

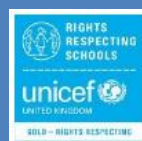


DUNDONALD PRIMARY AND EARLY YEARS CENTRE

TERM 2 NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2025

SESSION 2025-26

UNCRC Article 13 – I have the right to
find out and share information.



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

We are delighted to share news of our second term in Dundonald Primary and Early Years Centre. This edition of our Newsletter includes:

- News from each of our classes (from Early Years to Primary 7)
- Christmas Fayre news
- Registration for P1
- Dates for your diary

We hope that you enjoy reading our Newsletter with your children.

NEWS FROM OUR CLASSES – TERM ONE HIGHLIGHTS

Last week, Mrs Kerr spent time speaking with each of our classes to find out what they have enjoyed learning this term. Here is what the children said.

Class	Our Learning Highlights...
Early Years Class	<p>This term, we have enjoyed investigating the signs of Autumn and Winter, developing our understanding of the seasons. We have also been learning to recognise and express our emotions through creating their own "emotion potions." We have also demonstrated excellent creativity and problem-solving skills in the block area, using 2D shapes and 3D objects to plan, construct, and build.</p> <p>In addition to all of this, we worked very hard to practise our Christmas songs in preparation for our EYC Christmas sing-along, during which we were delighted to welcome a special visit from Santa 🎅. The term concluded with great enthusiasm with a fabulous Christmas party and a very funny festive pantomime 🎭.</p>
Primary 1	<p>Our Primary 1 class has been busy learning and creating! The children enjoyed exploring dinosaurs and had lots of fun making their own fossils.</p> <p>They have worked very hard to complete their initial sounds in literacy and are now confidently beginning to read and write. In maths, the class has been learning about addition and practising adding numbers in fun and hands-on ways.</p> <p>Well done, Primary 1, for your fantastic effort and enthusiasm!</p>
Primary 2	<p>In Primary 2, we have been learning all about 'People Who Help Us' and had lots of fun finding out about different jobs. We would like to say a big thank you to our special visitors who came to talk to us, including an Army Sergeant Major, a Nurse, a Crossing Patrol Officer and a Lifeguard.</p> <p>Our Doctor's Surgery role-play area was very popular, and the children loved pretending to be doctors and nurses, carefully checking their patients and putting on bandages!</p> <p>We have also enjoyed getting into the festive spirit by taking part in the Nativity and joining in with lots of fun Christmas activities in class.</p>

Primary 3	<p>We've had a very busy and exciting Term 2 in Primary 3. The children really enjoyed taking part in the music initiative and used their new skills brilliantly in our Nativity performance.</p> <p>We've been working hard on our writing too, creating some beautiful and thoughtful wishes for the world.</p> <p>In maths, we've been getting to grips with multiplication, division, and measure.</p> <p>It's been a lovely, lively term and the class should be very proud of themselves.</p>
Primary 4	<p>Primary 4 have thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing for our nativity performance and are bubbling with excitement for the big day! In maths, we have been exploring compasses and directions, while in literacy, we have been creating fantastic reports and colourful posters about animals and their habitats.</p>
Primary 5	<p>Primary 5 have had a hard working and busy term.</p> <p>We finished our Scottish Wars of Independence topic by working in pairs to create and present a PowerPoint to share all the information we have learned.</p> <p>We have enjoyed improving our Fitness in P.E and are looking forward to being re-tested in the Bleep test after Christmas.</p> <p>We have also enjoyed taking part in Social Dancing, in preparation for our Christmas Party. We read a very enjoyable novel named 'Cool' and we were all delighted with the happy ending.</p> <p>In Maths we have learned all about the 8 compass points and how to identify coordinates and plot our own within a grid. We are looking forward to even more learning in Term 3.</p>
Primary 6	<p>It's been a wonderfully busy term in P6!</p> <p>In Literacy, we've been gripped by The London Eye Mystery, diving into discussions, predictions and character clues. We've also had great fun completing our comprehension tasks through Kevin the Carrot's Christmas Mission, which certainly kept us on our toes!</p> <p>In Maths, we've been learning all about time—reading timetables, planning imaginary journeys, and becoming confident users of the 24-hour clock. No train schedule can confuse us now.</p> <p>We've also been lucky enough to enjoy volleyball lessons and take part in Spirit of Sport sessions with our Active Schools Co-ordinator, keeping us active and energised throughout the term.</p> <p>Our learning has stretched far beyond Earth too, as we explored the solar system and used Oreos to model the eight phases of the moon—a highlight for many of us (and deliciously educational!).</p>

