

People Directorate

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Dear Parent/Carer

School Closure

Following the Scottish Government announcement, we will have a period of remote learning from 11th until 18th January. Learning experiences for this week will be prepared by each class teacher using a learning grid which will be shared on Teams and the school website. An example of this grid and a whole school weekly timetable will be sent to you in the information pack, if at all possible, we will issue the information packs later today and/or upload to the website as soon as we can. We are working within incredibly tight timescales, thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to provide further information about our return to school in January.

The school will only be open for identified pupils from 5th January (EYC) and 6th January (P1-7) until our planned return date of Monday 18th January. Key worker information has now been issued to all families and posted on our Twitter feed. If you qualify for key worker childcare, applications must be made by the 30th December. Identified pupils will be able to access childcare within school/EYC during the closure period. All other pupils will work from home - further details on remote learning provision will be provided in the information booklet that will be issued to all families.

Access to Online Learning

All P1-7 children have been provided with usernames and passwords for Glow. Glow is an online learning platform and provides children with free access to the complete Microsoft package – children can therefore use Word, PowerPoint and Excel through Glow.

Logging in to Glow will allow children to access Teams and/or download the Teams app. Each class has their own Team. If you do not remember your Glow password, these can be requested via email in January. A 'Teams @ a Glance' user guide will also be issued to families; this easily explains how to access Glow/Teams and also explains each channel within your child's class Team. All documents will also be added to the school website.

P1-7 pupils have also been provided with usernames and passwords for Sumdog, this will provide challenges and assessments on a games-based platform which can be analysed and assessed by staff.

Google Chrome should be used, Internet Explorer will not support these platforms. If you experience any issues logging on in January, please email the school account: troon.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

How to Access Home Learning Grids for Children

A weekly home learning grid, and associated tasks, for the week of planned lockdown will be uploaded to the school website class pages on Monday 11th January and shared within each class Team. Please note, learning grids will not be emailed this year – grids will only be available on Teams and the website. Literacy and numeracy tasks should always take priority – please do what you can, when you can. Our '5 a Day' approach is also detailed in the information pack.

Planned Structure of the Week

Class teachers will explain the learning grid to the class via an audio meeting on Teams (Monday 11th January), they will also host another meeting on Friday 15th January to share, feedback and reflect on the learning from the week. A whole school assembly will be posted within each class Team on Tuesday 12th January to help create a sense of connection and welcome the children back to the new school year. During the day on Thursday 14th January the leadership team have also timetabled a zoom call with the class reps. Should the period of closure extend beyond the 18th we will continue to support each class through Teams and telephone calls.

Home School Partnerships and Support for Families

Please may we take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last few days, once again, we are incredibly grateful to you all and know that by continuing to work in partnership we can ably support our children.

During the school closure week staff will continue to work in school, if you would like to contact us please email the school mailbox (troon.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk). Your email will be passed on to the appropriate member of staff who will get back to you.

For the moment, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming all our children and families back to school on the 18th January. Please take care and keep safe.

Yours faithfully

Aileen Roan

AILEEN ROAN
HEAD TEACHER