

South Park Primary School

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Newsletter October 2020

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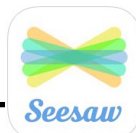
A note from Mrs McNeil...

Welcome back to all our children and families. I hope everyone enjoyed a well earned break from routines and enjoyed the good weather which we were lucky with last week. The children are all well established into the new session and I am so proud that our children are following all the new rules and keeping safe in school. I am also delighted that everyone is living out our school values and understanding our three school expectations of Respect, Ready To Learn and Safe...#RRS. As always if there is anything you would like further information on or would like to discuss please feel free to contact me at the school.



Reporting to Parents

Unfortunately due to the Covid restrictions we are not allowed to host a traditional parents evening. It is important that you feel included in your children's learning which is why we recently sent each class the key learning which has been covered from August to October. Before the end of October you will be emailed again by your child's class teacher with the key learning concepts planned from October to December. This allows you to be aware of the main areas of literacy, numeracy and Health and Wellbeing each class is covering. To ensure you are informed of individual progress of your child an interim report will be sent out in November. This report will give you an indication of how your child is progressing. Please remember that although we cannot have you in the building all staff are available to take phone calls if you are concerned or wish to discuss any learning issues at all. Another way we consistently report to parents is through Twitter, Google Classroom, Seesaw and our website. We also have monthly updates emailed out to all families and posted on our website. If at any time you are wishing more information on your child's learning then please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Keeping Everyone Safe

To ensure we continue to try to keep our South Park Community safe could I please ask that you wear a face covering at drop off and pick up times. The split pick up and drop off times help ease some congestion but it is difficult to always adhere to the social distancing. Wearing a face covering is something we are all used to now and think it would be good practice to introduce this in our school grounds. Thank you for your support with this.

Halloween



On **Friday 30th October** children can dress up in their chosen Halloween costume. If your child does not want to dress up in costume then they may dress down instead. Could children please bring an extra snack, apple and drink that day to school as each class will be having a special spooky day !

Digital Learning

All classes are up and running with both Google Classroom and Seesaw. Please let us know if you are having any issues accessing either of these at home. Tasks will be posted onto Google Classroom and work can be submitted via Seesaw. If your child is unable to come to school because they are self-isolating, they can access their learning tasks through Google Classroom. Teachers will post work either in the form of a weekly or daily grid. This will ensure we have continuity of learning for all children. It is therefore expected that your child will complete the tasks set each day. Our P7 children have created guidance for pupils on all aspects of learning from home and we have created a Readiness to Learn at Home guide for parents. Please check our website regularly as all updates will be posted here. Please follow us on Twitter @SouthParKEK for updates and to see what your children have been getting up to in school.



Parent Council & PTA

I am delighted to let you know that the Parent Council and PTA have been having very successful virtual meetings. At the AGM several new appointments were made. Our committee is as follows;

Parent Council Chair Karen Singer

PTA Chair Laura Anne McGhee

PTA Vice Chair Cristina Popescu

PTA Secretary Lyndsey O'Hara

PTA Treasurer Rebecca Mulligan

There is a new Facebook page and many exciting things happening....like our virtual Christmas Fayre, Easy fundraising and various competitions to help keep the South Park community connected. The link for the Facebook page is:

BOUNCE BACK WITH SOUTH PARK

<https://bit.ly/3jbloz4>

Ventilation /Appropriate clothing

Covid Guidelines call for adequate ventilation in all school buildings. For this reason our windows will be open throughout the day. As winter and the cold weather approaches having the windows open will mean that the school is colder than normal. The children will continue to be outside for outdoor learning and PE. It is therefore important that your child comes to school prepared for this. Hoodies and warm jumpers should be worn and hats, scarves and gloves will be an essential for outdoor learning. We appreciate your support with this and are crossing our fingers that the weather is kind to us over the coming months.



Internet Safety

Internet Safety has always been of paramount importance to us in South Park but as we move to working more online it becomes even more so. Our children are taught in class about how to stay safe online, keeping passwords safe, not sharing any personal information and what to do if they experience any issues while online. We would appreciate if you could also reinforce these issues at home.

All of our teaching staff are receiving training in online safety from the NSPCC to ensure we are up to date with the most current information and advice.



PE Outdoor Learning

Current Guidelines mean that for now PE will still take place outdoors. Children will also regularly be taking part in Outdoor Learning. Children may wear their jogging trousers/leggings on PE and Outdoor Learning days and should wear jumpers and/or their hoodies to keep warm. The children have been embracing all aspects of outdoor learning and coming to school with the appropriate clothing will ensure that they can continue to do this as we head into winter.