

# Dalmilling Primary School Newsletter

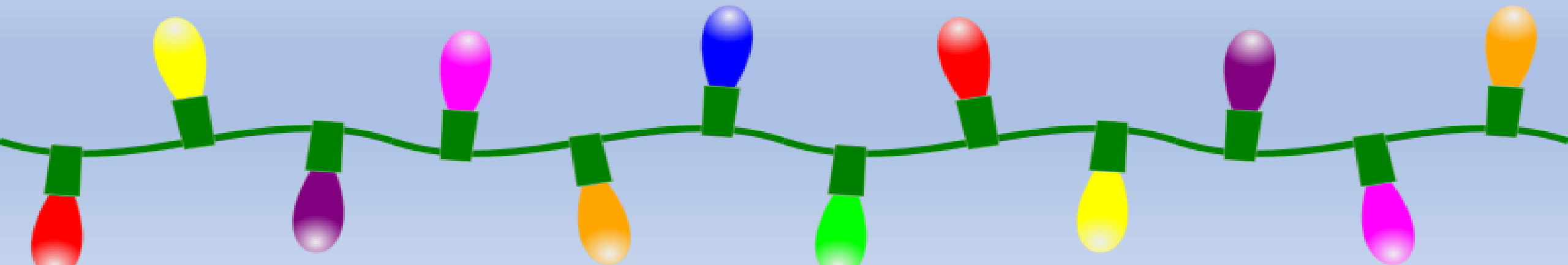
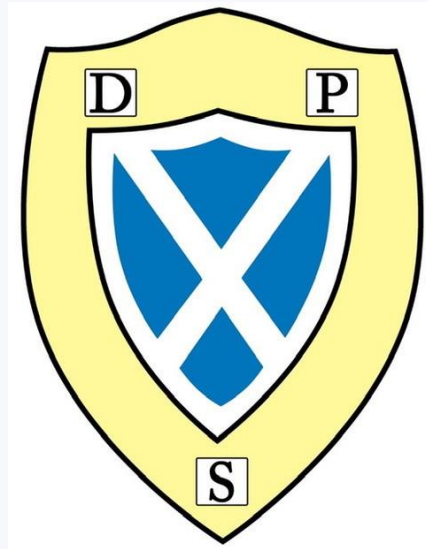
## December 2023

*Our Vision:*

*Inspire, Engage and Succeed Together*

*Our Core Value:*

*At Dalmilling We Care*



# Familiar Faces - Our Leadership Team

**Mrs Thomson** Head Teacher  
Child Protection Co-ordinator



**Mrs Shields**  
Depute Head Teacher  
Overseeing P1, P3, P5CT, P6  
Child Protection Co-ordinator



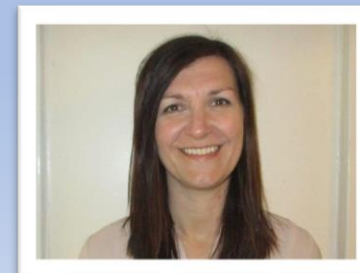
**Mrs McTaggart**  
Depute Head Teacher  
Overseeing P2, P4, P5C, P7  
Child Protection Co-ordinator



**Mr Robinson**  
Principal Teacher



**Miss Cameron**  
Principal Teacher  
Overseeing the Extended  
Learning Facility



# A Note from Mrs Thomson

Dear Parents and Carers,

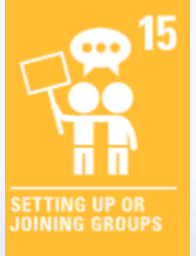
It has been another busy few weeks at Dalmilling! This month's newsletter will give you an overview of what has been happening in the school during November. We have set up our pupil groups including our Junior Road Safety Officer group, Pupil Council and our Anti-racism Pupil Group. These groups give our pupils a voice in how they can improve aspects of their school life.

