

**SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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**Newsletter- Week 10 Monday 13th November 2017**

Welcome to our latest newsletter! We have so many exciting and fantastic snippets to share this week, let’s start with a very positive piece of feedback...

**Amazing Week:** In all of my time working in schools last week was one of the best weeks I’ve ever known! There seemed to be so much going on across school- amazing curriculum experiences, lots of wider-curriculum skills being developed including specialist DT and enterprise days and more clubs and enrichment activities than ever before! Added to that we had 99.3% attendance, no late marks and 100% green lights! Wow! We also started our new lunchtime reward scheme and 12 children were selected to dine at the Captain’s Table! It goes to show what happens when we all work together to be the best that we can be! We truly are living out the new motto…play together, learn together, achieve together! Well done everyone! More of the same please!

**Home-School Agreement:** This week we have sent out our new Home-School Agreement that links closely to the behaviour system that has just been through a consultation period with all parents, pupils, staff and Governors. The agreement just captures the main details of the behaviour policy and the key themes that we will try to work towards as a community. Please read through the agreement with your child and ensure that both of you (child and one parent) sign the agreement before returning to school. We will then sign it and keep them together as a whole class set.

**Local Visits:** As we have so many visits within the local community (e.g. walks on the trail, travelling on local trains, walking to the showground, potential sporting fixtures against local schools that finish within the normal school day, etc.) we are keen to minimise the amount of paperwork/administration for staff and parents by having one permission letter that covers all local activities. This will be a letter, coming out in the next week or so, that will cover all such local events and minimise constant slips coming back and forth! This letter will cover your child until the day they leave Springvale and it is the parent’s responsibility to contact us if they want to relinquish that permission or update us on any medical reason why it may not be safe for their child to take part for the foreseeable future. We will ensure that parents are aware of any local visits either through newsletters, text messages or our Twitter feed.

**Kindness/Friendship Weeks:** After the wonderful reaction to kindness week, the impact of which we continue to see with amazing examples, we now move into friendship week. It is known as ‘Anti-bullying week’ nationally but we feel that this title puts a negative spin on the focus. Children will always have friendship issues but our job is to support them to manage those conflicts and learn how to cope with social situations as a key tool for a happy adult life. We would urge that parents report any significant concerns about friendship issues at the soonest opportunity so that we can advise/intervene where appropriate. Please support us by minimising the use of the term ‘bullying’ at home as many children report any and all friendship issues as bullying in the first instance. We stress that bullying is where a child is ‘repeatedly targeting another on purpose to cause harm or upset.’

**Y3 Staffing:** Unfortunately, Miss Goodyear will be absent from school for a number of weeks in the build-up to Christmas for medical reasons but Mrs Wood is available to cover on a full time basis. Mrs Wood and Mrs Haigh will be only too happy to help parents until Miss Goodyear returns.

**Safeguarding Letter:** As the night’s draw in we will also be sending out a letter to clarify which children have permission from a parent to walk home. We would ask that all children are collected from clubs from now on due to the darkness beyond 4.15pm.

**Parents’ Evening:** Our new parents’ evening format will work as follows:

* Parents should now have an appointment time, please arrive at reception 5 minutes before this time
* You will be greeted by Y6 leaders who will sign you in and get your child’s books, please make your way into the hall and find a seat in the centre of the hall. If you take a look at the work, a teacher will collect/call you shortly afterwards
* Please ensure that appointments are a maximum of 10 minutes to ensure fairness for the other parents and that the evening runs smoothly, parents can always arrange a time to come back for a more detailed consultation
* All meetings will be in the hall unless parents request a more private space for sensitivity
* The theme of the meetings is to discuss general wellbeing and settling in, current attainment and targets for the year ahead

**Children in Need Plan:** This Friday is our special charity day for Children in Need. Children can dress down for the day and wear any clothes with a spots/stripes theme. Please don’t buy anything special for the theme- even a t-shirt, jeans and stripy socks will do! A family donation (suggested £1) can be passed to the class teacher by the oldest child in each family. We will also have a bun sale on the playground at the end of the day for anyone who wants to buy a bun to enjoy. The buns will be baked by our catering team as part of their donation to what is always an excellent cause. We have spoken to the catering team and they will also ensure that all dietary needs are catered for. Please note that next Friday is a very busy afternoon! We have the football fixtures for KS2, the bun sale and running club! If you have any questions about how the afternoon will unfold just drop me an email but buns will be on sale from 3.15 to approximately 3.45pm and children who are invited to both the running club and the latest football fixture (see the highlighted sheet) will have to choose which activity to take part in. If there are buns spare at the end of football and running club I am more than happy to sell them but they may all be gobbled up!

**Christmas Dates:** Our final Christmas dates list (which is rather busy) has now been published and is available on our website under diary dates and last week’s newsletter. Keep up to date with any finer, more precise, details in our weekly newsletters! We look forward to all of the exciting things that we are offering and we are very excited to see you all at our many events that parents can join in with! The Panto certainly kicked things off well and the children loved it!

**Steps to Secondary:** Thank you to parents and pupils who came along to attend the meeting last week to support this piece of work. The write up will be distributed to all who attended in the coming days and we will revisit the plan at the Y6 information evening in the Spring Term about SATS and Robinwood. I think it is vitally important that we work with PGS and bridge the gap between the level of expectation (personal organisation, discipline, etc) at primary and secondary phases so that the transition for our pupils can be as smooth as possible.

**Sports Teams:** More great news about our sporting achievements! Well done to all of our amazing cross-country runners who qualified for the final event at Cannon Hall! They were all amazing and we had several top 5 finishers against the cream of the crop from across the region. Our Y5/6 boys’ team came third in their group and played brilliantly against some outstanding teams at the Barnsley final. We have big plans over the next 12 months for sport in the future at Springvale and want to ensure excellent engagement for pupils of all ages by further expanding our clubs, competitions and the quality of PE teaching/outdoor physical provision in the EYFS. This is not to say we don’t already offer good quality in these areas compared to other schools- we just want to be the best! ☺

Have a great week and thank you for your continued support!

**Kind Regards**

**Mr L McClure**

**Headteacher**

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| **Week 9 Information** | **2017/18 Average** | **Week 10 Diary Dates** |
| **Attendance: 99.3%**  **Late marks: 0** | **Attendance: 97.4%**  **Late marks: 1** | Monday 13th: Shoeboxes collected and Y1/2 Multi-skills  Tuesday 14th: Y6 Egypt Topic Day  Wednesday 15th: Parents’ Evening 1.30-7.00pm (School Hall)  Wednesday 15th: No school crossing patrol at home time  Friday 17th: Children in Need Day (Bake sale at 3.15pm, football matches from 2pm) |
| **Classes of the Week: 4 different classes achieved the perfect 100%! Well done!** | |
| **Step to Success Focus:**  **#6 Believe in yourself and enjoy your learning!** | |