



# South Park School



Newsletter Date: 24 April 2017

Issue 8

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**Welcome back**  
Everyone to the final term of the year. Again we face a busy term ahead as we race towards the end of the school year.

## Dates for Your Diary

The Termly calendar went out last week as paper copies to youngest in the family. All dates for the term ahead, including sports day, P6/7 Concert, Leavers Assembly etc. are on the calendar. All dates are also on the website too where you can find the calendar.

## Holiday Mondays

Just a reminder we will be off school on Monday, 1 May as well as Monday, 12 June this term. Last day of term will be on 30 June, with a 3.15pm finish as usual.

## Parent Council— Parent Involvement

The results of the recent Parent Council survey indicated that you would like the Parent Council to work on improving parental involvement at South Park. We discussed a few ways of going about this but would like your input. Please let us know what you would like to see improve, what you would like more of, less of, how you feel we could involve you more in the wider life of the school, your child's learning etc.

We will also have a quick and brief survey for you to complete at the open days at our café so please take time to give us your responses so we can improve an area you have identified.

## Rag Bag Collection

We have raised £107 this year so far with our rag bag collection which is super. Another collection will be held on Friday, 5 May. As always, bags to school by 8.30am.

## Co-Op Donation

We received a donation of £1454.43 from the Co-Op Community Fund recently. We are going to use this money to purchase additional laptops for our senior pupils so that we have more technology available, in particular for pupils with additional support needs, including dyslexia.

## Ring and Sing

Our Ring and Sing at the end of last term raised £3046.60. This is a fantastic amount and once again we thank you for your support.

## Chocolate Non Uniform

We will have a non uniform day as usual on Friday, 28 April. Please bring a donation of chocolate on this day to support our Coffee Morning which is on Saturday, 13 May this year from 10—12 noon. More details to follow.



## Learning for Sustainability Week

The week beginning 2 May is our Learning for Sustainability Week. We will be out and about a lot during this week so please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate footwear, jacket etc. You will be notified if there is anything you need to be aware of by individual class teachers.

As part of our reporting procedure parents are again invited in during the week. To try to accommodate working parents with varying times and days for open days we will have three open sessions during this week which are as follows:-

Wednesday, 3 May 2017	11.00am—12 noon
Thursday, 4 May 2017	2.00pm—3.00pm
Friday, 5 May 2017	9.30am—10.30am

During this time you will be able to go to your child/children's class to see what they are up to, take part in the daily mile with them and visit the café. We will have a café in the dining hall again so please visit with your child/children at any time during the hour. Please only attend one of the sessions.

Please Note:

P3A will be in Drama on the Thursday until 2.20pm, however you are welcome to come in after this.

P1W will be in Music until 2.20pm on the Thursday, however you are welcome to come in after this.

P4B will not be available for the Thursday afternoon session as they have Visiting Specialists all afternoon.

## Reporting

Report cards went out on Friday, 21 April. As this is the first year of our new approach to reporting I would ask that you help us improve this process by responding to the questionnaire below.

Thank you in advance. Your responses will help shape improvements and changes next year.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VC5TSZH>



## **GROUP CALL**

As from August 2017 the school will be using a new initiative brought in by Aberdeenshire Council named “Group Call”.

Group Call gives schools the ability to send personalised text messages (SMS), emails, automated voice calls, push messages and tweets (via Twitter) to the mobile phones and landlines of parents, staff and key contacts. It allows recipients of messages to respond to the school and provides a full audit trail of all communications.

Parents will be able to download the app onto their phones and communicate with the school via text message. This will be used for reporting absences in the morning, any messages you wish to be passed on to your child or any other reason for contacting the school.

The school will also be communicating with all parents via Group Call. This will include all messages, letters, newsletters or any other communication with you. There will no longer be any communication via paper or pupil post.

As a first step to implementing this new system it is imperative that we have up to date mobile and landline numbers and an email address for every parent in the school. Please complete the slip sent home with your child and return it to school as soon as possible. It is important that you write clearly so that no mistakes are made when entering the information.

Further information will follow regarding this later in the term.