We are looking forward to the run up to Christmas and all the events that we have planned. Our Primary 7 pupils will be visiting the Gaiety Theatre for their pantomime, Cinderella. Our P1-P6 classes will have a visiting pantomime in school from local company, M and M productions, for Jack and the Beanstalk. All children will have access to a class Christmas Party if they would like to take part. The dates are detailed in the Christmas Countdown on the next page. This month's newsletter also includes:

- What's been happening at Dalmilling during November
- Our School Improvement Priorities

Kind Regards,














Mrs Thomson





# Our Christmas Countdown!



			<b>Thursday 30th</b> Christmas Tree Up (Parent Council) Winter Fair 3.15pm-5.30pm	<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup></b> 
<b><u>Festive Fun</u></b>				
 <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b> Christmas Class and Door Decorating Christmas Jumpers Worn from today	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b> 	<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b> 	<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup></b> Best Door Judging 
<b><u>Magical Christmas Moments</u></b>				
 <b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup></b>  	<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b> 	<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b> 	<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b> Christmas Jumper Day
<b><u>Celebrating!</u></b>				
<b>Monday 18th</b> Christmas Nativity Dress Rehearsal (am)  P1M, P1R, P2T, P2/3J (P2s), P1/3L & P3/6S Christmas Party	<b>Tuesday 19th</b> Staff Lunch Nativity Performance (pm)  P7 & P5-7G (pm) Christmas Party in Huts/Church 	<b>Wednesday 20th</b> Nativity Performance (am)  P5CT, P5C, P6G and P6T Christmas Party  Christmas Lunch	 <b>Thursday 21st</b>  P2/3J (P3s), P3/4A, P4C & P3-6K - Christmas Party (am)  Gaiety Pantomime - P7s am  P1-P6 M and M Productions Pantomime in school	<b>Friday 22nd</b>  Whole School Church Service 9.30am  Schools Close 2.30pm!



# DALMILLING PRIMARY



## SCHOOL

# WINTER FAYRE

**THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER,**

**GYM HALL**

**3.00PM - 6.00PM**

**FREE ENTRY**

### Arts and Crafts

Home Baking

Toys

Raffle

Sweet Cones

Christmas Decorations

Guess the Sweeties in a Jar

Guess the Teddy

Bear's Name

### Tombola

Ayr United Stall

South Ayrshire Reads

Santa's Grotto

Thriving Communities

Tea, Coffee and Doughnuts

(library)

Healthy Eating Consultation





**DALMILLING PRIMARY**



**SCHOOL**

# **SANTA'S GROTTO**

**THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER,  
MEETING ROOM  
3.00PM - 5.30PM**

**£3.00 PER CHILD**

**An opportunity to meet Santa!  
Children will get a small gift  
and a sweet as part of the experience**



# DALMILLING PRIMARY SCHOOL

## IMPROVEMENT PLAN: 2023-2024

*Inspire, Engage and Succeed Together*

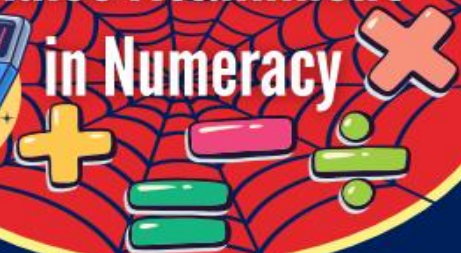
*At Dalmilling We Care*

### 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





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



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# Junior Dukes

We launched Junior Dukes this month and are excited to start our challenges again. The aim of this award scheme is to encourage and develop valuable life skills.

Please ask your child what skills they are working on.



# The Scottish Book Trust

In November we celebrated Book Week Scotland, which is an annual celebration of books and reading that takes place across Scotland.

