

**SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**01226 760930**

**Headteacher: Mr L McClure**

**l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org**

**www.springvaleschool.org.uk**

@SpringvalePS

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

A warm welcome to our latest newsletter. We hope that everyone had a great half-term and the batteries are recharged for a very busy Christmas push! As promised we would like to start the latest newsletter with a summary of our key improvement work over the last half-term!

* Developed and started to embed a new school vision of ‘play together, learn together, achieve together’. Formally introduced that vision to staff, Governors, parents and pupils.
* Created a series of communication tools to ensure that school runs smoothly and that allow parents to be more involved/updated in school life.
* Developed mechanisms for regular feedback from parents and pupils- budget for school council and regular meetings, parent council established.
* Started to plan for online dinner payment and a consultation is planned around out of hours childcare that is based at school.
* New parental appointment system.
* Ensured that leaders are visible and available to assist with any issues.
* Consulted with pupils, parents, staff and Governors on a new system with associated consequences, school rules (steps to success) and positive rewards.
* Met with all staff to set aspirational but achievable targets for each pupil, group and cohort.
* Targeted a greater percentage of pupils to reach outcomes above national expectations.
* Further developed sport including additional clubs and a new football team for KS2.
* Started to work closely with other primary settings and the local secondary.

**Parent Council Update:** Thank you for your feedback on the suggested Parent Council to give parents a regular and effective mechanism to feedback on school matters. We have had 5 parents come forward, two of whom can link the Parent Council into our Governing Body which is a very sensible model. We now have enough people to establish the group so I will contact those interested parents to arrange the first meeting and we will keep feeding back to families through weekly newsletters about our progress.

**Christmas News:** We have a very busy Christmas programme this year for everyone to enjoy! Please take a look at the diary dates at the bottom of this letter! Please note that children can wear non-uniform with a Christmas theme (jumpers, t-shirts, etc) on the days when we have the Pantomime, the Christmas Fayre and Christmas lunch.

**Behaviour Policy Feedback:** Thank you to parents for your feedback (which was 100% supportive and positive about the suggested plans) and to staff/Governors for your input. The policy will now go forward to Governors for final approval but we are all in agreement that we should trial the system now to find any further teething issues. The GOOD to be GREEN texts seem to be very popular!

**Harvest Festival:** The Harvest Festival was a roaring success and the children sounded fantastic! Thank you so much for your very kind donations and for your ongoing support with all that we do. It was great to give grandparents the opportunity to see our work and it is always lovely to welcome senior citizens from the community. The produce donated was gratefully received by the local community! Please note that all communications about this event referred to it being grandparents only and many parents said they had booked time off to attend. One or two still attended despite texts, tweets and several comments on newsletters, which is unfair on the parents who were asked not to attend. Harvest is difficult to cater for all parents as we would need to hold 4 events to cater for safe numbers if all parents were invited. We have exciting plans in place to ensure that parents can share more of our assemblies/special events in person or through social media clips/images/broadcast! I’m sure you will agree the use of Twitter is really helpful in keeping parents involved too. We plan Christmas shows so that parents can attend during the day or late in the evening so we look forward to welcoming everyone very soon!

**Website:** The school website is now working effectively. We need to tidy it up and add more content but it is now a really useful and up-to-date resource for our families to use!

**Kindness Week:** We have had an amazing reaction to kindness week! All of our assemblies and PHSCE work linked to the concepts of sharing with others and being kind/helping others. We are really proud of our children and their attitude/behaviour for learning but themed weeks can really help us to live out our new ethos and ensure that everyone plays together, learns together and achieves together!

**Shoe Box Collection:** The boxes will be collected on Monday 13th November.

**Steps to Secondary:** Thank you to parents and pupils who have volunteered to attend the meeting (this Friday at 3.30pm in the Community Room) to support this potential new piece of work. The meeting shouldn’t last more than 30 minutes. Your input will be very useful. I have invited another Headteacher of another school to see if other schools would like to join in with the project.

**Sports Teams:** We have had a fantastic start to the year in terms of sports! Well done to all of our amazing cross-country teams and good luck to the individuals who qualified for this week’s finals too! Our Y3/4 team actually won the event and qualified for the South Yorkshire finals! This week we wish our Y5/6 boys footballers well in their Barnsley Finals event- good luck everyone!

**Hallowe’en Disco:** What a great evening it was! Everyone looked terrific and the parent volunteers (and our resident disco diva Mr Cutts) made sure it was a roaring success! Thank you for attending and making the disco a success. We raised over £200 for the school fund! Thank you and well done!

**Autumn 2- Key dates to remember:**

(Please note that these dates are now on our website under ‘diary dates’

**November 2017**

Tuesday 7th: Aladdin Panto (AM) whole school **(Christmas Jumper Day)**

Friday 10th: Y4/5 Enterprise Day

**DT Project Days (Y3 Friday 10th, Y2 Friday 17th, Y1 Friday 24th, F2 Friday 1st December)**

w/c Monday 13th: Friendship Week

Monday 13th: Shoeboxes collected

Tuesday 14th: Firefighter bags for collection

Wednesday 15th: Parents’ Evening 1.30-7.00pm (School Hall)

Friday 17th: Children in Need (Spots or stripes theme) donation and bun sale

w/c Monday 20th: Christmas Arts Week

Monday 20th: Y6 to Crucial Crew

**December 2017**

Friday 8th: Christmas Fayre (3.15pm) **(Christmas Jumper Day)**

Tuesday 12th: Christmas Cinema visits (lower school AM and KS2 PM) (detailed letter to follow)

Wednesday 13th: KS2 Christmas Concert at 9.30am and 6pm

Thursday 14th: KS1 Christmas Concert at 9.30am and 6pm

Thursday 14th: Y5/6 Carol Singing at local venues- 10am at Tesco and 10.30am Market

Friday 15th: Foundation Stage Concert at 10.30am and 2.00pm

Monday 18th: Y1 and Y2 Christmas Party (PM)

Tuesday 19th: (AM) Reception Christmas Party and (PM) Y3/4 Christmas Party

Wednesday 20th: Carols around the tree (senior citizens and grandparents welcome) 10.30am and (PM) Y5/6 Christmas Party

Thursday 21st: Christmas Lunch and gift sharing **(Christmas Jumper Day)**

Friday 22: AM Nursery Christmas Party

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

**Kind Regards**

**Mr L McClure, Headteacher**

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| **Week 8 Information** | **2017/18 Average** | **Week 9 Diary Dates** |
| **Attendance: 97.6%**  **Late marks: 4** | **Attendance: 97.2%**  **Late marks: 2** | Monday 6th: Return to school (No INSET day)  Tuesday 7th: Aladdin Pantomime (whole school) AM  Wednesday 8th: KS2 Cross Country- individual event  Thursday 9th: Meet the Caterers event (2.40pm- school hall)  Thursday 9th: Y5/6 Football Finals (Kirk Balk) (PM)  Friday 10th: Y4/5 Enterprise Day  Friday 10th: Y3 DT day  Friday 10th: KS2 Running Club starts |
| **Class of the Week: Y6 ‘Amazing Azerbaijan’ with 99.8%** | |
| **Step to Success Focus:**  **#4 Be resilient and never give up!** | |