

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

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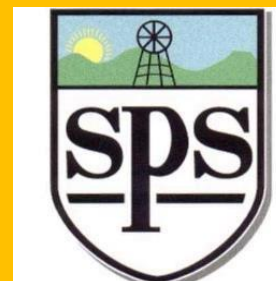
Springside Primary School:

Station Road

Springside

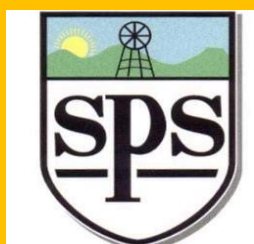
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SPRINGSIDE PRIMARY & EYC

October
2025
Newsletter



Staffing Update

The month of October saw us welcome two new members of staff to the Springside Team. We are delighted to welcome our new Education Business Assistant - Miss Leigh-Ann McIlwain to our school office. She has already been kept super busy with pantos, reports and parents' nights to name but a few jobs! Miss Selina Drysdale also joins us as a new Pupil Support Assistant, funded by our Pupil Equity Fund and is enjoying getting to know our school and children.



This month, we also said welcome back to Miss Melissa Young, our Early Years Practitioner who has now returned from maternity leave and goodbye to Miss Megan Westcott who was covering this post.

Absence Procedures



A gentle reminder that if your child is ill, it is your responsibility to notify the office by email, text or telephone by 9:30am. If for some reason we have not heard from you, we will attempt to make contact with yourself or the emergency contacts that we have listed by phone or we may send you a text asking you to contact us.

Our priority is that all children are safe. If we do not hear from you by 10:30am, we may need to take further action.

Allergies

A gentle reminder that we are an allergy aware and nut free school. We have some children who have allergies so we ask you to please be mindful of what you give to your child for lunch and snack.

This includes Nutella spread, Bueno chocolate bars and some cereal bars. We appreciate your support with this.



Commonwealth Games



We are delighted to be the first establishment in North Ayrshire, on Monday 3rd November, to receive the North Ayrshire Schools Baton as part of the Commonwealth Games celebrations.

Our special Commonwealth Day will be kicked off in style with an assembly by our Active Schools Coordinator, Lauren Goldie. Children will then take part in a variety of Commonwealth and sports activities throughout the day, before making their way outside at the end of the day to create a 'Commonwealth Arch' and watch the baton being passed over to Dreghorn Primary.

Our parents and carers are warmly invited to join us at the gates at 2:45pm to celebrate the baton being handed over. More information coming soon!

Halloween

Children are invited to come to school and early years in fancy dress on Friday 31st October, if they wish. On the day, we have some spooky, Halloween themed activities lined up. Children will be given a drink and snack as part of the Halloween celebrations and as previously sent out, there will also be a Halloween themed lunch on offer for children too.

A big thank you to our local shop, Quinns and our Parent Council, who as always, have been so generous to our pupils and have donated sweets for every child.

To support the Community Association Halloween Competition, we are looking for donations of pumpkins to line the path into school. If you are able to donate a pumpkin, please hand it in to the office by Friday. They don't need to be carved! Many thanks in advance ☺

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Early Years Halloween Raffle! The lucky winners have been enjoying their hampers, and together we raised £190. This money will go towards funding our much-loved Food Fridays and helping to cover the bus costs for our upcoming McDougalls Pantomime.



Reporting to Parents/Carers

We hope that you found your child's interim report informative about how your child has settled into their new stage and the progress they have made so far this session.

We would greatly appreciate if you could please sign and return the feedback form to confirm that you have received a copy of your child's interim report. If you would like to provide feedback about your child's report, please do so in the box.

Our first Learning Conversations/Parents' Nights of this session will be held on Tuesday 11th November (3:30-5:30pm) and Wednesday 19th November (5:30-7:30pm). Thank you to everyone who has returned their letters so far. Miss McIlwain is in the process of scheduling all of the appointments and a slip will be sent home soon, informing you of your appointment time(s).