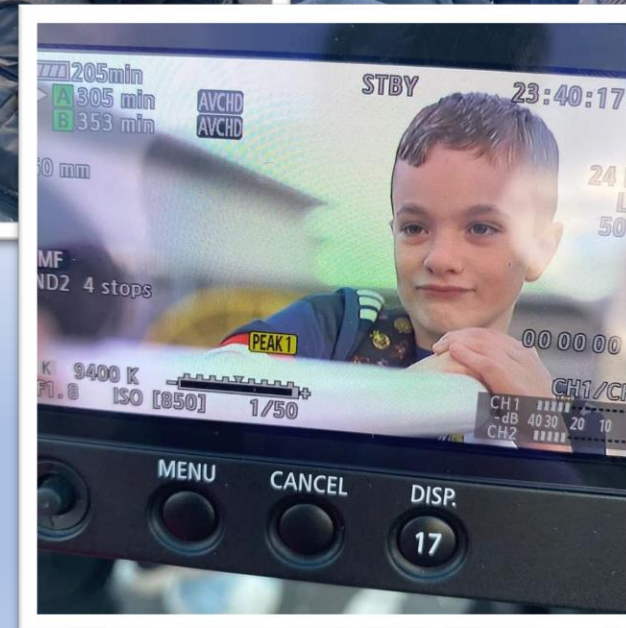
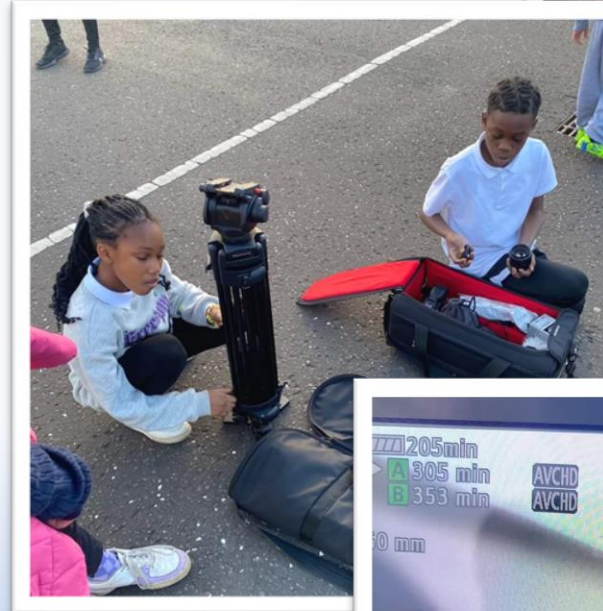
We invited our P1-P3 parents to our event to receive their child's Read, Write, Count Bags and Book Bug bags.

Thank you to all who attended!



# Ayr United After School Club

The Ayr United after school project with the Iris Theatre is coming to an end. The pupils have worked hard to produce their short film! We can't wait to see the final results.



# Children in Need



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our annual Children in Need Day.

We raised a fantastic:

**£336.48**



# 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!***



# Christmas Jumpers

If you would like to order a Christmas jumper from our Christmas Jumper Swapshop, then please use the link below:

[Christmas Jumper Order](#)



# P7/S1 Transfer Arrangements

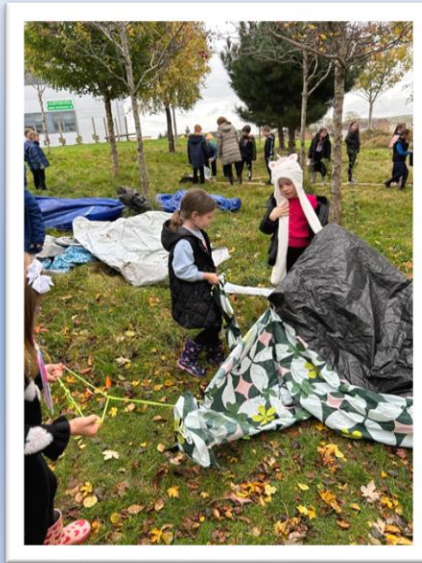
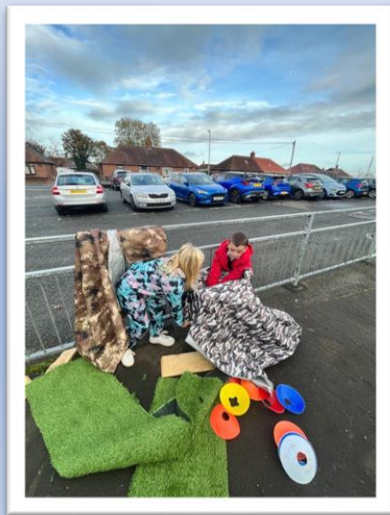
The on-line process for P7/S1 Transfer will be available to parents from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Please visit the following website for details:

[P7 - S1 transfer arrangements - South Ayrshire Council  
\(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](http://south-ayrshire.gov.uk)



# Outdoor Learning Day

All our pupils had a great time being involved in an Outdoor Learning Day. Children participated in a variety of activities such as gardening, den building, a whole school stomp and loose parts play.



