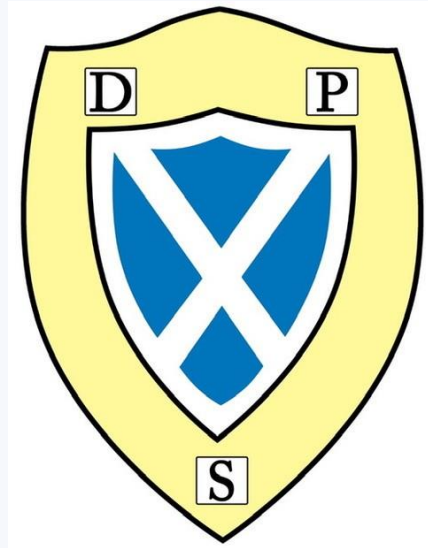




Dalmilling Primary School

Family Update

February 2024



Our Vision:

Inspire, Engage and Succeed Together

Our Core Value:

At Dalmilling We Care



A Note from Mrs Thomson

Dear Parents/Carers,

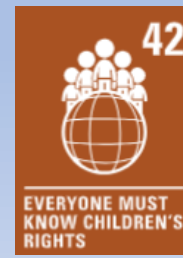
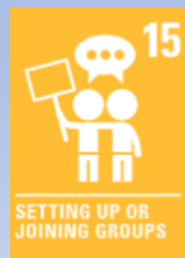
January has been extremely busy with lots of Scottish themed activities to celebrate Burns Day. Our Scottish Poetry Concert was last Friday afternoon and we want to thank all our pupils for their hard work in practising their poems and our parents for supporting the event. A huge thank you to Mr Robinson for organising the concert. Last Thursday we had our Burns Supper and a huge thank you to Mrs Riddicks, Mrs McCallum and Mrs McTaggart for organising, as well as our kitchen staff for helping with the meal.

As you will know by now, the decision has been made that our Extended Learning Facility is going to move to Heathfield Primary School at the beginning of next session. We are currently in the process of looking at plans to support the pupils and staff with this move, and we will be in contact over the coming weeks with the families of children that are part of this move to consult on the transition plans.

This month's newsletter has a range of updates including:

- Children's Mental Health Week
- Information about our Anti-racism Club
- Class Assembly Dates
- What's been happening at Dalmilling?
- Dates for your diary

Kind Regards,
Mrs Thomson





DALMILLING PRIMARY



READS

WE STRIVE FOR 5!

EVERY DAY WE READ:

ONLINE

AT HOME AND OUTDOORS

WITH MY CLASS

IN A SMALL GROUP

FOR ENJOYMENT



29

DALMILLING PRIMARY SCHOOL

IMPROVEMENT PLAN: 2023-2024

Inspire, Engage and Succeed Together

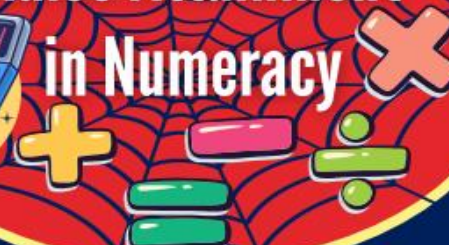
At Dalmilling We Care

IN SESSION 2023 2024 WE AIM TO

Raise Attainment
in Literacy



Raise Attainment
in Numeracy



Embed Children's Rights
across the school



Improve Health
and Wellbeing



Attendance At School



Last session in South Ayrshire Primary schools, just over 37,000 days (the equivalent of over 220,000 teaching hours!) were lost to unauthorised absence.

*Poor attendance has been linked to lower levels of attainment, peer relationships, emotional and behavioural difficulties and poorer employment opportunities, which is why we want to see **Every Learner Every Day!***



Rag Bag Collection



Through Rag Bag, you are able to help recycle textiles and clothing that may have ended up going to landfill. It is estimated that approximately 1.75 million tonnes of clothing waste is produced in the UK every year.

Out of this vast tonnage, around 1.2 million tonnes is sent unnecessarily to landfill.

If we can divert some of this tonnage away from landfill, we will directly help the environment and help provide good quality clothing to some of the poorest developing nations in the world.

We can accept the following items:

Wearable Clothing

Paired Shoes

Handbags

Belts

Next Collection Date: 22/02/2024



Children's Mental Health Week



From Monday 5th – Friday 9th February, your child will be taking part in a number of activities designed to mark Children's Mental Health Week.

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is '**My Voice Matters**'.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

To find out more about this week please visit

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk> where you will find some helpful resources.



