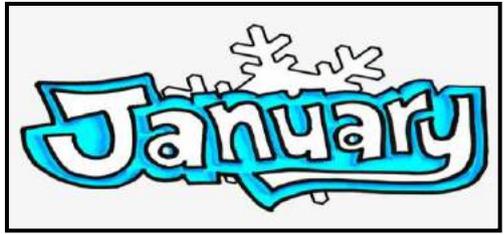


*Forehill Primary School*

# NEWSLINK

January 2021

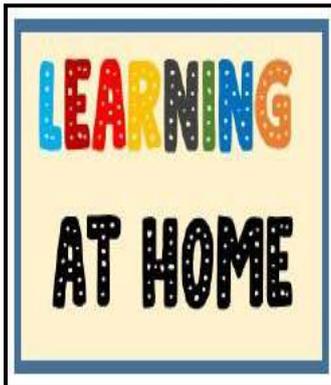


Welcome to the first newsletter of 2021. I hope you managed to have a relaxing festive period and managed to stay well. I did not think I would be writing the first letter of 2021, still in such difficult and challenging circumstances. I have tried to include in this letter, a range of information which I hope you find helpful as we move forward.

Following the announcement that all Scottish Schools will move to remote learning till **at least the 29<sup>th</sup> January**, we have plans in place. At this stage, we are unsure what will happen beyond this date and will wait for further advice from the Scottish Government.

All our staff are extremely disappointed with the situation we find ourselves in. Please be reassured, as teachers our work doesn't stop, and we will continue to support learning for all young people, but in a different way at the moment. We are not expecting children to undertake school work all day. It is important they have time to exercise, play and relax too.

## Remote Learning



Our Early Years staff are delivering learning packs to children in the nursery and we would encourage parents to undertake some of these with children at home, when possible.

Children in the nursery and P1-3 can access learning each week in the Learning Hub within our school website. <https://forehill.sayr.sch.uk/>

Children in P4-7 can access learning each week through Microsoft TEAMS. Class teachers have supported children in accessing this. The learning can also be accessed in the Learning Hub within our school website. <https://forehill.sayr.sch.uk/> It is best to use Google Chrome to access these.

## Using ICT

Staff have provided for P1-7 children, passwords for all learning websites they use. Some learning websites can only be accessed using google chrome. If you are unable to find or access on-line learning activities, we would ask that you contact your child's class teacher or the school office and we will try to assist.

## Resources

Where you require additional resources including jotters, paper etc we would ask that you let your child's class teacher know, and these can be collected from the school during the normal working day.

## Contacting School Staff

Teaching and Early Years Staff will be available on line each day to offer advice, support and teaching where required. Parents and children can communicate with staff through TEAMS (P4-7) and by e-mail for all other stages. Should parents wish to speak to a member of staff about a specific issue, we would ask that you e-mail the relevant teacher, who will in turn give you a call.

### Keeping in Touch

A list of e-mail addresses for all staff is attached to this newsletter. These can be used to ask for advice or support in relation to any part of your child's learning. Early Years key workers will be in touch with parents to share learning targets and provide resources and activities to support learning at home. Teaching Staff will ensure they are in engaging with all children, and we would ask that parents keep in touch with class teachers. Class Teachers will track the learning each child is undertaking, and will link with parents to offer advice and support. Where possible, we would ask that parents support children in returning completed work to the class teacher to be assessed and next steps agreed. This can be done via TEAMS or e-mail. A simple photograph of the work is a simple way to do this. If this is not possible, please don't panic!



### Live Weekly Check In

Some class teachers are organising through Microsoft Teams, a weekly **live** meet for their classes. This would provide the opportunity for children to log into TEAMS, and take part in a short live discussion with their class teacher and others in their class once per week. Your child's class teacher will share information with you about meeting times, passwords etc when this is set up. We are aware this is potentially much more challenging for our younger children, but we will continue to try a range of options to be able to offer this to all children when possible.