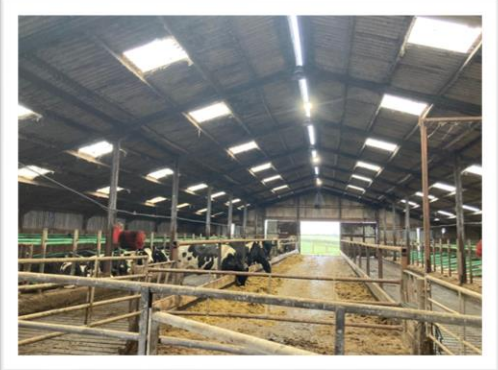
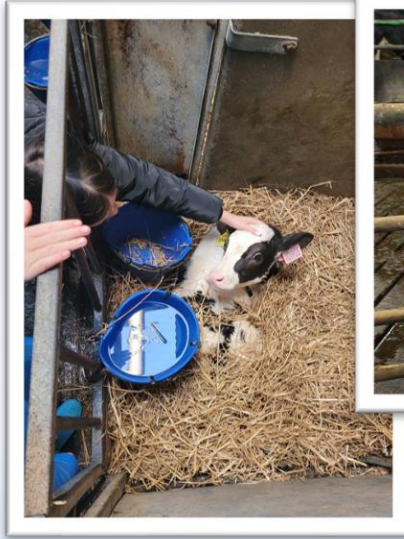


# Dundonald Castle Visit

As part of their Knights and Castles topic, P5/7G visited a local castle. They learned about medieval dress, features of a castle and some facts about the history of Dundonald.



# P5 Farm to Fork Project

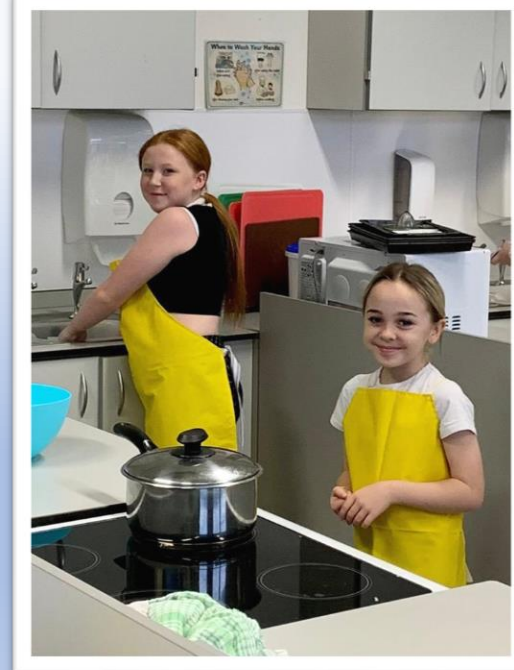


P5 have been learning about food, farming and the countryside. As part of this topic, they visited a local farm to learn about farming in our local community.

# Ayr Academy Challenge Day

## Health and Wellbeing Challenge Day

Our P7 Pupils had a great time visiting Ayr Academy last week as part of their transition work. They had the opportunity to participate in Physical Education, Home Economics and Personal and Social Education.

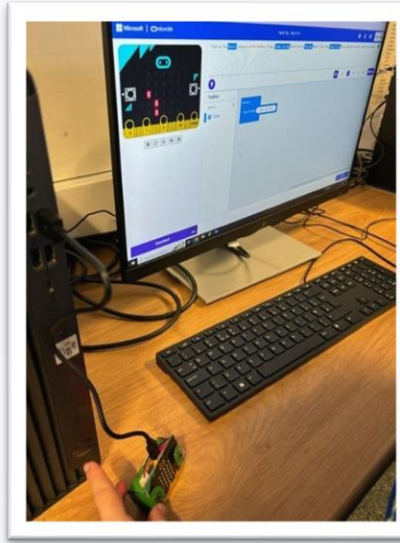


# Learning Highlights

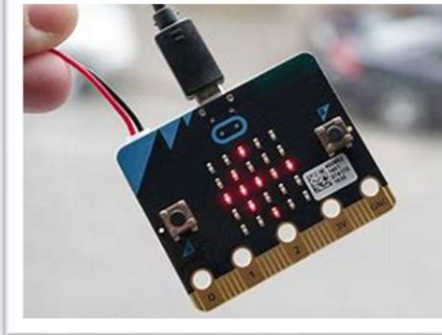
All children had a block of golf lessons with a professional golfer, learning about the equipment and the skills required in golf.