Supporting Your Child with Learning to Read

A huge thank you to our parents who attended our recent workshop on Supporting your Child with Learning to Read. The workshop was hosted by members of the South Ayrshire Reads Team where they looked at the following:

- South Ayrshire Reads Initiative
- How Children Learn to Read
- Decodable Texts
- Practical tasks
- Supporting Reading at Home

If you would like any more information on how to support your child, please contact the school.



Supporting Phonics at Home

Key Terms

Phoneme: Smallest unit of sound in a word
Grapheme: Letters that represent phonemes
Decoding: Blending sounds together to read words
Encoding: Segmenting sounds to spell words

Same Approach

Use Phoneme fingers strategy to break words apart into phonemes. Write down words. Diacritically mark them. Blend and read the written words.

Diacritical Marking

Ask your learner to diacritically mark words with their targeted phoneme.

pay rain cake

Elkonin Boxes

ch ai n

Ask your learner to segment the word and write one phoneme per box. Blend and read.

Read, Read, Read

Read with your child...any book, any time more you read, the better!

When reading aloud with your child, if you come across phonemes you know your child knows, encourage them to blend and read.

Anti-Racism Club

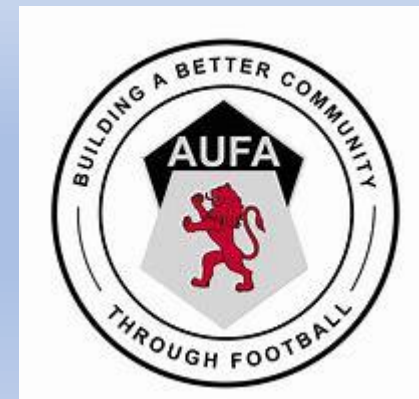
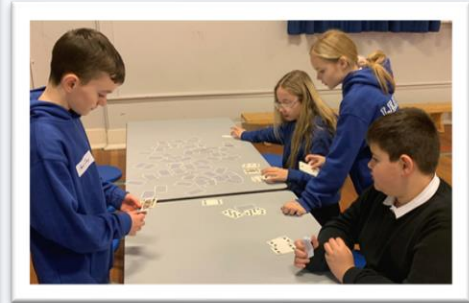
P7 have been learning about racism and the impact it has on people's lives, so we decided to set up an anti-racist group. We have been meeting to discuss racism in our school, community and society. We have been looking at the United Nations Rights of the Child and thinking about how we can create a fairer world. We had a competition to create a logo for our group, and we are so pleased with all the entries we've had so far. We have now started working with The Iris Film company to create a film about racism. Watch this space...



UWS Project

We are excited to be the first school in South Ayrshire to work with UWS and Ayr United on a new sports-based development programme. The aim of this programme is to use sport and activities to address challenges that pupils face, such as communication, engagement and regulating emotions.

This programme is based on data captured from questionnaires completed by our P7 pupils and will run for 6 weeks. Initially, sessions will take place in school, then delivered at Somerset Park, Ayr Academy and UWS. P7M are participating this session and we will review the impact of this programme before P7R complete it in April.



P5 Parent and Child Food for Thought

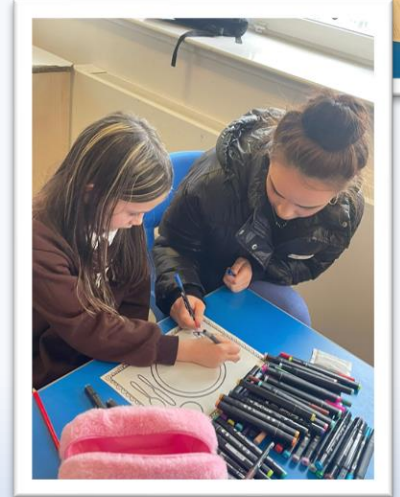
In June we were awarded a Food for Thought grant from Education Scotland for just under £3000. The project was to develop an understanding of local food producers, develop cooking skills, learn how we could reduce food waste and to ultimately produce a 7 day meal planner with the cost of living taken into consideration, as well as using locally produced food. Both P5 classes were involved in the project, which was introduced to them by a visit from farmer Liliias Love, through the Royal Highland Education Trust. The classes then went on to visit the Loves at their dairy farm.

The grant has allowed us to purchase 3 mobile trolleys, which can store the cooking utensils we purchased, as well as three mini ovens. In addition to this, we purchased a microwave and a fridge. The whole school can now easily access cooking/baking from the comfort of their classrooms and learn skills that the P5s have been working on.

Cooking is not just about chopping and stirring, but there are so many other skills involved. Reading recipes, measuring, counting, estimating, as well as the social context. Pupils can sequence photos taken during the process and write up instructions. They develop motor skills through stirring, mixing, rubbing and kneading.

It was fabulous to see a turnout of 21 parents/carers attend our open afternoon in P5, where they got to cook a healthy stir fry dish together with their children.