### Working Together

We would ask that all children engage in some aspects of learning at home however, we are aware of the additional pressure this can create on family life, so we only expect you to do what you can. You are supporting your children through a difficult time, so we urge you to look after yourself too. Minimising stress is absolutely vital in a time like this for everyone's mental health. You are the primary educator and you control what you are able to do. Class teachers provide learning plans as a guide and to support you.

### School Registration

Although children are learning at home, we are required by Scottish Government to continue to keep a register. Where a child is unwell and unable to engage in learning, we would ask that parents let the class teacher or school office know.

### BBC Learning

The BBC have announced a whole programme of children's programmes to support learning. These are available on CBBC each morning. The list of programmes can be found on their website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc> In addition, BBC Bitesize have some amazing resources to support remote learning. These can be found by following this link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>



### Other Ideas for Learning

Learning is not just maths, spelling, reading or writing but is about life skills, the world and how we care for, interact with and help others. Here are a few other ideas to consider:

- \*Reading with or to each other - discussing stories, listening to talking books, reading comics
- \*Some free writing now and then - keeping a diary, draw a comic, write a newspaper report
- \*Practical maths including baking, cooking, cleaning, outdoors, maths games

- \*Some fine motor work. Lego, cutting, playdough, craft
- \*Physical exercise everyday - walking, Joe Wicks
- \*Some art/music where possible through the week - listening to different styles of music to help relaxation
- \*If old enough, work independently on a project of personal interest - researching in a book or online and putting together something to present to you, their teacher or others in the family.
- \*For younger children, lots of imaginative free play

### **Forehill Care Hub**

We are able to offer care for children of key workers only. Applications for childcare should be submitted via the South Ayrshire Website by following this link:

<https://beta.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/19723/>

Children should attend the hub only when parents are working, and it should not be used on days off or when on holiday.



P1-3 Children who will be attending the care hub during the closure period will continue to get a free school meal. Free meals will continue for any P4-7 children attending the care hub who normally receive a free meal. The crossing patrollers will be on duty on Hillfoot Road and Caledonia Road for children who are attending the care hub during normal school hours.

### **Pastoral Support**

We are very conscious that this situation is leading to some families struggling financially and in other ways. Due to the kindness and support of many parents prior to Christmas, we still have a significant amount of food in school and happy to share! If you would welcome some support, please drop Mr Daily an e-mail in complete confidence. His e-mail address is

[john.daily@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.daily@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **Primary 1 Registration**



This year, registration for children due to begin Primary 1 in August 2021 will be done on line. If your child will reach the age of 5 between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 you should register them for education online at <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/> between Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Please note the link only works between these dates. Should you be experiencing difficulty with the process, we would ask that you call the school office, and our clerical staff would be happy to assist.

### **P7 - Secondary Transfer**

If your child is due to transfer to Secondary School in August 2021, this process will now be carried out by completing an on-line transfer form using the following link:

[www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/)

All forms should be completed no later than Friday 29 January 2021. If you are already registered for on-line school payments you can log in using the same details.

### Scottish Poetry Competition

Each year at this time, we normally run our Scottish Poetry Competition. This is always such a great event which showcases the talent across the school. Class teachers will include suggested poems in class learning information over the next couple of weeks. We will be in touch very soon, to confirm with you how your child can be involved in the competition this year.

### New EYC

Our new Early Years Centre is due to be completed next week, and we will begin to have furniture and resources delivered and moved to the new facility. I hope to be able to share some photos of the new centre on facebook and twitter in the next few days. The new centre is outstanding and we are excited about hopefully being able to welcome our children back sometime soon.

### Keeping Parents Updated

General updates will be issued to parents through Facebook and through the Xpressions App (Groupcall) If you do not have access to this, please contact the office.

Facebook: @forehill50

Website: [www.forehill.sayr.sch.uk](http://www.forehill.sayr.sch.uk)

School Twitter: @ForehillPrimary

Nursery Twitter: @ForehillN

This is a very worrying time for everyone and as a school, we recognise the pressures on all young people, parents staff. We continue to have huge admiration for those parents working front line within healthcare and other key services and appreciate all they are trying to achieve.

Frustrating as it is, we would encourage you to continue to follow national advice - please take care and stay safe!