Primary 2 have been extremely creative and designed equipment to help them within their mini topic of 'How to catch a Monster!'



Miss Toner has been teaching classes across the school about how to use Micro-bits and the skill of coding!



Recently, Ayr Rotary Club visited us as part of our Walk for Water project. We learned about how fortunate we are to have clean water and how some countries have to walk to get their water, which isn't always clean.



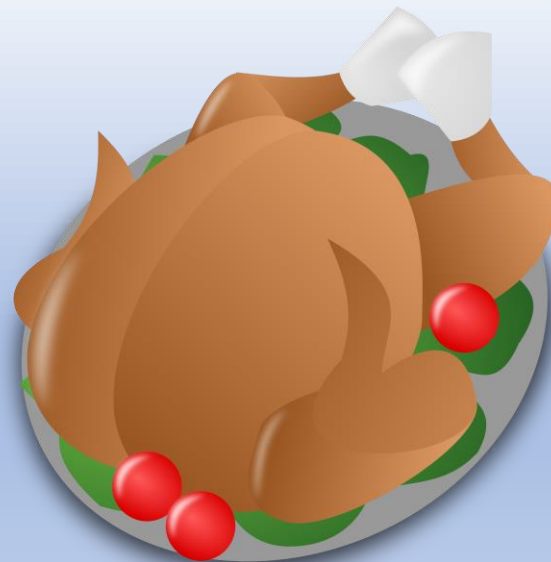
Our P7 pupils, Emma McFall and Dylan Pow, recently attended the SYP Election Announcement Event. They participated in workshops and learned more about children's rights. They also had the opportunity to have a voice in decision making.



# Christmas Lunch Order

We know that it is early to be thinking about Christmas, but we are asking that parents and carers order Christmas lunch in advance. This will mean that our kitchen staff can do their food orders in time for our Christmas lunch on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023!

[Click Here to Order Christmas Lunch](#)





# Important Reminders

Please remember:

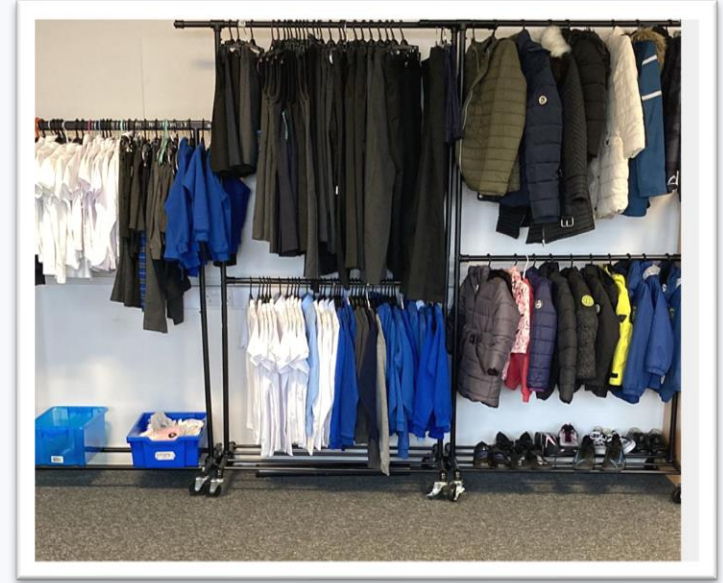
- Children should not bring any toys to school.
- Football strips are not allowed to be worn other than to the football clubs.
- We request that dogs are not brought into the playground during the school day, including drop off and pick up times.
- Our car park is for use of staff members only, unless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