The meal plans that P5 create will be shared with parents once these have been finalised with links/attachments of recipes.



P7 Burns Supper



Class Assemblies

We will be having some class assemblies this term, where pupils will be showcasing some of their learning from the classroom. Parents are welcome to attend for your child's assembly. They will be at 2pm in the Gym Hall, unless otherwise stated.

Date	Class
9 th February 2024	P5C
16 th February 2024	P3FR
23 rd February 2024	P1-3L
29 th February 2024	P5CT
8 th March 2024	P2T
15 th March 2024	P3/4A
22 rd March 2024	P2/3D
28 th March 2024 9.30am (Church)	P4C
17 th May 2024	P5-7G
7 th June 2024	P3-6S and P3-6A
14 th June 2024	P1/2R
21 st June 2024	P1M
28 th June 2024	P7's

Our After School Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Running Club P5-7 3.00-3.30pm	Ayr United Club P4-P7 3.00-5.30pm	Dalmilling Football Club 3.00-4.00pm	Ayr United Club P4-7 3.00-5.30pm	Dance Mania Club P6-7 3.00-3.45pm
Handball Club Ayr Academy 4.00-5.00pm	Netball Club P6-7		Art club with Holly Bates Youth worker 3.00-3.45pm	Art club with Holly Bates Youth worker 3.00-3.45pm

Learning Highlights

Our Primary 7 pupils got their Leavers Hoodie's. Don't they look smart!



We had a visit from Simon Lamb otherwise know as Lamb O'Shanter who introduced the children to a alternative version of Scottish Poetry.



We had our annual Scottish Poetry Showcase where pupils from each class performed their poem at our Assembly!



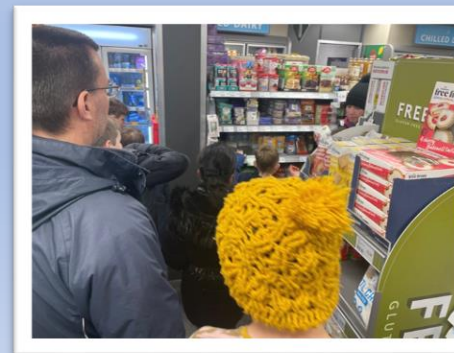
Our children from the Extended Learning Facility have been outside completing a New Year scavenger hunt.



Our knitting club have been very busy!!



Our Primary 7 pupils had a virtual challenge day as part of their transition plans for moving to the Academy.



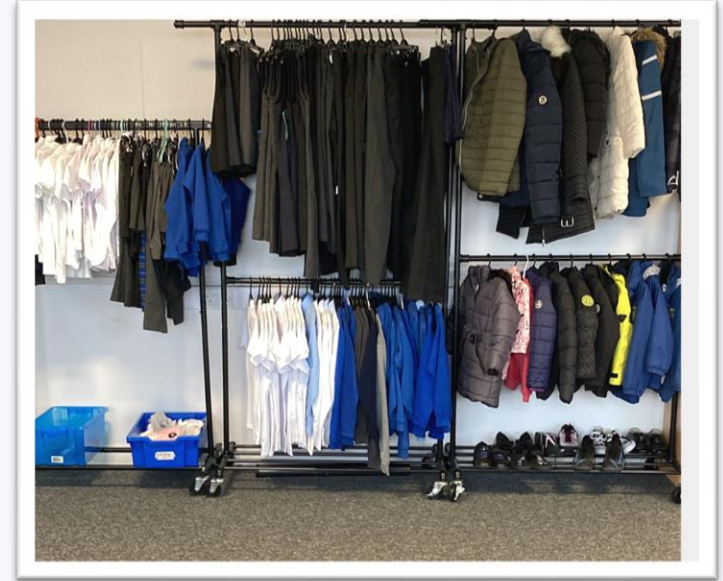
P3-6S have been at the local shop buying ingredients for cooking. They were learning how to follow a recipe as well using money and getting change.

School Uniform Recycle Centre

Our school uniform recycle centre is running well and is busy! We have most items available. If we are short of items we will send them out when we get topped up. Please note, we have brand new jackets available.

If you would like to request items please contact the office.

We are taking donations of school uniform in good condition. Please hand them in to reception.





Important Reminders

Please remember:

- Children should not bring any toys to school.
- Football strips are not allowed to be worn other than to the football clubs.
- We request that dogs are not brought into the playground during the school day, including drop off and pick up times.
- Our car park is for use of staff members only, unless otherwise authorised.
- We are a NUT FREE school. No products containing nuts are permitted for snack or packed lunches.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 12 th February	School Closed (February holiday)
Tuesday 13 th February	School Closed In-service Day
Wednesday 14 th February	School Re-opens
Thursday 28 th March	School Closes for Easter Holidays
Monday 15 th April	School Re-opens

Community
Notice Board

Ayrshire Cancer Support Children and Young People Service

Ayrshire Cancer Support Children and Young People Service offers free therapeutic support on a one-to-one and group basis for children and young people aged 5 to 25, who are affected by their own cancer diagnosis or that of a significant person in their lives, or who have been bereaved as a result of cancer.