	<p>With Christmas approaching, we've had a brilliant time creating snowmen for the Christmas Fayre and practising our songs with Mrs Kerr for the upcoming Christmas service. The festive spirit is well and truly alive in P6.</p> <p>It's safe to say this term has been action-packed, and although we're now a little exhausted, we're very much looking forward to a well-earned Christmas holiday.</p>
Primary 7	<p>Primary 7 have had a very busy term and have been working very hard.</p> <p>We have loved the beginning of our Chemical reactions topic especially our Coca-Cola and Mentos experiment and making Slime with the Senior pupils from Marr College.</p> <p>We have been learning about coding using the Micro-bits and have so far made a step counter and a Nightlight and are looking forward to coding a Rock-Paper-Scissors game.</p> <p>We have had a great term for sports. We loved learning to play Volleyball with Vince, taking part in the Sports hall Athletics Cluster competition and Junior Coaching Awards with Active Schools.</p> <p>We worked especially hard on our debating skills and our team won the Cluster debate competition. We enjoyed visiting Marr and are looking forward to visiting again in the next term.</p>
Football update	<p>The school football team have enjoyed playing games against Symington, Barassie, Newton and Muirhead.</p> <p>We have been very competitive and have been successful in a few of these matches. We look forward to more games after Christmas.</p>
RRPC Round-Up (Rights Respecting Pupil Council)	<p>Our Pupil Council has had a busy and exciting term, proudly putting children's rights at the heart of everything we do. Recently, the council organised Dundonald's Got Talent, which was a fantastic success. Pupils from across the school shared their talents—telling jokes, playing piano, performing dances, and showcasing many other wonderful acts. Events like these support Article 31: Children's right to relax, play and take part in cultural and artistic activities, and it was brilliant to see so many pupils confident and enthusiastic on stage.</p> <p>Following this, we turned our attention to Children in Need – Pudsey Day. As part of our preparations, pupils designed drawings, created their own Pudsey masks, and made colourful posters to raise awareness. A winner was selected from each class, and we were impressed by the creativity shown throughout the school. This work highlights Article 13: Children's right to express themselves, as well as Article 29: Education should develop children's talents and abilities.</p> <p>We are all really enjoying being part of the Pupil Council and the Rights Respecting Committee. It is important to us that pupils' voices are heard and that we help make our school a place where everyone can learn about and enjoy their rights.</p>

P5-7 Choir	The P5-7 choir have been working incredibly hard learning our Christmas songs. We are eagerly looking forward to performing at the Christmas Church service and are especially excited about visiting the residents of Dundonald House next week to spread some festive cheer.
Reading Schools Group	<p>Our Reading Schools Committee have been busy planning activities to take Dundonald Primary towards achieving our Gold Reading Schools award. For Book Week Scotland we celebrated reading through various activities including Drop Everything and Read time.</p> <p>At our Nativity dress rehearsal, the committee presented residents from Dundonald Care Home with some books to read over Christmas as well as some homemade Christmas bookmarks.</p> <p>We have lots happening in the new year, including working with our friends at Dundonald Castle to promote reading within our wider community.</p>

CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Friday 5TH DECEMBER 2025

Our Christmas Fayre was a wonderful success, raising an amazing **£1,433.90!**

A heartfelt thank you to our Parent Council members, to everyone who helped organise and run the event, and to all the families who came along to support it.

We are also extremely grateful to Morrisons Supermarket in Troon, Tesco in Kilmarnock and Asda in Ayr for donations of mince pies and shortbread and the local businesses and individuals who donated such generous raffle prizes.

Raffle prizes included:

- A festive hamper from Tarff Valley and Eden Garden Centre
- Flowers from Kirsty's Flowers, Troon
- Gift vouchers from:
 - Healing Hair
 - Mountain Spice
 - Hayes Garden Centre
 - The Garden, Troon
 - The Maharani, Troon
 - The Crew, Troon
 - Dundonald Castle

...and many more wonderful contributions

The Fayre had a truly warm, family-friendly atmosphere, and it was a joy to welcome both familiar faces and new ones. We were especially delighted to see so many former pupils returning to visit us—it's always lovely to hear how you're getting on at Marr College.

