

## SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter- Week 25

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter! Another busy week was enjoyed by all last week and we have lots of snippets of news to share with you all!

**Robinwood:** It was a pleasure to visit the whole Y6 class last Wednesday at Robinwood and see them fully engaged and excited by their activities. The centre staff (and our own) were blown away by their behaviour, effort and achievement! These visits are such a key part of a child's development and we wouldn't be able to shape our children and their personal skills without these vital residential visits. Special thanks to the staff who attended too who did an excellent job of keeping us all updated and keeping the children happy and safe.

**Reading Support:** Last week Mrs Fearn and Mrs Royston monitored the amount/quality of reading and phonics in school from Nursery to Year 6. We also looked at reading logs and how regularly they were used by families. The standard across school is generally very positive but we wanted to analyse which age groups were reading more than others and the impact that this has on learning and progress. Reading in Reception (F2) and Y1 are incredibly important as these are the year groups when children learn to decode unfamiliar words and to blend sounds. We really appreciate the support of our families in so many ways but we wanted to stress the importance of learning good habits like reading. Mrs Fearn will be writing to all families very soon with some further feedback as well as guidance and tips on how to help your child(ren).

**Remember, reading is the key to success in all areas of learning!**

**Pupil Premium:** Our recent work with Pupil Premium children and families is having a fantastic impact on attendance and the well-being of the children. Some of our children who receive the Pupil Premium are still working at levels below expectation and we, as a staff, are meeting soon to discuss actions plans to address this so that more pupils meet the standards of each year group. This is a key improvement area on our last Ofsted report so it is something that we revisit at least each term. Again, as is mentioned above, reading regularly at home is a key part of that success and any additional support- to supplement the extra things that we do in school- would be really appreciated. A reminder that, if your personal circumstances change (work, family, benefits, etc) you may be eligible to receive free school meals/pupil premium for your child(ren). Please speak to Miss Chapman in the school office if you feel that this may be something you could receive now or in the near future.

**Comic Relief and World Book Day:** Thank you for your excellent support during our two most recent special events in school! Everyone looked fabulous during World Book Day and the Books for Breakfast event was a roaring success as ever! We also had excellent support with the Book Fair where we took £450 on new books which will really help us to stock our amazing library even further with almost £200 of commission! We are quite short of new and exciting books for lower school (EYFS). I was clearing out my little boy's bedroom this weekend and found several, almost new books that he doesn't use anymore. If you have any books that are suitable for 2-5 year olds that are in good condition we would always be happy to receive them! During Comic Relief last Friday we raised a fabulous £210 and the children had so much fun at the Comedy Show in their red outfits! Congratulations to Zach in Y5 who took the main prize with his comedy song! Thank you for your amazing and ongoing support with our special events.

**Allergies:** Please note that nuts and sesame seeds are not allowed in school. We have had tubs of Celebrations/Quality Street brought in recently as gifts or birthday treats for the class. These brands contain Snickers/Bounty, etc. which contain nuts. We appreciate how kind it is for children to bring in goodies on their birthday, of course, but please ensure that all ingredients are safe as we have children who could suffer very serious reactions in school. Please also note that fizzy drinks, chewing gum or sweets aren't allowed in school as snacks or drinks. Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe and healthy.

**Sports Update:** A quiet week for sports last week but congratulations to our Y1/2 multi-skills team who came third out of nine teams present! You were fabulous! We have lots coming up this week with a Y3/4 multi-skills event today at Penistone Grammar, a Y5/6 football match against Brierley Church of England on Friday and the start of KS1 Football Club on Wednesday! Also, please keep an eye out for details of a Big Pedal event for a fortnight where we aim to get even more children cycling and scooting to school!

**Wellbeing week:** This week is Wellbeing Week and we will be working with pupils and staff to learn about protecting our mental health and our family time. This week we will be encouraging everyone to minimise the use of ICT/screens and to enjoy more social or outdoor events. With this in mind you will note a sharp decline in email/text/tweet communication just for one week!

**Uniform Standards:** Standards of uniform are currently incredibly high. Well done everyone! Keep up the good work; it is so important to look smart and visitors often comment on the high standards that we have! 😊

**PTA Meeting:** Our school budget has become much tighter over the last 4 or 5 years and next year we are having to make some further cuts to staff hours and other services. We are doing all that we can to keep standards high, meet the needs of all pupils and to avoid passing costs on to parents. During a recent discussion about our financial position, the Governing Body thought it would be a good idea to hold a special meeting to gather ideas for fundraising. Many parents have commented to me that a formal PTA (Parent/Teacher Association) with regular events for families would be a great idea. With this in mind we would like to hear from anyone who may have ideas or time to spare! We will have a meeting at 5pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April in the Community Room. All are welcome! If you are interested but cannot make that particular day and time please email me your views/ideas and I will collate them and feed back to you.

**Y3 New Teacher Update:** We can now confirm that we have successfully recruited a very experienced and talented teacher by the name of Mrs Alderson. Mrs Alderson impressed us at interview and she engaged very well with the children. She planned an excellent session which hooked the children into their learning and provided challenges and support that clearly move the children on in their learning. We also felt that Mrs Alderson matched our ethos very well and she has a track record for supporting children well and enriching their lives with sporting and musical activities! Mrs Wildsmith will be supporting the children in class for a few more weeks and then we will start to see a transitional period take place. During this transition, the two teachers will be working together to ensure that this year's reports are detailed and accurate. They will also ensure that the new teacher knows the children very well as early as possible. On the final week of term the two teachers will be working together on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April) and we will offer a short 'Meet the Teacher' event for all Y3 parents at 5.30pm in class. This is just before the Musical evening which starts at 6pm where Y3 perform their guitar piece! We are very much looking forward to welcoming Mrs Alderson very soon!

**Mayor's Parade (Float):** Each June we enter a float in the Mayoral Parade in Penistone. The theme this year is 'Fairytale' and we would like to invite any parents or families with creative or design skills to come forward to help us to plan the float! It normally involves giving up some time in the few weeks before the event and the Saturday morning before the event too. Without extra help we may not be able to enter a float this year so we would love to hear from interested parties!

**Y1 Assembly:** Sadly, due to staff illness we have had to cancel the Y1 assembly this week which was scheduled for 9am. We will send out a new date for the rescheduled assembly (probably in late Summer) as soon as possible.

Have a great week everyone!

**Kind Regards**

Mr L McClure

**Headteacher**

Week 24 Stats	Average 2018/19 Stats	Week 25 Diary Dates
Attendance: 98.2%	Attendance: 97.4%	<b>WELL-BEING WEEK ACROSS THE WHOLE SCHOOL</b>
Late marks: 0	Late marks: 9 all year	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> : Y3/4 multi-skills at PGS (4-5.30pm)
GREEN LIGHTS: 98.7%	GREEN LIGHTS: 99.4%	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> : Y3 Visit to Moorland (9am to 3pm) Wellies or warm shoes to be worn
Classes of the Week: Y1 Water Lilies and Y6 Yorkshire Roses with 100%		Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Football for Y5/6 versus Brierley Church of England (3.30-4.30pm)
		Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Captain's Table (upper school) and Star of the Week