Best Wishes,



David Watson  
Head Teacher



	Staff Member	E-Mail Address
HT	Mr Watson	<a href="mailto:david.watson3@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">david.watson3@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
DHT	Mrs Hartley	<a href="mailto:Gaynor.Hartley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Gaynor.Hartley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
DHT	Mrs Carswell	<a href="mailto:katrina.carswell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">katrina.carswell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
PT	Mrs Baines	<a href="mailto:Julie-Ann.Baines@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Julie-Ann.Baines@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
PT	Mrs McDowall	<a href="mailto:moira.mcdowall4@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">moira.mcdowall4@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
PT	Mr McDowall	<a href="mailto:lee.mcdowall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">lee.mcdowall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
EYC	Mrs Neil	<a href="mailto:keren.neil@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">keren.neil@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Miss Maitland	<a href="mailto:Lesley.trotter@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Lesley.trotter@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Currie	<a href="mailto:Fiona.currie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Fiona.currie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Clark	<a href="mailto:Toni-ann.clark@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Toni-ann.clark@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Miss Neilson	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.neilson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Stephanie.neilson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Smith	<a href="mailto:Angela.smith12@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Angela.smith12@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mr Nimbley	<a href="mailto:Kris.nimbley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Kris.nimbley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Pirry	<a href="mailto:Lynn.pirry@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Lynn.pirry@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Galloway	<a href="mailto:Avril.galloway@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Avril.galloway@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Quigley	<a href="mailto:Barbara.quigley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Barbara.quigley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Miss McCullough	<a href="mailto:Joanna.mccullough@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Joanna.mccullough@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Bell	<a href="mailto:Gillian.bell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Gillian.bell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs O'Connell	<a href="mailto:Brooke.oconnell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Brooke.oconnell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
Miss Barech	<a href="mailto:Charanpreet.manak@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Charanpreet.manak@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	
P1M	Mrs McConnachie	<a href="mailto:Laura.McConnachie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Laura.McConnachie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P1L	Mrs Taylor	<a href="mailto:julia.taylor@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">julia.taylor@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P1C	Miss Collins	<a href="mailto:Louise.Collins2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Louise.Collins2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P2G	Miss Crawford	<a href="mailto:Gemma.Crawford@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Gemma.Crawford@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P2C	Miss Campbell	<a href="mailto:Amy.Campbell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Amy.Campbell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P2/3	Mrs Paterson	<a href="mailto:Nicola.Paterson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Nicola.Paterson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P3H	Miss Hawkshaw	<a href="mailto:Amy.Hawkshaw@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Amy.Hawkshaw@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P3C	Mrs Cathcart	<a href="mailto:Rosalind.Cathcart@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Rosalind.Cathcart@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P4Z	Miss Reid	<a href="mailto:Ashleigh.Reid3@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Ashleigh.Reid3@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P4W	Miss Reid	<a href="mailto:Amy.reid2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Amy.reid2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P5M	Mrs McDowall	<a href="mailto:moira.mcdowall4@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">moira.mcdowall4@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P5N	Miss Muir	<a href="mailto:Anna.muir@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Anna.muir@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P6K	Miss Kerr	<a href="mailto:Tiffany.Kerr@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Tiffany.Kerr@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P6R	Miss Reilly	<a href="mailto:Laura.Reilly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Laura.Reilly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P7M	Miss Mair	<a href="mailto:Lynsey.mair@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Lynsey.mair@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
P7S	Miss Duncan	<a href="mailto:sa11duncans@glow.sch.uk">sa11duncans@glow.sch.uk</a>
Support	Mrs Zorget	<a href="mailto:Kirsty.zorget@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Kirsty.zorget@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Sutherland	<a href="mailto:fiona.sutherland@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">fiona.sutherland@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs McGhee	<a href="mailto:Nanette.McGhee@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Nanette.McGhee@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Rodger	<a href="mailto:Jacqueline.Rodger@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Jacqueline.Rodger@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Miss Law	<a href="mailto:Nicola.Law@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Nicola.Law@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Howlett	<a href="mailto:sarah.howlett@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">sarah.howlett@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Powell	<a href="mailto:Jillian.powell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Jillian.powell2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mrs Daubney	<a href="mailto:Yvonne.daubney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Yvonne.daubney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mr Daily	<a href="mailto:John.daily@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">John.daily@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>

# Non-screen activities you can do at home

Pobble

25  
ideas!

