

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter- Week 28

Monday 8th April 2019

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter! It has been another busy and successful term here at Springvale and we are looking forward to an even better term this Summer!

Mrs Walker's Retirement: Just a reminder that after 18 years of excellent service Mrs Walker will be retiring this week. Thursday 11th April is Mrs Walker's last official day (even though she will be volunteering in school) and we wanted to mark the occasion with a top secret special final day. We will have a little assembly for staff and pupils to say goodbye that is attended by Mrs Walker's nearest and dearest and any parents who feel that Mrs Walker has touched their lives are quite welcome to contact me to request a seat. An event where everyone can get involved has also been planned for Mrs Walker. On Thursday 11th April we would ask that all children and parents attend school just a few minutes earlier. If everyone could meet us on the rear playground by 8.40am so that our senior staff can help the whole community to make a guard of honour- this would mean a lot to Mrs Walker on her last day. The guard will start at the EYFS green gates and bend around to the Y6 fire exit with parents and children on either side. Children in Nursery or Reception are welcome to come round to join in if they wish (and then we can allow entry through the rear doors for your children with staff afterwards. Parents who would rather go to the front of school as normal are quite welcome to do so but please note that the doors will open slightly later than normal for both Nursery and Reception at approximately 8.50am.

Summer Term Clubs: Our batch of Summer Term clubs are all planned and ready to go. The email is online, on Twitter and attached to an email for all parents. This gives parents the rest of this week and the Easter holidays to plan clubs and childcare before booking opens on Monday 29th April (INSET day) at 10am. We have added some new clubs based on requests from the School Council and feedback from parents on recent questionnaires. Our usual batch of lunchtime events will continue as normal.

Reading Feedback: I recently updated parents that we have been working on analysing home reading/reading in school and the impact on academic progress. Mrs Fearn has produced a report to give further information about findings and how you can help us to make reading- which is the key to all learning- even better at Springvale! Mrs Fearn's report is below:

First of all, I would just like to say a big thank you to all the parents who support and encourage their children to read regularly at home. **Reading is the key to good attainment in all areas of the curriculum**, which is why we are so passionate about getting the children to enjoy and develop a love for reading from an early age.

Here is just a quick reminder of the expectation for reading with your children at home.

F2- 5 minutes daily Y1- 5 minutes daily Y2- 10 minutes daily Y3 – 10-15 minutes daily
Y4- 15-20 minutes daily Y5+6- 2.5 hours per week, including the reading of novels

I know that some parents have asked if they can read for longer with their children, and I want to let you know that the expectation is the minimum requirement, so as much as you can do is fantastic! **Just remember that when you do read with your children please write it into the reading log, as this helps the teacher make a better assessment of your child.**

All teachers are checking the reading logs every week, and this is being reviewed by myself. I have recently completed a review on reading logs and was pleased with the vast majority, however, it was quite disappointing to see that a large number of our youngest children are not reading as much as they should be. Reading gives children the ability to achieve well in school and gives them the skills to communicate effectively with their peers.

The Department for Education reported that if all pupils in England read for enjoyment every day, or almost every day, the boost to Key Stage 2 (end of Year 6) performance would be the equivalent of a rise of eight percentage points.

Research carried out for the Department of Education found that:

- Children who read books on a regular basis are on average more satisfied with life, happier, and feel like the things they do in life are worthwhile.
- Research has indicated that reading fiction (stories) is associated with higher levels of empathy and improved relationships with others.

This is not just about our school's attainment results, but your child's health, wellbeing and relationship with those around them. Thank You, Mrs Fearn

School Meals: Take a look at the new school meals menu (starts after Easter) online and attached to this letter!

Sickness Procedures: Just a reminder that, whilst school has very high standards of attendance and we want to keep improving, we would never ask parents to bring children in to school when they are genuinely unwell and unable/unsafe to learn. Children with sickness bugs (which are very easily spread) and any contagious illness must stay away from school. The school has guidance on how best to manage such illnesses so please give us a call for advice. We are however keen to cut down absences for children with minor issues that could be supported and monitored in school- sore throats, for example. Staff can check on children and ensure that they are comfortable so that children do not miss school. We monitor the children regularly and would always contact parents if your child was too unwell to stay in school or if their condition changed during the school day. Please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details in school so that we can get in touch if this happens. It is vital that we can communicate with emergency contacts as we may need to ask that children are collected if they become too unwell for school.

