

**SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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**Newsletter- Week 6 Monday 9th October 2017**

Welcome to our weekly update on school life and what a busy week it has been! Thank you to everyone who attended the presentation evening last week and to those who read through the notes online (see letters home for the link). It was a great opportunity to meet so many parents and to discuss our plans for future development and improvement. The Y6 leaders were simply brilliant and the feedback received about their passionate and informative school tours, and the evening overall, were wonderful to hear. We’ve also started to implement our new school motto this week. We are now fully committed to our vision of ‘play together, learn together, achieve together’ and this will permeate the work of our school on a daily basis.

**Play together** highlights our passion for high quality foundation stage learning and the importance of children learning to be safe, kind and sociable through play. **Learn together** demonstrates our commitment to work closely with parents, to include them in our work and our improvement journey, to ensure that we plan interesting and exciting learning opportunities where children can work collaboratively and, lastly, that staff and Governors will strive to be the best that we can be by working together to evaluate and improve our provision and standards across the school. **Achieve together** celebrates that our fantastic curriculum and the hard work of all stakeholders will ensure that we will excel and perform favourably against national averages now and in the future. It also ensures that we celebrate our successes at every level and enjoy each other’s achievements as a whole school community. My previous Headship demonstrated how powerful a shared goal and vision can be and I am very excited to see our new statement become a reality that sits at the centre of our ethos for many years to come! Your support is invaluable and will help us to be the best school that we can be and one day…the best school in the World!

**Email Communication:** Many thanks for sending in your email addresses. You should have now seen a test email on the requested email address (or an address that we have held previously in our SIMS system). Please check your emails and let us know if you didn’t receive the test.

**Special Dinner Menu:** The menu on Thursday themed around a ‘day at the movies’ went really well and the children enjoyed a film during their meal! We will try other themed menus during the year. I’ve been informed that some meals are not exactly as advertised so we will be adding more detailed information about the meal choices for children cross our 3 week rolling menu on the school website. We will also put the information on our Twitter feed!

**Sports Teams:** A very special well done to our amazing cross country runners from KS2 who performed so admirably on a cold and relatively wet afternoon at the Showground. The children were remarkable and we had 9 children who finished in the top 10 in their race including some 1st and 2nd places in every year group! Well done to everyone involved! Our Y5/6 football had their first practice match this week and modelled the fantastic new kit. The children were fabulous and, despite many children playing for the first time, they performed really well and worked as a team. Unfortunately we lost the game to a very strong Burton Road team. Congratulations, also, to our fantastic Y1/2 ball skills team who competed so well at Penistone Grammar School last week! We are very proud of their efforts and they represented the school incredibly well. It was a pleasure to pop up and see how well they were doing and see so many parents supporting the event. Special thanks to Mrs Exley for organising the event. This week we have some Y5/6 girls at a football event (Monday) and another Y5/6 mixed game of football against Penistone St John (local derby) on Friday at 2.30pm. All are welcome as spectators! We expect the match will finish at 3.30pm.

**Jeans for Genes Day:** A final reminder that we have organised a special dress down day on Thursday 12th October in support of this fantastic cause. Jeans and casual clothing can be worn but please ensure that clothing is sensible and that the school’s jewellery policy is adhered to. Make up is not allowed. A suggested family donation of £1 would be much appreciated and would make a real difference.

**Attendance and lateness:** We will now start to send texts and letters where we have concerns about a child’s attendance and punctuality. We have had a great start to the year but we want to keep improving!

**Safety Review:** We will be reviewing all aspects of school safety alongside our Governing Body to ensure that our work in this area is outstanding. Please ensure that children are collected from clubs due to the late nights drawing in soon and please ensure that Y5/6 children who are allowed to walk home are clear about their collection/walking home as some children are unsure at the end of the day. We want to ensure that children are safe and if in doubt we will always ask that they stay in school with us. On the same point, please ensure that we have your most recent telephone/address information on our systems in school so that we can contact parents to clarify any arising concerns.

**Sickness guidance:** Our office staff have the latest guidance on health advice for children who are or have been sick. General guidelines are that, following sickness and diarrhoea type illnesses, we would say to keep children off for 24 hours after the last signs of symptoms and ensure that they can eat and use the toilet just fine. Anything infectious like impetigo would need to be treated before a child can return to school.

**Childcare choices- tax free childcare:** We’ve recently been informed about a new scheme where parents can receive £2 for every £8 spent on childcare to support their total costs. Please visit www.childcarechoice.gov.uk

**Books for Breakfast:** Due to phenomenal interest in this event in recent years we have split the event into 2 this year. The first event in October (18th) will be for families with a child in F2 to Y3 (see the separate letter) and the second event in March (9th) will be for families in Y4-6. Please come along and enjoy a good book and a hot breakfast! We would like to thank our new catering team for supporting the event and Engie, who replaced Carillon as the premises management team in July, for sponsoring the event!

**School Meals:** We are moving forward with our plans to bring in online payment for school meals. We are also exploring any options open to us that allow pupils and parents to choose their meals from home too. We would offer the option to pay in reception but would prefer that everyone who can, sets up for the online system. Any feedback on these likely changes is encouraged.

**Harvest Plan:** Our Harvest Festival is going ahead on Tuesday 24th October at 10am. F2 to Y6 have prepared four special songs and some Y6 leaders will host the event. We would like to ask for any donations of harvest goods for our school collection to come in on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th (before 9am) please. The goods will be packaged up and shared with elderly residents within our local community. Our audience will be made up of some elderly members of our community and this year we would also like to invite any grandparents to come along too. We only have 100 seats available and they will be given out on a first come, first served basis. Please complete the slip below to reserve your seat(s).

Have a fantastic week!

**Kind Regards**

**Mr L McClure, Headteacher**

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| **Week 5 Information** | **2017/18 Average** | **Week 6 Diary Dates** |
| **Attendance: 96.7%**  **Late marks: 2** | **Attendance: 97.2%**  **Late marks: 2** | Monday 9th: Y5/6 Girls’ Football at Penistone ALC 4-5.30pm  Tuesday 10th: Flu’ Inoculations F2-Y4  Thursday 11th: Jeans for Genes Day (family donation)  Friday 13th: Y5/6 football match (v Penistone SJ at home) 2.30pm |
| **Class of the Week: Y4 ‘Cool Columbians’ with 100%** | |

**I would like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seat(s) to the Harvest Festival on Tuesday 24th October at 10am.**

**Child’s name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Office: (tick one and return)**

**Tickets issued \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Tickets have unfortunately all been issued \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**