

South Park Primary School

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Newsletter January 2025

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@SouthParkEk

parents
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A note from Mrs McNeil...

Welcome back to all our children and families and I hope 2025 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 2025 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 have been the core values of our school community for the last seven years. To ensure our values reflect our current community context, it is effective practice to consult on the vision and values every 6-7 years. Following this newsletter every family, child and partner of South Park will be asked to identify their top values and vision to ensure it reflects our whole school community. It may be that the values do not need adjusted, but I will keep you informed of the results of the consultation. The values we chose should reflect our whole community and what we all endeavour to live by. I am so proud of how our children understand the importance of values and live by them. This month in class and at assembly we are focussing on our values consultation. 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

Wednesday 15th January 5.30pm P7 meeting for Lockerbie

Monday 20th -Friday 24th January - P7 Residential to Lockerbie Manor

Tuesday 21st January 7pm-8pm PTA meeting via teams

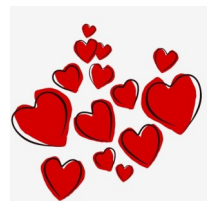
Wednesday 12th February Valentines Event 6.30-7.30pm

Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th February School Closed Holiday

Wednesday 19th February school closed to pupils for inset day

Valentines PTA Fun Night

On **Wednesday 12th February from 6.30-7.30pm** the PTA are holding a Valentines fun night for children. In the same format as our Valentines event last year, the children will enjoy a disco and some arts and crafts. 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.



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 2025. 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 as 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.



P1 Registration If your child is due to start school in August 2025 then an online registration form should be completed. If we have received any registration forms you will be called from 13th-17th January by one of our office staff to clarify your details for registration in our P1 class in August 2025. If you have any questions regarding registration please contact the school office.

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, 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. Following the successful Day of Giving in November, it has been decided by the pupils to keep extending their skills. This will be done through Community Learning for all P4-P7 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon. The children will work on a rotational basis round the six skills development activities below. Community Leadership, Cooking Skills in the Café, Creativity Skills, Writing Skills, Outdoor Learning and Sustainability skills. To make sure the impact of the skills development activities is positive we need parent helpers/members of the community to support us. If you can help on Wednesday afternoon's from 29th January to 12th March please make sure you complete the form which will be posted on the app next week.

A showcase of all the leadership projects will be held on Wednesday 19th March!

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.