The funds raised will ensure that all P1–7 children can enjoy the M&M Theatre Production of *Aladdin*, while our EYC children will be treated to a Christmas show presented by Moxie Kids, free of charge. Thank you once again for your kindness and support—it really does make all the difference.

PRIMARY 1 REGISTRATION FOR SESSION 2025-26

Registration (for children whose 5th birthday is between 1st March '26 and 28th Feb '27). Families should complete P1 Registration forms online between Mon 12 and Fri 16 Jan 2026. We will send you the link once it is available. You will need your Council Tax Notice and a Utility Bill to complete the form. You can request a Council Tax statement from South Ayrshire by phoning 0300 123 0900 (this usually takes a few weeks to arrive). Utility companies will also provide an electronic/paper statement on request. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Children who will still be aged 4 when the school term begins in August 2026 have the option to defer their P1 year. If you wish to defer, please complete the P1 deferral form online. You will find this on the same page as the P1 registration form. We will share all the web-links once they are available.

HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

On behalf of everyone at Dundonald, please may I take this opportunity to thank families for their support this term? We are grateful for all that you do to help the children with their learning and for joining us at school events, such as the Christmas Fayre, the Nativity, our EYC Sing-Along and our Christmas Service.

Also, please may I take this opportunity to say a most sincere and heartfelt thanks to all our staff who are unswerving in their dedication to providing high quality learning experiences for all the children. I am forever in your debt.

I wish all our children, families and staff a peaceful and enjoyable festive season.

Many thanks and very best wishes,

Fiona Paterson,
Head Teacher

DUNDONALD PRIMARY AND EYC: CALENDAR FOR FAMILIES - SESSION 2025-26

EYC drop-off between 8.45am-9.00am; pick-up between 2.45-3.00pm. Primary School starts at 9am and finishes at 3pm (soft start for P1 and P2 from 8.55am).

Date	Who?	Activity
Fri 19 Dec 9.45-10.15am	Everyone – EYC and Primary School - children and families	Christmas Service at Dundonald Parish Church led by P7 House and Vice Captains, 9.45am-10.15am <i>A very warm welcome is extended to all families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Fri 19 Dec	Everyone	Schools across South Ayrshire close for holiday at 2.30pm

JANUARY 2026

Date	Who?	Activity
Mon 5 Jan	Everyone	School reopens and pupils return
Mon 5 Jan until Fri 30 Jan	Children – EYC and Primary School	Scottish Culture Month – Whole School and EYC Focus on Scotland and Scottish Culture
Mon 12 until Fri 15 Jan	Primary School Children	P7 House/Vice Captain Elections for Term 3
Fri 16 Jan	Early Years Centre Children and Parents/Carers	9.15-10.15am: Parents in Early Education Partnership (PEEP) – Session 1 <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Fri 16 Jan	Parents and Carers	Dundonald Parent Council Meeting in Dundonald Primary, 2-3pm <i>A very warm welcome is extended to all families to join us for our Parent Council Meeting. Our Parent Council Meetings are a great way to support our school and to find out about what has been happening in Dundonald Primary and Early Years Centre.</i>
Fri 23 Jan	Early Years Centre Children and Parents/Carers	9.15-10.15am: Parents in Early Education Partnership (PEEP) – Session 2 <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Thurs 29 Jan	P1-P7 children	Burns Themed School Lunch
Fri 30 Jan	Early Years Centre Children and Parents/Carers	9.15-10.15am: Parents in Early Education Partnership (PEEP) – Session 3 <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Fri 30 Jan	Children – EYC and Primary School (early lunch 12.30pm-1.15pm)	1.30pm Celebration of Learning – Scottish Culture & Scots Verse – In School with EYC and P1-7 children

FEBRUARY 2026

Date	Who?	Activity
Wed 4 Feb	Parents – EYC and Primary School	Parent Appointments for EYC and Primary School – includes EYC Personal Learning and Care Plans (3.30-6pm; 6.30-9.00pm)
Thurs 5 Feb	P7 children	P7 Celebration of Robert Burns – Burns Supper Afternoon
Thurs 5 Feb	Everyone	Close for Holiday (usual finish time)
Fri 6 Feb and Mon 9 Feb	Everyone	Closed for February Holiday
Tues 10 Feb	Everyone	School and EYC closed to children. In-Service day for staff.
Wed 11 Feb until Fri 13 Feb	Everyone	Children's Mental Health Week
Wed 18 Feb	EYC children and parents (3 groups – Red, Blue and Yellow Groups)	Early Years PEEP Stay and Play Session 1 9.10am-9.40am (3 groups) <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Wed 25 Feb	EYC children and parents (3 groups – Purple, Orange and Green Groups)	Early Years PEEP Stay and Play Session 2 9.10am-9.40am (3 groups) <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>

