



Southdale Newsletter September 2026



HELLO FROM MRS FISH!

Welcome to our September Newsletter! We are delighted to welcome everyone back for another exciting school year. Now that we are a few weeks into term, it has been wonderful to see our classrooms buzzing with enthusiasm, curiosity, and learning.

Our pupils have settled in brilliantly, embracing new challenges, making new friendships, and already achieving great things. We look forward to sharing some of the many highlights from the start of the year and keeping you updated on all the exciting events and opportunities ahead.



SOUTHDALE SHOUTOUTS

We thoroughly enjoyed reading about all the wonderful successes, adventures, and achievements our children enjoyed over the summer holidays in our Southdale Shoutout. From sporting triumphs and creative projects to acts of kindness and personal milestones, it was fantastic to celebrate so many special moments.

Our next Pupil Shout Out will take place at the end of September, so if you would like to nominate your child and share an achievement we can celebrate together, please complete the short form below. We can't wait to hear more of the amazing things our pupils have been up to! ✨

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/ukCgsahTEa>



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CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Following feedback from staff, pupils, and parents, we have decided to introduce class assemblies for P4 - P7 this year in place of the traditional Christmas show. Each class will have the opportunity to share their learning through a class assembly, giving every child the chance to present, perform, and develop their confidence and presentation skills. Both the children and staff are very excited about this new approach and the opportunity to celebrate learning in a meaningful way.

There will also be an opportunity for parents and carers to stay after the assembly for a quick cuppa with their child and classmates, giving everyone a chance to celebrate the children's achievements together.

As always, we will gather feedback from pupils, parents, and staff following the assemblies to help inform our plans and decisions for next year. The dates for the class assemblies are as follows:

- P4 - Friday 14th May @ 9.15am
- P4/5 - Friday 30th April @ 9.15am
- P5 - Friday 28th May @ 9.15am
- P6 - Friday 12th March @ 9.15am
- P6/7 - Friday 5th February @ 9.15am
- P7 - Friday 26th February @ 9.15am



We look forward to seeing you in school to enjoy your child's assembly and share in this special opportunity to celebrate their hard work and success.



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September

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

A huge thank you to Mrs Hughes and the rest of the staff team who have kindly volunteered their time to organise and run a range of extra-curricular clubs throughout the year. These clubs provide wonderful opportunities for our children to develop new skills, explore their interests, build friendships, and have fun beyond the classroom. We are incredibly grateful for the enthusiasm and commitment of our staff in making these experiences possible. The clubs planned so far are:

- P4-P7 - Dance and Cheerleading - Miss Parker & Miss Thomson
- P3 & P4 - Ball Skills - Mrs Hughes (term 1 & term 2)
- P1 & P2 - Ball Skills - Mrs Hughes (term 3 & term 4)
- P2 Gymnastics - Mrs Hughes (term 2)
- P1 Gymnastics - Mrs Hughes (term 3)
- P5 - P7 Netball - Mrs Hughes (all year)
- P3 Athletics - Mrs Hughes (term 1)
- P1 & P2 Athletics - Mrs Hughes (term 4)
- P6 & P7 Football - Miss Parker & Mr McGowan & SFA Qualified Coach!
- P4 & P5 Basketball - Mrs Hughes & Marty McIndoe
- P6 & P7 Basketball - Mrs Hughes & Marty McIndoe

Information and sign-up links for our after-school clubs have now been sent out. If you would like any further information about the clubs available, please contact Mrs Hughes through the school office, who will be happy to help. We look forward to seeing lots of children taking part and enjoying these fantastic opportunities.





August 2026



NEW! LIGHTWEIGHT SCHOOL PE & HOUSE T-SHIRTS

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent t-shirt consultation. Following the fantastic response, we are pleased to offer a lightweight, breathable Southdale PE t-shirt for £6.50.

We are also looking at introducing House Colour T-Shirts, featuring the school badge and house name on the back, which would be perfect for house events and sports competitions. These will be available at a cost of £7.50.

Sample t-shirts and sizing information will be available at Meet the Teacher, and order forms will be sent home during the week beginning 7 September 2026, along with details on how to pay.

Please remember: These t-shirts are completely optional. Children who have a Southdale Nursery polyester leavers' t-shirt are welcome to wear this for PE if they wish.

TERM 1 CHECK IN

We value the strong partnership between home and school and would love to hear how your child has settled into the new school year. Our Term 1 Check-In gives parents and carers the opportunity to share any positive feedback about the start of the term, as well as raise any questions, concerns, or areas they would like to discuss with their child's class teacher.

Your feedback helps us to ensure that every child is happy, supported, and making the most of their learning experiences. Please take a few moments to complete the short form below. Thank you for working in partnership with us.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/g9KFAJ1UvZ>



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MEET THE TEACHER

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday for Meet the Teacher. Please see a reminder of the arrangements for the evening below.

Teachers will deliver three 15-minute sessions at 6.00pm, 6.20pm and 6.40pm, sharing information about life in their classroom, expectations for the year ahead, and some of the exciting learning opportunities planned for the term. This is also a wonderful opportunity for your child to show you around their classroom and share their learning environment with you. Please note that there will not be time during these sessions for teachers to discuss individual children. If you would like to arrange a separate meeting with your child's teacher, please contact the school office and we will be happy to make arrangements.

Our wonderful parent partnership will be available to chat to you about the group and planned events throughout the year. Please stop by and chat to them about any ideas you may have!

Mrs Hughes will also be available throughout the evening for parents and carers who would like to view our new PE t-shirts and find out more about ordering them.