This provides a safe space for children and young people to explore and share their feelings and support them to develop helpful coping strategies. Services are offered in a kind, caring and compassionate way and have children and young people's wellbeing at the heart of everything they do.

Staff are happy to provide support to families and schools and can plan that based on individual need; please contact Gill Birrell, Service Lead, to discuss at cyp@ayrshirecs.org.

Requests for support can be made by a professional or by the family or young person, if they are 12+ years, and have capacity, by calling 01563 538008 or via our website www.ayrshirecs.org/services.



**AYRSHIRE[®]
CANCER
SUPPORT**
We're here for you

Active Schools in the Community



Handball Monday

P5-7 - 4-5pm @ Ayr Academy

start date **29th Jan** end date **26th Feb** (not on 12th Feb)

(Walking bus from Dalmilling primary available sign up here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/kF28S5Fc0v>)

Dance Tuesday

P1-7 - 4:30-5:15pm @ Ayr Academy Start date **30th Jan** end date **27th March**

Football Wednesday

P5-7 - 4:30-5:30pm @ Whitletts Vics Pitch

Start date **7th Feb** end date **27th March**

Table Tennis Wednesday open to all ages - 4-6pm @ Ayr Academy

Start date **31st Jan** end date **27th March**

Sign up to the sessions here: [ClubSpark / Active South Ayrshire / Home](#)



CALLING ALL PARENTS
& CARERS OF
CHILDREN IN EARLY
YEARS OR PRIMARY 1!!



Have you ever thought "I'm not good at maths."? Does maths make you feel anxious? Every one of us is capable of understanding maths and making mathematical decisions. Building a strong foundation is vital for future confidence and success in maths. In conjunction with the Multiply Project, South Ayrshire Council are delighted to invite all parents with children in Early Years or Primary 1 to attend a series of three numeracy workshops. Come along and find out how you can support your child gain confidence and a deep understanding of maths. The sessions will take place in **St Patrick's Primary from 4:30 until 5:45** on the following dates...

- **Monday 5th February**
- **Monday 19th February**
- **Monday 4th March**

If you intend to bring your child(ren) along, please indicate whether or not you would like them to receive a free pizza slice by scanning the following QR code and completing the form...



<https://forms.office.com/e/EbeDxe20tW>

ASN Family Support Network ... Upcoming events

Wed 31 Jan 2024 Ayr Grammar Primary

6.30 - 8pm "Supporting your child with Literacy Difficulties"

Holly McBlane from South Ayrshire Reads

To book contact Fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Tue 20 Feb 2024 Ayr Grammar Primary

6.30 - 8pm "Supporting young people with ADHD" *Tanya Tenant from Tanya Tenant Autism Training and Consultancy*

To book contact Fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Wed 24 April 2024 in Walker Halls, Troon

1-5pm; this year's theme is "**Transitions**"

Over 40 charities and third sector organisations offering support and advice.

Keynote speakers including Tanya Tenant on "Transitions from Secondary Education"

No need to pre-book for this event

Further information from

fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Or ASN Website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/asn



ASN
Family Support

Offering support, advice and friendship for any parents and carers of young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN) living in South Ayrshire



**BEST INTERESTS
OF THE CHILD**

Advice and Support for Families

Dalmilling Primary School has the backing of an Advisor, from South Ayrshire Council's Information and Advice Hub.



Kim provides a free, confidential, and impartial, information and advice service in welfare benefits, money/debt advice to families.

Kim can support in areas such as:-

- Checking your entitlement and supporting you in making claims
- Advice regarding Free School Meals, School Clothing Grant, Scottish Child Payment and any other eligible grants

If you would like to speak with Kim, she's available in our school on a Wednesday afternoon between 2pm – 4pm.

Alternatively, if you are unable to attend during these times you can contact Kim directly using the following link [Digital referral form - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](#) (when using this link please select **Yes** to 'Would you like access to any other services?' and type **FAO Kim and the school name**) or by calling 0300 123 0900.

Click [here](#) to follow the Information and Advice Hub on Facebook



**Check your child has
had two doses of the
MMR vaccine.**



**Healthier
Scotland**
Scottish
Government





**Be alert to the
symptoms of measles.**

**Public Health
Scotland** 



**Healthier
Scotland**
Scottish
Government

NHS
SCOTLAND