# 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.





# Recycling Certificate

This is to certify that

Dalmilling Primary School

have raised

£85.60

by collecting

214 Kg

of textiles by participating in the "Rag Bag" scheme

**0800 054 2828**

facebook



[www.rag-bag.co.uk](http://www.rag-bag.co.uk)

recycle



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SOCIAL AND  
ECONOMIC HELP





# *Wider Achievement*

*2023-24*



# August



*Katelyn – Junior Cadet certificate and badges*



*Dakota – Judo certificate*

# *September*

*Dakota and Lucy  
at Gymnastics  
classes*



# *October*



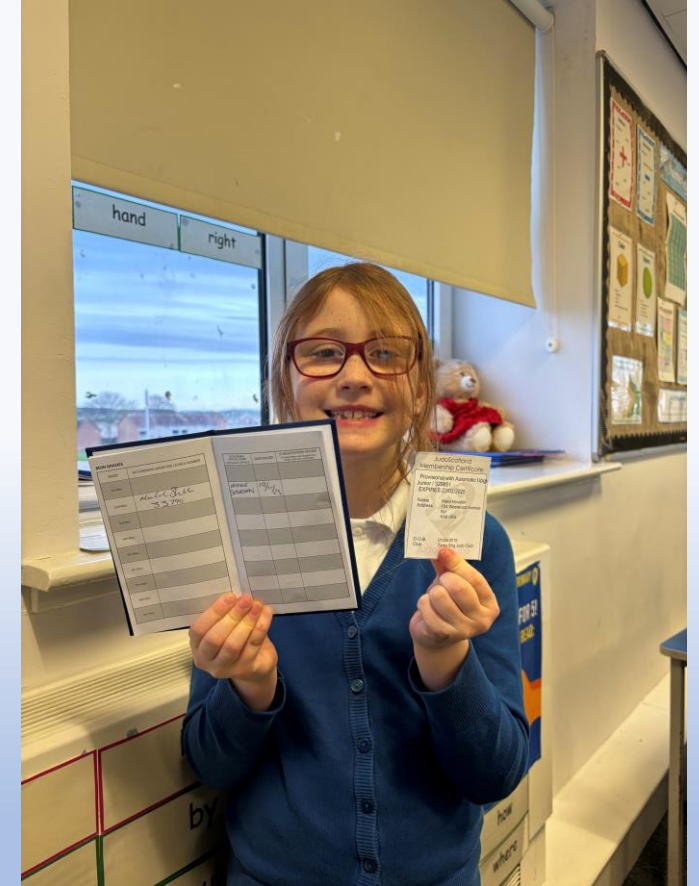
*Seven-a-side Football Team*

# November

*Katelyn at Remembrance Sunday event*



*Poppy – Cheerleader of the month*



*Alara – Judo award*



*Quinn – Ice  
Skating 1<sup>st</sup> Prize*



*Charlotte –  
Dancing 1<sup>st</sup> Prize*



*Seven-a-side Development Football Team*

# Diary Dates

Date	Event
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening and Winter Fayre
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	School closes 2.30pm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	School closed (February holiday)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	School closed In-service Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	School re-opens



**Community**  
**Notice Board**

# 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



**AYRSHIRE  
CANCER  
SUPPORT**  
Children & Young People

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICE

Our service offers 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 life, or who have been bereaved as a result of cancer.

We provide a safe space for children and young people to explore and share their feelings and support them to develop helpful coping strategies. We offer services in a kind, caring and compassionate way and have children and young people's wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.



We have qualified and experienced practitioners who can offer support within one of our centres or in a school, college or the local community.

We can offer one to one counselling, as well as more creative approaches, using play and therapeutic art activities to help children and young people express themselves and talk about what is happening in their life.



We want to support individuals to develop their resilience and find ways to manage their emotions, loss and grief, to allow them to be able to make sense of their world and find ways of taking the next steps in their life. We work with other organisations to ensure the child or young person receives the very best support to meet their needs, at a time that is right for them.

We can provide support for families and can help develop peer support through groupwork, such as bereavement, anxiety and resilience, mindfulness, outdoor and other activity based groups. Children, young people and families can also access complementary therapies. We work in a person-centred way, therefore following assessment with a practitioner, the child, young person or family will agree together on an individualised plan of support.

We can provide resources and signpost to other services who can help with other areas of the child or young person's life. We are happy to provide support to schools and can plan that based on individual need; please contact Gill Birrell, Service Lead, at [cyp@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:cyp@ayrshirecs.org) for more information.

