

People Directorate
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Our Ref: Your Ref:
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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new school session! We have really missed all the children over the holidays, and it has been a real pleasure to see them all back looking happy and healthy this week. A massive well done goes to all pupils, although special wishes go to our P1 pupils who have taken to school like ducks to water! I would like to thank the staff teams for working hard to ensure that the school and EYC were welcoming for all pupils. Everyone is feeling a little bit tired today so hopefully the weekend will give the chance to relax and refresh!

Pupils across the EYC and school are making the transition to their new classes well. That said, change can be difficult for some and so we are on hand to support those children who are finding things a bit strange. In no time at all, their new classroom, classmates, and teachers will become the norm for them – and your children will be more resilient as a result. Please get in touch via email Coylton.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or by phoning into the man office on 01292 612491 and we will be there to support!

Just a reminder that until Thursday 17th September, P1 children should come to school from 8:55am, and be collected in the playground at 2:50pm. Thereafter, P1 pupils will finish at 3pm in line with the rest of the school.



Staffing news

I am delighted to welcome 2 new members of staff to our EYC team. Abbey Mitchell will work full time with us, and Llanesa Maxwell will work 3 days a week covering Rebecca Milne's maternity leave. I am sure they will be well known faces in no time.

We are also so delighted to share that we have another pregnancy within the EYC team. Becca and Iain are due their baby early in the New Year so be sure to pass on your congratulations to Becca when you see her.

And finally, Mrs Campbell shared the news with staff this week that she has made the decision to retire at Christmas time. We are very aware that this was a really hard decision for Wendy to make, and although it is hard to think of our school without her, we know it's for the right reasons. We will ensure that we squeeze as much nurture as possible from her before she leaves us.



Meet and Greet

We are so happy to be able to welcome families back into school for a Meet and Greet session again this year. The date for this event will be Wednesday 9th September from 5:30pm till 6:30pm. Come along and meet the staff from EYC-P7 and take the chance to have a look around the school. Please come to the main entrance where pupils from P7 will welcome you and show you to classes. Children are welcome to come along if you wish and should stay with you during your visit. Please note, you can come along at any time during this hour, however staff will be finishing at 6:30 so please ensure you arrive in time to chat before they finish.

We will also have some display boards up outlining aspects of our improvement plan for this school session. Please ensure that you have a look and let us know which parts you would be most interested in finding out more about.



Mobile Phone Policy

We will send home today our most up to date information around the use of mobile phones in school. This policy has been created in line with guidance from across Scottish schools so please take a few minutes to familiarise yourself with it.



Gym Days and Outdoor Learning

Please find below information regarding gym days and outdoor learning days for all classes in Term 1.

Pupils can come to school in sports wear on gym days. We will resend the policy that we created at the end of last session outlining sportswear.

Class	PE days	Outdoor Learning Day
P1	Monday and Thursday	Wednesday
P1/2	Monday and Friday	Thursday
P2/3	Tuesday and Friday	Wednesday
P3	Wednesday and Friday	Thursday
P4	Monday and Thursday	Friday
P5	Tuesday and Wednesday	Tuesday
P5/6	Monday and Friday	Thursday
P6	Monday and Thursday	Monday
P7C	Tuesday and Thursday	Thursday
P7E	Tuesday and Thursday	Tuesday

For outdoor learning, the most important thing is to have a good outdoor jacket and appropriate footwear such as wellie boots or old trainers. Many pupils wear waterproof trousers too. Outdoor learning clothes can therefore be worn on top of school uniform or leggings. We do still take our learning outdoors when the weather is colder and wetter.

Pupils change footwear before heading outdoors, and class teachers will provide more information later.



Attendance

We are delighted that our attendance figures were above the local authority figures again last year, although we did see a slight dip from 95% to 93%. We are looking for your support in improving these attendance figures over this new school session. We monitor attendance weekly and we will keep you updated in our round ups as to how we are doing.



Parent Council AGM

The AGM for Parent Council will take place on Wednesday 2nd September in school at 7pm. We would love to see as many of you as possible come along and hear about the ways that you can get involved in supporting our school and EYC.



60th Anniversary Celebrations

2026-2027 session sees our school turn 60 years old!!! What a milestone for the Coynton Community! We are currently in the planning stages of marking this milestone, and we anticipate the week of Monday 5th October as being our celebration week. Early plans include an open house for past pupils, staff and the community and an amazing 60's showcase from P1-7 pupils! We would also love to create a gallery of photos and memorabilia from across the 6 decades and so to that end we need your help. If anyone who has links to our school still has any photos or artefacts that they have kept hold of, please can you get in touch. We would love to borrow them, and we promise to keep them safe in order to return them after the week of celebrations. LOTS more information to come 😊



Rag Bag

Just a reminder that we have Rag Bag bins in the school playground. This helps our fund-raising efforts for the year with Rag Bag paying the school for every kilo recycled. They will accept wearable clothing, paired shoes, handbags and belts. This won't be for other items such as towels and bedding!! So, if you are planning a clear out of clothes, please bring bags along. This will be available 24 hours so no need to use during school hours. PLEASE NOTE, IF BINS ARE COMPLETELY FULL, PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE BAGS SITTING BESIDE THE BINS.