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APRIL 2026

Date	Who?	Activity
Thurs 2 April	EYC and Primary School children	Easter Service at 9.30am led by P7 House and Vice Captains in Dundonald Primary School
Thurs 2 April	Everyone	Close for Easter Holiday – Schools across South Ayrshire close at 2.30pm
Mon 20 April	Everyone	School and EYC reopens and children return
Mon 20 April until Fri 1 May	Primary school children	P7 House/Vice Captain Elections for Term 4
Thurs 23 April	Parents and Carers	Dundonald Parent Council Meeting, 6pm-7pm in Dundonald Primary A very warm welcome is extended to all families to join us for our Parent Council Meeting. Our Parent Council Meetings are a great way to support our school and to find out about what has been happening in Dundonald Primary and Early Years Centre.
Thurs 30 – Thurs 4 June	P1-P7 children	'Songs from the Movies' focus during Expressive Arts lessons in preparation for our P1-7 Musical Showcase on Fri 5 June

MAY 2026

Date	Who?	Activity
Fri 1 May	EYC children and families	Early Years PEEP Session 1 (9.15-9.10.15am) A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.
Fri 1 May	P7 children	P7 Maths/Science Challenge at Marr College
Mon 5 May	Everyone	School and EYC closed for holiday
Thurs 7 May	Everyone	School and EYC closed to children (In-Service day for staff)
Fri 8 May	EYC children and families	Early Years PEEP Session 2 (9.15-9.10.15am) A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.
Tues 12 May	P7 Families	Information Evening at Marr College (provisional date - to be confirmed)
Fri 15 May	EYC parents and children	Early Years PEEP (Parents in Early Education Partnership) Session 3 A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter
Tues 19 May	P6 children	Marr Cluster P6 Transition Event: DYW Careers and Modern Languages Event
Thurs 21 May	New P1 Parents	Welcome and Information Meeting for New P1 Families 4pm-4.45pm
Mon 25 May	Everyone	School and EYC Closed for Holiday
Tues 26 May	Everyone	School and EYC Re-opens
Fri 29 May	Primary School children and parents	School Sports 1.45-2.45pm (Weather Permitting – Plan A) A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.

JUNE 2026

Date	Who?	Activity
Tue 2 June	New P1 children (current pre-school children)	9.20am until 10.00am – New P1 pupils visiting P1 class
Thurs 4 June	EYC and Primary School parents	Parent Appointments for Families
Fri 5 June	P1-7 children and parents	P1-7 Musical Showcase 9.30-10.00am
Fri 5 June	EYC children and parents	EYC Mini-Sports and Family Games Afternoon 1.45pm-2.30pm (Weather Permitting – Plan A) <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Tues 9 June	New P1 children (current EYC pre-school children)	9.20-10.20am - New P1 pupils – Transition Visit to P1
Tues 9 June	P7	P7 Transition Day 1 at Marr College
Wed 10 June	EYC Pre-School Children and P1-6	School 'Bump-up' morning (children spend time learning in their 'new' class for Session 2026-27)
Wed 11 June	P7	P7 Transition Day 2 at Marr College
Fri 12 June	Primary School children and parents	Reserve School Sports 1.45-2.45pm (Back-up Plan if wet previous week) <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Fri 19 June	P6	Soccer Aid at Marr College (provisional date – to be confirmed)
Fri 19 June 9.30-10.00am	EYC children and parents	EYC Graduation and Summer Sing-a-Long (9.30-10.00am) followed by EYC Family Fun morning (11.20am-12.20pm)
Fri 26 June	EYC and Primary School children and parents	Summer Service and P7 Moving on Ceremony at Dundonald Parish Church 9.45am – 10.25am <i>A very warm welcome is extended to families to join us for Primary 7's Moving on Ceremony and Summer Service – additional information will be shared in a separate letter.</i>
Tues 30 June	Everyone	Schools across South Ayrshire close for Summer Holiday at 1pm