

South Park Primary School

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Newsletter January 2024

www.southpark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



@SouthParkEk

parents
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A note from Mrs McNeil...

Welcome back to all our children and families and I hope 2024 is a happy, healthy one for us all. I know that it will be busy for South Park and I am confident as we progress through 2024 our children will continue to achieve great things and their aspirations will continue to grow. The children are enjoying all the various learning activities and are always keen to discuss their progress. At the start of a new year it is important that we realign our whole community with the school values. Respect, Equity, Ambitious, Confident and Happy are the core values of our school community and what we all endeavour to live by. I am so proud of how our children understand the values and live by them. This week in class and at assembly we are focussing on our value of Confidence. All the children identified what Confidence means and how kindness underpins all our values. As always thank you for your continued support and do not forget to contact me at the school if you have any concerns or need help of any kind.



Diary Dates

Monday 22nd -Friday 26th January - P7 Residential to Lockerbie Manor

Monday 29th January 7.30-8pm PTA meeting via teams

Thursday 8th February Valentines Event 6.30-7.30pm

Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th February School Closed Holiday

Wednesday 14th February school closed to pupils for inset day

Dates for Jan ~ June 24 are on separate attachment

Valentines PTA Fun Night

On **Thursday 8th February from 6.30-7.30pm** the PTA are holding a Bingo night for parents/carers and Valentines fun night for children. In the same format as our Valentines event last year the children will enjoy a disco, some arts and crafts while the parents/carers get to play bingo! More details will follow and a flyer will come out with all the information but please keep the date free for what promises to be a fun night.



P1 Registration If your child is due to start school in August 2024 then an online registration form should be completed. If we have received any registration forms you will be called from 15th-19th January by one of our office staff to clarify your details for registration in our P1 class in August 2024



Transition

All our P7 pupils should have received their transition information for Duncanrig. Please ensure if you are not in our catchment then you will need to complete a placing request if you wish your child to attend Duncanrig in August 2024. Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

Car Park

Please note that the speed limit is 5mph in the school car park. It is essential that everyone adheres to this at all times to avoid any child or adult being injured by moving vehicles. Unfortunately there has been many incidents of speeding cars and I worry about the safety of our young children. The spaces directly in front of the school are for disabled parking. Please only use these spaces if you have a blue badge. Many thanks for your support with this important issue.

Weather

As you are very aware the weather is unpredictable at the moment. We try to ensure the children get out as much possible as the benefits of outdoor learning and fresh air impact very positively on all our wellbeing. Could I please ask that children come to school appropriately dressed for the wintery conditions? This includes warm shoes/boots/jacket /hat scarf/gloves. Please ensure all clothing is named. We have Sharpie pens in school which are great for writing names on labels. Please feel free to request to borrow a pen from the office, as this means the volume of lost property should vastly decrease. Many thanks for your support with this.



Bus Passes

With the ever increasing cost of bus hire we are finding it extremely challenging to take the children out on educational excursions. Public buses are free for all children with a bus pass. If your child does not have a bus pass could I please ask that you apply for one through the parents portal. If you require assistance please contact the school office.



Rookie Rockstars

As intimated by email and on the portal Rookie Rockstars are visiting the school next week. The children will be learning new songs and will perform these at a concert on Thursday night. The tickets are £6 per adult and children under 5 go free. All children will be involved in the concert on Thursday night. We are looking forward to a fun filled week next week when we all get a chance to be Rockstars!

Attendance and Late coming

Can I please remind all parents/carers that it is essential that you notify the office if your child is going to be absent from school. You can leave a message on the absence line or call the office or email the office on office@southpark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Please ensure your child/children are in school by 9am at the latest, the doors open at 8.50-9am and any children arriving after 9am are missing essential learning and disrupting the learning of other pupils. If you require support with having your children in by 9am please contact me at the school.

Leadership Projects

Pupil voice and leadership is a very important part of our learning and culture at South Park. On our improvement plan and linked to our pupil participatory budget we have identified three areas that children are keen to take forward. The four projects are;

Outdoor learning with the purchase of a polytunnel funded by the PTA

A community garden funded by the grant of £2500 awarded from South Lanarkshire council

A Diversity and Equity Event Celebrating Being Me

Application for our Silver Reading School Award

Children from P4-P7 are all in a leadership group and meet every Wednesday from 1.15-2.15pm. I am delighted that our learners are taking on the projects and very much look forward to sharing with you the outcomes of all the exciting projects.

School Handbook, Website and Twitter

For our upcoming Residential trip to Lockerbie we will be posting all the fun activities we are doing on our school twitter account @SouthParkEk. If you request to follow the school account and are not granted access could you please contact the school office and give Mrs Ross your twitter username/handle and we will grant access.