Children and young people's safety is paramount, and we have policies and procedures in place to ensure safe working practices.

Requests for support can be made by completing a form on our website [www.ayrshirecs.org/services](http://www.ayrshirecs.org/services) or by calling 01563 538008.





# Peer Support Groups

**For children over 5 who have been affected by or bereaved through cancer**

**Ayrshire Cancer Support  
7 Prestwick Road, Ayr KA8 8LD**

**Alternate Tuesdays 4 - 5pm**

**Netherthird Community Centre  
65 Ryderston Drive, Cumnock KA18 3AR**

**Please call 01563 538008 or email [cyp@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:cyp@ayrshirecs.org) if you would like to come along**



# LIAM

**Let's Introduce Anxiety Management**

**If you are 8 to 18 years old, from Ayrshire, and have been affected by or bereaved through cancer, we can help you to understand and manage your anxiety**



Register interest in the LIAM - Let's Introduce Anxiety Management programme



**If you are interested in this 9 session programme please register via the QR code**

**For more information**

**Call 01563 538008 or Email [cyp@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:cyp@ayrshirecs.org)**



**EXCITING NEWS!**

There is a brand-new sporting opportunity coming to Ayr North.

## Table Tennis

The Ayr North Community Sports Hub, Thriving Communities Health and Wellbeing team have linked up with Scottish Table Tennis to offer

**FREE SESSIONS**

to all ages and abilities.

The sessions will run weekly starting on Wednesday 1st November at Ayr Academy (Gym Hall)

4pm - 6pm  
OPEN SESSION  
6pm - 7pm  
OPEN / FAMILY SESSION

*YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG AND TRY. THE TIMES ARE DROP IN SO YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO COME ALONG FOR THE FULL TIME.*



Need more info? CONTACT [northayrcsh@outlook.com](mailto:northayrcsh@outlook.com)



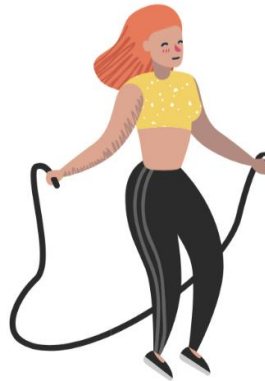
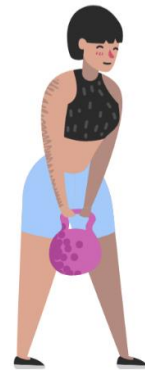
# GIRLS FITNESS @ AYR ACADEMY FREE FITNESS



Wednesday 15th- 6th  
december



6-7pm  
p7-s6 EVERYONE  
WELCOME!



# A Christmas Trail! A free Family event at New Prestwick Baptist Church, 192 Prestwick Rd, Ayr, KA8 8NP

Come and meet the characters from the real Christmas Story, enjoy crafts and hopefully find room in the Bethlehem Hot Choc Inn! (Lasts 45 mins-1hour)

There are a variety of time slots available, book here for 2nd December;

<https://url.avanan.click/v2/https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-christmas-trail-tickets-747322109547?aff=oddtcreator.YXAzOmNvczphOm86MGQyMDRjYzU4MTUzZWJhM2MzZDQ2MmVmM2UzNDQxOTk6NjpiNTdhOjYzZGQyZmE5ZWl2YzU2MmEzZjMwMDc5NmU5NzFiZjVIYmJlZWQwNWRkOTcyNjhkN2QzMWUwZTY5MDliMGRiYzI6cDpU>

And here for 9th December;

<https://url.avanan.click/v2/https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/747375830227?aff=oddtcreator.YXAzOmNvczphOm86MGQyMDRjYzU4MTUzZWJhM2MzZDQ2MmVmM2UzNDQxOTk6Njjo5NzljOjQ5ZTQwZTE1YzUyYzM3YjQ0ZDAzZTA0NjA2OTYxNWQwMTM3MzAxNzY1ZWMyNzI4YmNkZTU3YTc0ZTA3YjNkMjg6cDpU>

We can't wait for you to join us! Church families, it will be lovely to see you, but please also see this as an opportunity to invite your friends along too!