Packed Lunch Update: Just a reminder that we have recently changed our packed lunch policy so that children can enjoy some foods in moderation rather than ban sweet items. This is a trial period and relies heavily on parents support the new approach. We have had some reports of significant amounts of chocolate already so please ensure that a balanced lunch is provided with only a limited amount of chocolate. Sweets (haribo, lollipops, etc) are not allowed.

Music Extravaganza: We have our very special musical evening on Wednesday (10th) at 6pm. We will not be able to allow access to the hall until just before 6pm (due to the event mentioned below) so please don't come along too early! We are very proud of our instrumentalists and their achievements and we look forward to sharing their work with you all! The show will finish at around 7.20pm just after we have presented two very special awards! We hope that you can join us on what is a highlight of the school year!

Meet the Teacher Y3: Mrs Alderson, the new teacher who will replace Mrs Wildsmith during maternity leave, will be in school for three days this week to get to know our children and staff. We thought it would be a great idea if there was an opportunity for parents to meet Mrs Alderson too so we have arranged this for 5.30pm in the school hall. This will immediately precede the music event mentioned above.

Sports Update: Congratulations to our excellent league team who gave their best in a tough fixture against Penistone St Johns last Monday. We were defeated by an excellent team despite brilliant goals from Noah and Ethan (also Player of the Match). This game concluded another busy term of competitive sports but we have lots planned for the Summer Term including more intra-school sport than ever before and a huge Sports Awards event.

Lower School Visit: A reminder that on the first day back after Easter, F2, Y1 and Y2 going to the theatre to watch Jack and the Beanstalk. Children must wear school uniform and will need to arrive at school at the normal time. They will be back in plenty of time to have their lunch in school.

Mayor's Parade: Thank you to parents who responded to supporting the Mayoral Parade float this year. We have chosen a theme of '*Jack and the Beanstalk*' to link with the overall fairy tales theme. I wonder who could play the giant?! We will keep you updated about our progress and any further support required but this year I want us to include the whole school in creating and building the float! Look out for more details soon!

Easter Holidays: Please note that we break-up for the Easter holidays on Friday 12th April and we are closed for two weeks. We then have an INSET day on Monday 29th April. Children return to school on Tuesday 30th April at the normal times. Have a lovely Easter everyone!

Easter Clubs: We have recently emailed out details of some Easter activity camps (see the 'newsletter section' of the school website to catch up if needed!) and our very own Audrey Parsons will be running an Easter Pop Shop session too...see the details below:

This will be from 10am - 4pm. We will have a show between 3pm- 4pm. Children need to be between the ages of 6-12. They are also required to bring their own drinks and lunch. The cost is £15 per child. Spaces are limited and payment will be required to secure your child's place. You can secure your child's place by contacting Audrey on: 07488315616, Facebook messenger : Viva Events UK or via [email :vivaevents.uk@gmail.com](mailto:email.vivaevents.uk@gmail.com)

Have a wonderful break and thank you, as ever, for your amazing support!
Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

Week 27 Stats	Average 2018/19 Stats	Week 28 Diary Dates
Attendance: 97.6% Late marks: 3 GREEN LIGHTS: 99.3%	Attendance: 97.4% Late marks: 0.4 per week GREEN LIGHTS: 99.1%	Monday 8 th : Y2 at Springvale Gardens (9-11.30am) Tuesday 9 th : Y1 at Springvale Gardens (9-11.30am) Tuesday 9 th : Pop Shop Show (4-5pm Hall) and JAM Club Show (3.45-4.00pm) Wednesday 10 th : Easter Egg competition judged in assembly Wednesday 10 th : Class Photographs Wednesday 10 th : Y3 Meet the New Teacher at 5.30pm Wednesday 10 th : Music Event at 6pm (Y3 and all instrumentalists) Thursday 11 th : Guard of Honour for Mrs Walker at 8.40am (rear playground) Friday 12 th : Y5 Swimming at 10am Friday 12 th : Captain's Table (upper school) and Star of the Week
Class of the Week: Y3 Wildflowers with 100%		