These learning conversations will be a valuable opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher to discuss their progress across the curriculum and next steps in learning. We strongly encourage you to bring your child along, to be a part of these discussions.

Harvest Coffee Morning

We had an absolutely wonderful turnout at our Harvest Coffee Morning before the holidays. We hope that you enjoyed the performances and artwork as well as some tasty treats! For many of our little ones from the Early Years, this was their first time performing in front of an audience, and we are so proud of how confidently they took part.

A big thank you to all of our families for their kind donations of home baking and foodbank items. We would appreciate your feedback about the Coffee Morning using our survey link previously sent out.



Spectacular Sports...

Athletics Tournament



Our school was very quiet on Tuesday when almost a quarter of our total pupils were away to The Portal in Irvine, to take part in the North Ayrshire Sports Hall Athletics Tournament. Alongside other schools from North Ayrshire, selected Primary 5-7 pupils had a fantastic day, competing in a range of athletics events. We are so proud of not only their athletic efforts but also their commendable sportsmanship and behaviour!

Cross Country

We were delighted to have some of our Springside pupils take part in the North Ayrshire Cross Country League last Saturday - well done to all of the runners for taking part! The next cross country meet takes place on Saturday 29th November at St. Matthew's Academy. We will send out a link to register in due course.

Panto Payments

Primary 1 – 7 pupils are already looking forward to our pantomime trip to see 'Sleeping Beauty' in December! We would appreciate that any outstanding payments are made as soon as possible. We appreciate your support as we have moved over to an online payments system and please don't forget that Miss McIlwain in our office is on hand to help with any issues or queries – please call or come into the office if you would like any guidance to make the payment.



Our Early Years boys and girls are going to the McDougalls Pantomime 'Winter Wonderland' on Thursday 4th December at the Harbour Arts Centre. Letters and consent forms have recently been sent home and we ask that these are returned as soon as possible.

P7 Hoodies



Our Primary 7 pupils had an exciting delivery this week...the famous P7 leavers' hoodies! There were many rumours as to what the big box delivered to the office on Monday morning might have been...and the P7s were delighted to find out that it was their leavers' hoodies! These hoodies are such a momentous event in the P7 calendar and they will certainly come in handy in this chilly weather!

Garden Development

Our Early Years staff are looking to develop their garden area and would love some help from parents and carers with skills in planting, building or general outdoor projects. If you are able to lend a hand, please speak to a member of staff — we would really appreciate your support.



Spring Inside and See Learning

A huge thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended our first Spring Inside and See Learning session of the year. We hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and see their classroom. Our overall attendance across the school was 61%. We would love to see even more parents and carers at our next Spring Inside and See Learning on Thursday 4th December at 2:15pm!

Holiday Reminder



A reminder that we will be on holiday on Friday 21st and Monday 24th November and there will be an In-Service Day on Tuesday 25th November. We look forward to seeing our pupils when they return on Wednesday 26th November.

Parent Council Meeting

Our Parent Council will hold their next meeting on Tuesday 18th November at 6pm. As always, it would be lovely to welcome new members - if you would like to come along, please meet us at the Community Centre.

P1 Library Visit

To celebrate Book Week Scotland, our Primary 1 pupils will be visiting Dregghorn Library for a Bookbug session on Tuesday 18th November. They will then be gifted a Bookbug bag to take home to share with their families.



Transition

Registration for new Primary 1 pupils takes place online from Monday 10 November until Sunday 23 November 2025. Children whose fifth birthday falls between 1 March 2026 and 28 February 2027 are eligible to start primary school in August 2026.

Registration is an online process. During the period Monday 10 November 2025 until Sunday 23 November 2025, you can access the online registration form on the North Ayrshire Council website.

Early Years Learning Café

Our first Early Years Learning Café was a great success! We received lots of positive feedback from parents and carers, including: "It's good to see how my child interacts with others." and "The Learning Café has given me lots of ideas to do at home."

Thank you to everyone who attended — we look forward to welcoming you to an Early Years Learning Café again soon!



