

# South Park Primary School

Respect  
Equity  
Ambitious  
Confident  
Happy



## Newsletter September 2024

[www.southpark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://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. It was great to welcome so many families into the school last week at our Welcome event and I very much look forward to seeing many of you at all our events over the session. A Save The Date information list went out at the beginning of the session and where possible all the dates will be adhered to. If you did not receive Save The Date please contact the school office. In the next week all our new pupils will receive a wooden heart to hang on our South Park tree so they are part of our whole community where we grow together. 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 Starts Monday 9th September

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. I have attached our Home Learning Policy along with this newsletter and look forward to your support in ensuring all home learning tasks are completed.. 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 **Tuesday 24th September at 6.30pm in the staffroom** ..coffee and cake will be available! All parent/carers are very welcome to join us and help with events ,ideas and suggestions.

### Diary Dates

**Monday 9th September Home Learning starts**

**Tuesday 17th September P1 Parent/Carer Curriculum Information Session 2-3pm**

Friday 20th September Staff and Parent/Carer **Spinathon** challenge 6-8.30pm

**Tuesday 24th September. PTA/PC Meeting 6.30pm in the staffroom in school.**

Monday 23rd September-Sunday 29th September **Maths Week Scotland**

Friday 27th September- Holiday

Monday 30th September -Holiday

Monday 14th October-Friday 18th October Holiday

**Wednesday 30th October Halloween Event More details nearer time**

**Inset Day 11th November School closed to children**

**Parents Consultations Thursday 14th November 2024 3-8.30pm**



### 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.

### 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

I am delighted to inform you that we have been able to purchase the School App for parents. This is a free download for your mobile phone and makes it easier for staff to be able to message their classes and upload homework. The app will be installed at some point this week and letters will come out explaining how to download and access the correct rooms for your child/children.

School  
App for  
Parents

### Go Fund Me Spinathon!

Some staff, parent/carers and ex pupils are participating in a **Spinathon** to raise money for our school. The challenge is three Spin classes back to back!! You Fit gym are supporting the event by allowing us to use their Spin studio! The Spinathon takes place on **Friday 20th September from 6-8.30pm**. A QR code will be sent out nearer the time with a link directly to our Go Fund Me South Park. If you are up for the challenge and would like to participate in the Spinathon please contact me at the school.

Parent portal is the platform run by the Scottish government to cut down on all the paper forms. We use parent portal for permission slips, parent/carer reports, data checks and attendance. If you have not matched with our child/children it is essential that this is completed. Please contact Kirsty Ross in the school office to assist you with issues.

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 Cooking and Sustainability. Our Standards and Quality Report for session 23-24 is available on our website .



### Chaplaincy Team

I would like to confirm that our school chaplain for session 2024/2025 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.