

South Park Primary School

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Newsletter September 2023

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



@SouthParkEk



A note from Mrs McNeil...

It is great to be sending out a newsletter to keep everyone informed of what has been happening in our school since our return in August. We have welcomed many new families into our South Park community and almost all children now have a heart on the South Park tree at our main entrance. It was great to welcome so many families into the school last week and as you will see from the diary dates there are many occasions this session where we will be able to come together to share learning. Attached with this newsletter is SaveThe Date for the whole session! I have given these out so you can plan if you require time off work but please be advised we may have to change dates from time to time for various reasons. Thank you to everyone for the constant support for our school and nursery, please remember I am always available at the school if you wish to discuss any concerns.



Home Learning

Following our recent consultation of parent/carers/pupils and staff we have amended our home learning policy. The children will all be issued with tasks to be completed on a Monday of each week. For P1-P3 these tasks will be mostly practical and be in the red home learning bags. The bags must be returned the following Monday morning so that new tasks can be distributed. P4-P7 will be given literacy and numeracy tasks in their home learning jotters and the tasks should be completed at a time that suits the family. The home learning jotters should be returned every Monday. Posted on the school app at the beginning of each term will be suggested home learning activities to supplement the home learning literacy and numeracy tasks. Many of the supplemented activities build the children's essential life skills. The new approach to home learning is a trial and will be reviewed in January 24 where we will measure the impact and engagement of home learning. Any queries regarding the new policy and procedure please contact me at the school.

Parent Council and PTA

The first meeting of our Parent Council and PTA is on **Monday 18th September at 4pm**. All parent/carers are very welcome to join us and help with events, ideas and suggestions.

Diary Dates

Monday 18th September.
PTA/PC Meeting 4pm

Thursday 21st September P1
Parent/Carer Curriculum In-
formation Session 2-3pm

Friday 22nd September– Holi-
day

Monday 25th September –Holiday

Tuesday 26th September-Friday 29th September
Maths Week Scotland



Wednesday 27th September Parent/Carer Maths
Workshops/Showcase of Numeracy 2-3pm

Monday 16th October-Friday 20th October Holiday

Thursday 26th October Halloween Event 6.30-
7.30pm

Parents Consultations Wednesday 8th November
23



Staffing

Attached with this newsletter is a staffing list with photographs so that the whole South Park community can identify all members of staff and their role within the school.

Lost Property/Gym

Unfortunately we already have a vast amount of lost property. Could I please insist that all items that your child/children bring to school are named.

Car Park

Please only park in the disabled bays at the front of the school if you are displaying a blue badge. It is essential this is adhered to at all times, thank you.

NUT FREE SCHOOL & NURSERY

Please note we are a completely nut free zone. We have individuals with severe allergy and must insist no nut products are brought to school or nursery.



Communication

As a school we are trying our very best to keep you informed of all the activities that are happening in our school and community. To enable us to keep you aware of all information it is essential, especially at this time that we have updated emails and mobile numbers for all our parents and carers. Could I please ask that as a matter of urgency if you do not receive emails or you have changed your mobile number that you contact the school office. All information from the school and class teachers is posted on the school app. If you do not have the app please make sure you download it and ask at the school office for a copy of all the pin codes. As all our parents are not yet matched on the new Scottish Government Parent Portal we are going to use the school app for all our communication until the October break. We will then review if the Parent Portal will fit all our communication requirements. Please contact Kirsty Ross in the office if you have any difficulties with matching with your child on the Parent Portal.

**School
App for
Parents**

**parents
portal
.scot**

Mobile Phones in school

As I am sure you are aware mobile phones are not permitted in the classroom. If your child requires to bring a phone to school they **MUST** be switched off and kept in the pupils own bag. Children are not permitted to switch on their mobile until they are outwith the school grounds. I am sure you can appreciate the strict parameters that need to be in place to ensure our children's safety. If you would like to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

School Recovery Plan and Standards & Quality Report.

Our School Improvement Plan is available to read on our website. Areas on which we will be focusing on will be Curriculum, Equality and Diversity and Attainment in Writing. We plan to increase children's enjoyment and attainment with a continuing relentless focus on literacy skills and aim to improve their skills by further embedding a love of reading and writing. Health and Wellbeing is crucial to the holistic development of our children and we have used our Pupil Equity Fund allocation to continue our work on Nurture and Sustainability. Our Standards and Quality Report for session 22-23 are available on our website .



Chaplaincy Team

I would like to confirm that our school chaplain for session 2023/2024 will continue to be Mr Kevin McKenzie from Westwood Parish Church. Kevin has been school chaplain in South Park for many years and we value his input at our 3 main celebrations each year, i.e. Harvest, Christmas, Easter.

Our Religious & Moral Education Programme focuses on three main world religions, Islam, Judaism and Christianity and teaches respect and tolerance for each other. However, under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents/carers have the right to ask for their children to be withdrawn from religious observance and/or religious and moral education. Any parent/carer who wishes to do so, should inform the school in writing.