We look forward to seeing you there and sharing the exciting year ahead with you.

*You're
Invited*



September 2026

PARENT PARTNERSHIP



A huge thank you to our Parent Partnership for organising Southdale in the Park! It was a fantastic community event, bringing everyone together to enjoy singing, stalls, food and refreshments. We are delighted to share that the event raised an amazing £1,642 for our school. Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered and supported the event.

Events like this simply would not be possible without the dedication, enthusiasm and hard work of our Parent Partnership. We are incredibly grateful for all they do to support our school community. However, we would love to welcome more members to help share ideas, support events and strengthen the link between home and school.

Members of the Parent Partnership will be available at our Meet the Teacher event on Thursday and would be delighted to chat with you about who they are, what they do and how you can get involved.

As we look ahead, we will also be considering whether to continue with the traditional Parent Council model or move towards a dedicated fundraising committee. To help inform this decision, we will shortly issue a short survey to gather your views. We would also like to hear your ideas about the types of events and fundraising activities you would like to see in school in the future.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and continuing to work together to make Southdale an even stronger school community.

 **GIVE** 
SUPPORT 



September 2026

DALEBAY

☀ Dalebay is Back! ☀

We're delighted to announce that Dalebay will be reopening, offering a range of pre-loved school uniforms and other great bargains for our school community.

 Opening Times
Wednesdays | 3:15pm - 3:45pm
Starting Wednesday 16th September

Here are a few exciting events coming up:

 Wednesday 16th September
Pre-Loved Fancy Dress Sale

Come along and browse our selection of fancy dress costumes available to purchase for a small donation on a "give what you can" basis.

 Sunday 11th October
Community Car Boot Sale

A fantastic opportunity to pick up a bargain, clear out unwanted items and support our school community. (Weather permitting)

✨ More information about these events will be shared soon. We look forward to welcoming you to Dalebay! ✨





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UNCRC SEPTEMBER FOCUS



In September we will be focusing on 2 UNCRC articles

Article 12 – I have the right to be listened to and taken seriously. We encourage our pupils to share their ideas, opinions and experiences through class discussions, pupil voice groups, leadership opportunities and everyday conversations with staff. By listening to our children and involving them in decisions about their learning and school life, we help them develop confidence, self-belief and a strong sense of belonging within our school community.

Article 24 – I have the right to be as healthy as possible. We promote this right through our focus on physical activity, healthy lifestyles, positive mental health and wellbeing, and by creating a safe, nurturing environment where children can learn and thrive. By helping our pupils understand how to look after their physical and emotional wellbeing, we are supporting them to develop healthy habits that will benefit them throughout their lives.

HWB SEPTEMBER FOCUS

This month, our whole-school GIRFEC wellbeing indicator focus is SAFE.

At Southdale, we want every child to feel protected, secure and cared for both in school and beyond. Being safe means ensuring children are free from harm, abuse and neglect, while also helping them develop the knowledge and skills to make safe choices in their everyday lives. Through our nurturing approach, positive relationships and learning activities, we encourage children to talk to trusted adults, understand how to stay safe, and know that there is always someone available to listen and support them. By working together with families, we can help all children feel safe, valued and ready to learn.





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COMMUNICATION

To keep up to date with what is happening in school, like our school Facebook page here

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567378604187>

Can we ask that you ensure that the school office has an up to date email address for you to ensure you do not miss any important communication. Any questions or concerns, please contact the class teacher through the school office first. If you need to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team then please contact the member below for your child's class

School Office Telephone - 01506 284300

N - P3 - Mrs Fish
P3/4 - P7 - Mrs Stewart

EMAIL ADDRESS:
wlsouthdale-ps@westlothian.org.uk

WEBSITE:
<https://southdaleprimary.westlothian.org.uk/>

FACEBOOK:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567378604187>





SEPTEMBER

- 1st - 6.30pm - Parent Partnership AGM
- 2nd - Together Time - introduction to value 2 - Honesty
- 3rd - 6.00pm - 7.00pm - Meet the Teacher
- 7th - 9th - P7 @ Camp
- 9th - P4 & P5 - Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Workshop
- 9th - HWB Mini Champs Meeting
- 10th - P7 Bikeability
- 11th - Pupil Leadership Groups
- 17th - P7 Bikeability
- 21st - Holiday for school and ELC
- 22nd - Maths Week Scotland
- 22nd - P5 & P6 Museum Workshop
- 23rd - Young Leaders of Learning @ Blackridge - Mrs Hughes
- 24th - Talk Time Thursday
- 24th - P7 Bikeability
- 25th - Dress Down Day
- 25th - Pupil Leadership Groups
- 30th - National Poetry Day
- 30th - P1 & P7 Buddy Time
- 30th - 6.00pm - HWB Family Champ Meeting

OCTOBER

- 1st - P7 Bikeability
- 8th - P7 Bikeability
- 9th - House Day
- 12th - ELC Photographs
- 12th - DYW - My Future Me week
- 14th - P7 Bikeability
- 15th - S1 Open Evening @ Armadale Academy
- 16th - 9.30am - DYW Coffee Morning
- 16th - 11.00am - DYW Sharing the Learning
- 19th - 25th - Holiday for school and ELC
- 26th - Inservice day - school and ELC closed
- 28th - P4 & P4/5 - NYCOS
- 29th - 2.00pm - ELC stay & Play
- 29th - 5.00pm - 6.15pm - P1 - P4 Halloween Disco
- 29th - 6.45pm - 8.00pm - P5 - P7 Halloween Disco
- 30th - Dress Down Day
- 30th - P7 @ Armadale Academy