What can you do when there's no school and you're stuck at home? Here are 25 fun ideas to choose from.



**1** How many different words can you make from the letters in this sentence, below? Grab a pencil and paper and write a list!

'Learning from home is fun'

**2** Thank a community hero. Think of someone that helps you in some way and write a short letter to thank them.

Thanks!

**3** Get building! You could build a Lego model, a tower of playing cards or something else!



**4** Can you create your own secret code? You could use letters, numbers, pictures or something else! Can you get someone else to try and crack it?

**5** Start a nature diary. Look out of the window each day and keep note of what you see. Birds, flowers, changes in the weather, what else?

**6** Hold a photo session. Use a camera or a mobile phone to take some snaps. What will you photograph? Your pets or toys perhaps?

**7** Build a reading den. Find somewhere cosy, snuggle up and read your favourite book!

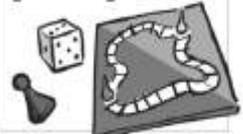


**8** Use an old sock to create a puppet. Can you put on a puppet show for someone?



**9** Make a list of all the electrical items in each room of your home. Can you come up with any ideas to use less electricity?

**10** Design and make a homemade board game and play it with your family.



**11** Do something kind for someone. Can you pay them a compliment, make them something or help them with a task?



**12** Can you create a story bag? Find a bag and collect items to go in it that relate to a well known story. If you can't find an item, you could draw a picture to include.

**13** List making! Write a list of things that make you happy, things you're grateful for or things you are good at.



**14** Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the garden. How fast can you complete it?



**15** Can you invent something new? Perhaps a gadget or something to help people? Draw a picture or write a description.



**16** Keep moving! Make up a dance routine to your favourite song.



**17** Write a play script. Can you act it out to other people?



**18** Read out loud to someone. Remember to read with expression.



**19** Write a song or rap about your favourite subject.



**20** Get sketching! Find a photograph or picture of a person, place or object and sketch it.



**21** Junk modelling! Collect and recycle materials such as yoghurt pots, toilet rolls and boxes and see what you can create with them.

**22** Draw a map of your local area and highlight interesting landmarks.



**23** Write a postcard to your teacher. Can you tell them what you like most about their class?

**24** Draw a view. Look out of your window and draw what you see.



**25** Get reading! What would you most like to learn about? Can you find out more about it in books? Can you find a new hobby?

# Useful Learning Websites

## **Khan Academy**

<https://www.khanacademy.org>

Especially good for maths and computing for all ages

## **Blockly**

<https://blockly.games>

learn computer programming skills - fun and free

## **Ted Ed**

<https://ed.ted.com>

All sorts of engaging educational videos

## **National Geographical Kids**

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

activities and quizzes for younger children

## **Duolingo**

<https://www.duolingo.com>

Learn a new language for free!

## **Mystery Science**

<https://mysteryscience.com>

Free Science lessons

## **The Kids Should See This**

<https://thekidshouldseethis.com>

Wide range of educational videos

## **Crash Course Kids**

<https://m.youtube.com/user/crashcoursekids>

As above for younger audiences

## **Crest awards**

<https://www.crestawards.org>

Science awards you can complete from home

### **iDEA Awards**

<https://idea.org.uk>

digital enterprise award scheme you can complete on line

### **Cbeebies radio**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio>

listening activities for younger children

### **Nature Detectives**

<https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/>

A lot of these can be done in the garden or if you can get to a woodland location.

### **Oxford Owl for home**

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/>

lots of free resources for Primary age

### **DK Find out**

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/?fbclid=IwAR2wJdpSJSeITf4do6aPhff8A3tAktnmpazqZbkgudD49171ep8-sjXmrac>

Activities and quizzes