Poppies



Our poppies will be on sale from Monday 3rd November. House Captains will visit classes each day for children who wish to buy a poppy. Suggested donation is 20p.

P1 Reading Workshop

Our Primary 1 Reading Workshop gave our fabulous P1s a chance to show off their early reading skills. Parents and carers learned about phonics and reading strategies that they can use to support their budding readers!





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Friday 31 st October	Halloween Activities Day
Monday 3 rd November	Commonwealth Games Day – Baton Launch
Monday 10 th November (5:45pm)	P7 Pupils – ‘Shrek’ Dress Rehearsal @ Greenwood Academy
Tuesday 11 th November (3:30-5:30pm)	Parents’ Afternoon
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need (More info to follow)
Tuesday 18 th November	P1 Trip to Dregghorn Library
Tuesday 18 th November (6pm)	Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 19 th November (5:30-7:30pm)	Parents’ Evening
Tuesday 20 th November	Dress Down Day for chocolate donation
Friday 21 st November	Holiday
Monday 24 th November	Holiday
Tuesday 25 th November	In-Service Day
Wednesday 26 th November	Pupils Return
Thursday 27 th November	Flu Immunisations
Friday 28 th November	P5/6 Day of Dance @ The Portal, Irvine
Saturday 29 th November	Cross Country – Race 2
Wednesday 3 rd December	P1-P7 Panto ‘Sleeping Beauty’ @ The Galleon Centre
Thursday 4 th December	Early Years Panto – McDougalls ‘Winter Wonderland’ @ The Harbour Arts Centre
Thursday 4 th December	Spring Inside and See Learning
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 16 th December (pm)	P1-P3 Nativity
Wednesday 17 th December (pm)	P6/7 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December (am)	P1-3 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December (pm)	P4/5 Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	School Closes
Monday 5 th January	Pupils Return
Saturday 31 st January	Cross Country – Race 3
Friday 6 th February	Holiday
Monday 9 th February	Holiday
Tuesday 10 th February	In-Service Day
Wednesday 11 th February	Pupils Return
Thursday 12 th February	P7 Transition Morning to Greenwood Academy
Wednesday 18 th February	Spring Inside and See Learning
Friday 20 th February	World Thinking Day (Sunday 22 nd February)
Saturday 21 st February	Cross Country – Race 4
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Activities Day
Friday 20 th March	P7 Transition – Greenwood Academy Virtual Assembly
Sunday 22 nd March	World Water Day
Tuesday 24 th March	Parents’ Afternoon

(3:30-5:30pm)	
Wednesday 1 st April	Easter Celebration (TBC)
Wednesday 1 st April (5:30-7:30pm)	Parents' Evening
Thursday 2 nd April	School Closes
Friday 3 rd April – Friday 17 th April	Holiday
Monday 20 th April	Pupils Return
Monday 4 th May	Holiday
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th May	Travel Smart Week
Friday 15 th May	Spring Inside and See Learning
Monday 18 th – Thursday 21 st May	P7 Residential Trip to Arran
Monday 25 th May	In-Service Day
Tuesday 26 th May	Pupils Return
Tuesday 26 th May (pm)	Early Years Sports Afternoon
Wednesday 27 th May (Parent/carers invited pm)	Sports Day
Friday 29 th May	P7 Transition – Greenwood Academy Virtual Assembly
Monday 1 st June (6:00-7:00pm)	P7 Briefing Evening for Parents at Greenwood Academy
Wednesday 3 rd June	P7 Transition – Transition Day at Greenwood Academy
Thursday 4 th June	P7 Transition - Transition Day at Greenwood Academy
Wednesday 17 th June (pm)	P7 Leavers' Assembly
Monday 22 nd June	P7 Leavers' Outing
Wednesday 24 th June	P7 Pupils vs. Teachers Match and Ice-Cream Van
Thursday 25 th June	Early Years Graduation
Friday 26 th June	Prizegiving
Monday 29 th June	Springside's Got Talent
Tuesday 30 th June	School Closes