	<u>Total Amount of Words Read in Class</u>
P4 – Evelyn	P4 – 420,995 words read.
P4/5 – Luke	P4/5 – 2,152,973 words read.
P5 – Andrew	P5 – 2,556,396 words read.
P6 – Brodie	P6 – 2,892,097 words read.
P6/7 – Quinn	P6/7 – 4,520,344 words read.
P7 – Kirsty	P7 – 5,306,636 words read.
P7 are the top class this month as they have read the most words.	
Total words read – 17,849,441!!!!!!	

Kirsty, Mary-Jane and Brodie have all become Word Millionaires!!! A fantastic achievement for you all!!!



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/carers 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.



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. Since parents/carers are unable to attend this event, staff will share pictures and videos of performances on Teams.



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.

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 23 rd March	P6 year group to Riverside Church, Ayr for Easter Workshop
Friday 27 th March	P5 & P6 classes visiting Culzean Castle
Monday 30 th March	Early level Daffodil Tea
Tuesday 31 st March	PARENT APPOINTMENTS
Thursday 2 nd April	P7 Darts Event @ Riverside Arena 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