Swimming

Normally, our block of swimming lessons for P5 starts early in the new term, but with the refurbishment of The Citadel, it will be after Christmas before lessons will commence. We will be in touch with more information once we have it from south Ayrshire Council.



Homework

More information regarding homework will follow and I expect that staff will start sending home homework grids to all classes around 7th September.



School Photographs

I am pleased to say that we are able to have school photographers in to take individual and family photographs. Dates have been confirmed as Wednesday 9th September and Thursday 10th September. All children from EYC to P7 will have photographs taken, and a sample will come home. There is no obligation to purchase any. Because family groups will be taken, we are unable to guarantee which of the 2 days your children will be photographed. We would ask that school uniform is worn. If your child normally has PE on these days, please don't send them in sportswear. Lessons will be planned to take this into account.



Car Park

Just a reminder that the car park should not be used by parents for pick up or drop off of pupils from school or EYC, unless an arrangement has been made with the school.



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. Events will be added throughout the year and we will aim to give as much notice as possible.

Thursday 27 th August	P7 trip to the Kings, Glasgow for Mamma Mia
Wednesday 2 nd September	Parent Council AGM at 7pm in school – all welcome
Monday 7 th September-Friday 11 th September	EYC Care Plan Meetings in EYC
Wednesday 9 th September	School Photographer in school and EYC School and EYC Meet and Greet 5:30 – 6:30
Thursday 10 th September	School Photographer in school and EYC
Friday 11 th September	Sense over Sectarianism workshops for P7 classes
Thursday 17 th September	Parent Nurture Workshops 9:15-10:15 & 6pm – 7pm
Friday 18 th September	HOLIDAY
Monday 21 st September	HOLIDAY
Monday 5 th -Friday 9 th October	60 th Anniversary Celebrations
Friday 9 th October	STOP AT 3PM FOR HOLIDAY WEEK
Monday 19 th October	In Service – school and EYC closed
Tuesday 20 th October	School and EYC re open
Thursday 29 th October	Flu Immunisations for P1-P7 pupils
Friday 30 th October	Halloween Fun – costumes can be worn
Tuesday 3 rd November	Open Area Share the Learning session 1
Tuesday 10 th November	Open Area Share the Learning session 2
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th November	EYC Care Plan Meetings
Tuesday 17 th November	Open Area Share the Learning session 3
Wednesday 18 th November	PARENT APPOINTMENTS
Tuesday 24 th November	Open Area Share the Learning session 4
Friday 27 th November	P1 – 7 DICK WHITTINGTON PANTO at THE GAIETY
Friday 4 th December	Pupil Council's Christmas Cookies and Coffee for parents
Thursday 10 th December	School and EYC Christmas Lunch
Friday 11 th December	P6 Christmas Party
Monday 14 th December	P5 Christmas Party
Tuesday 15 th December	P1 Christmas Party EYC Christmas Stay and Play crafts and songs
Wednesday 16 th December	P6 and P7 Christmas Musical Showcase TBC
Thursday 17 th December	P2 Christmas Party
Friday 18 th December	Whole School Christmas Celebration P1-3 9:15-10:15 and P4-7 10:45-11:45 P3 Party
Monday 21 st December	P4 Party P7 Evening Disco
Tuesday 22 nd December	School closes at 2:30pm
Tuesday 5 th January	School reopens Start of Scottish Culture focus
Thursday 7 th January	Coylton Primary school tour for prospective P1 families – 5:30-6:30
Monday 11 th January	PRIMARY 1 REGISTRATION WEEK
Monday 25 th January	EARLY YEARS REGISTRATION WEEK

Wednesday 27 th January	Early level Burns Supper
Thursday 28 th January	Burns themed Lunch
Friday 29 th January	P7 Burns Supper
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th February	EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Friday 12 th February	HOLIDAY
Monday 15 th February	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 16 th February	In Service – School and EYC closed
Thursday 25 th February	P7 Ayr Burns Club Burns Supper
Thursday 11 th March	Dolphin House meeting for P7 Parents
Wednesday 17 th March	P1-7 Progress Reports to parents
Monday 22 nd March	Early Level Daffodil Tea
Wednesday 24 th March	PARENT APPOINTMENTS
Thursday 25 th March	School closes at 2:30 for holidays
Monday 12 th April	School Reopens
Monday 19 th April	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE WEEK 1
Monday 26 th April	P7 DOLPHIN HOUSE WEEK 2 EYC CARE PLAN MEETINGS
Monday 3 rd May	Holiday
Thursday 6 th May	INSERVICE DAY – SCHOOL AND EYC CLOSED
Thursday 27 th May	School Sports Morning P4 Science Showcase – 2:15pm
Friday 28 th May	Holiday
Monday 31 st May	Holiday
Wednesday 2 nd June	EYC Sports
Monday 7 th June	P1-7 Parent Drop In 3:15 – 5:15 EYC Parent Appointments
Tuesday 8 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 1
Wednesday 9 th June	P7 to S1 Transition 2 Whole School Bump Up
Monday 28 th June	P7 Leavers Service
Tuesday 29 th June	P7 Treat Day P7 Leavers Disco - evening
Wednesday 30 th June	School close at 1pm

Have a great weekend and see you all on Monday!

Mrs Donnelly
Head Teacher