



March 2024

Dear Parents,

We are nearly at the end of a very busy term. With many events on the Active Schools Competition Calendar and the Ayrshire Music Festival pupils have worked incredibly hard and demonstrated effort, courage and determination representing our school across the authority.

Alongside these events we have enjoyed World Book Day and Comic Relief, during which we raised over £300. So many of our wonderful community support these events and I would like to thank staff and parents for all they do.



Staffing

- I am delighted to let you know that Kathryn Hamilton was appointed as Permanent Depute Headteacher last week. Kathryn has been Acting Depute Headteacher since October 2023.
- Erin McGhee is due to start her maternity leave on Friday 17th May. Further information will be provided to parents after the holiday.

Daisy Garland Epilepsy Awareness Tuesday 26th March

We are inviting pupils to wear a flash of purple (with their school uniform) on Tuesday 26th March. Pupils will learn about epilepsy during Citizenship and we will share facts on our Facebook page. If anyone would like to donate to this cause please do so through their website at [Donate - Donate to The Daisy Garland | The Daisy Garland](#)

Parent Council

Our fabulous Parent Council have organised some events in the coming months:

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 26 th March | Family Fun Bunny Drive 6.30pm |
| 9 th May | Family Fun Bingo Night 6.30pm |
| 11 th June | Summer Fayre 11.00am – 2.00pm |



The Parent Council meet 4 times each year to represent the Parent Forum and discuss priorities in the school improvement plan. They are available at every Parents Evening (providing teas and coffees) and have an active role in appointing any Headteacher or Depute Headteacher posts.

HOOSC

The Heathfield Out of School Care (HOOSC) have availability for childcare. They operate within our Dinner Hall from 7.30am – 9.00am and from 3pm – 6pm every day during term time. If you are interested in this service please contact HOOSC on 07752262449.



Relocation of Extended Learning Facility to Heathfield Primary

We have been having regular meetings with the staff from the Extended Learning Facility which include resources and classrooms planning. Next term the transition visits will start and continue throughout the term.

Pupils at Heathfield are learning a Makaton Sign each week demonstrated by a member of the ELF team. We have plans for some activities involving both the Pupil and Parent Councils in welcoming the new community to the Heathfield Community.

Attendance and Lateness

We monitor attendance and lateness according to South Ayrshire Council Policy. Any child who is below 90% will be closely monitored and if the absences persist will be invited into school for a meeting. Persistent late arrivals are disruptive for both pupils and classes.

We are exploring our Heathfield systems and hope to develop a supportive system for 2024 – 2025 to increase our pupils' attendance.

We are committed to working in partnership with parents/carers and our partner agencies to ensure all children benefit from an education that maximises the opportunity to achieve their full potential at school, in further education, training or employment.

Progress, attainment and achievements can be impacted by any absence. Evidence suggests that if attendance falls below 90% this can have a negative impact on progress. The higher the absence rate, the greater the impact on attainment.

Easter Holidays

School will close for Easter on Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm and re-open at 9am on Monday 15th April.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Gaenor Hardy

Gaenor Hardy
Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

March

26th
28th

Parent Council Family Fun Bunny Drive (evening)
Close for Easter 2.30pm

April

15th
17th
18th

Pupils start back
Bikability P6
Primary 3 Swimming (letter to follow)

May

2nd
6th
8th
8th
9th
13th
15th
15th
16th
17th
24th – 27th
29th
31st

IN SERVICE DAY
May Day Bank Holiday
P7 Transition Newton Racers at Prestwick Academy
Football Festival
Parent Council Family Fun Bingo Night (evening)
Parent Think Tank 9am
Active Schools Super Team Competition
Parent Council Meeting (evening)
Basketball Competition
Annual Reports issued to Parents
Long Weekend
EYC Sports Day
Sports day

June

4th, 5th and 6th
11th – 13th
12th
15th
27th
28th

P7 School Show
P7 Bump Up to Prestwick Academy
Whole School Bump Up
Parent Council Summer Fayre 11am – 2pm
Primary 7 Leavers Service
Last day of term – school closes at 1pm