

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter- Week 39

Monday 15th July 2019

Review of 2018/19

Dear families,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year. What a year it has been. It has flown by as we have kept everyone busy with so much going on across the school. What with lots of school visits, special themed days, charity work, fundraising, curriculum days, assemblies, sports and musical events; it has been the school's busiest year ever! Well done for keeping up with it all!

In 2017/18 we made many and significant changes to the school, not least in how we engaged our parents and families. Communication and the school's key ethos changed rapidly and parents have fed back very positively on those changes. This year we have embedded most of these popular systems and cultures around school and I'm so pleased that feedback from questionnaires, Twitter polls, our Parent Council and Governing Body remains incredibly, and almost exclusively, positive. Next year we would like to try and tweak things ever so slightly again to make them even better so your ideas and feedback remain crucial to us!

Reading and commenting on every child's report, along with our own observations and assessment systems show that all children are making progress (academically and socially), most are already achieving very well and all are well placed to reach their potential. Our teachers and support staff are incredible and for the last two years I have been very proud to lead them. They go above and beyond in my opinion and, as evidenced by the reports again, they know every single child inside out and back to front! Staff are working increasingly well in teams to support each other and develop each other to keep on improving. In my opinion, we provide a very high standard of education and care for our children, despite working on a very tight budget.

Behaviour incidents are lower than ever (and more consistently managed), attendance is the highest in Barnsley and above 97% once again, and very few children are late or ill prepared for lessons. Our children do need help and guidance in terms of 'playing together' on occasion and we have developed lots of mechanisms to help them with friendship groups, sharing and making sure that kindness is at the centre of all that we do. Losing Mrs Walker from our team has been difficult as she underpinned so much of what we do but her voluntary work, combined with the outstanding efforts of all of our staff, mean that children remain very well supported.

The curriculum continues to grow and evolve and we offer children so many opportunities to 'learn together' in so many different subjects. Our music provision remains strong and sport has gone further than we ever imagined in what has been another award-winning year for all that we offer in this area. Thanks to the development of subject leadership skills amongst the staff we now offer more exciting science, ICT, artist, humanities and, thanks to external input, we also engage children in special projects like Design Technology, eSafety and Active Travel. Next year we have a new Ofsted framework to navigate but it would appear that our current systems and plans are quite well aligned to the new expectations already, which is pleasing to see as we always shape our school for the children first and foremost.

One area where Ofsted will be digging deeper is into the reading opportunities that are provided at home and at school. Reading logs, spelling lists and multiplication tables will remain the core focus of our home expectations, as well as some phonics work in lower school and key revision in Year 6. As stated previously, we really appreciate how supportive our community is and the way in which you engage with us but making sure that every child is keeping up with these daily practices, especially reading at home, will become a key focus of our work.

We have also had another year of 'achieving together' as we record positive outcomes throughout school. Our lower school judgements are increasingly precise and accurate as we focus on what children need to know and not what they should know. This allows children to grow at a more natural and comfortable rate and achieve in upper school. Our KS2 results show that we are well above national average and that children make rapid

progress. Our children also achieve together in all areas of the curriculum as demonstrated in daily assemblies and on Twitter. This was also very tangible at art gallery events, parent drop in and parent discussions, the musical instrument evening and the recent sports awards event.

I continue to be incredibly proud to lead this great school and this wonderful community and I would like to thank every child, parent, staff member, volunteer and Governor for their time, their enthusiasm and their support. When everyone pulls TOGETHER we can really achieve amazing things. The future is very bright and I look forward to another excellent year in 2019/20! Well done everyone!

Key Improvements 2019/20:

- **Ensure that ALL children read, work on phonics/spellings and multiplication skills regularly alongside quality classroom provision**
- **Continue to raise outcomes at greater depth levels**
- **Continue to increase rates of progress and achievement for SEND/Pupil Premium children**
- **Continue to develop the wider curriculum and the leadership skills of all subject leaders**

Sports Update: Congratulations to everyone who was celebrated at the recent Sports Awards. We had excellent guest speakers and it was a fabulous celebration of the many talents of our children. Well done to the Y6 children who were celebrated together as a talented and enthusiastic bunch! Congratulations also to our fabulous tennis teams who came 2nd (Y5/6) and 1st (Y3/4) at the Barnsley Finals! An amazing achievement to wrap up another great year for sport at Springvale! Well done also to our football team who lost 7-3 to Penistone St John in the final game of the year last Thursday. They played with a superb spirit and made us very proud. Player of the game went to Noah who scored two goals and a big well done to Seth in goal, Leah on a super goal and the whole team for showing their progress with a strong team performance!

Final week events:

Family Picnic: Please note that the family picnic, our final chance to all come together as a community, will run (weather permitting) on Wednesday 17th July from 12.30pm. Parents and children are quite welcome to bring their own picnic but we just ask that no nuts or seeds are included and please take care with sharing goodies as many of our children have allergies. Younger children are welcome to join us and, remember, the theme is Fairytales! Children can dress down in casual clothing or dress up in the theme of Fairytales. We will have some little prizes for the best costumes- adults or children! The whole family is welcome and the top gates will be opened at 12.30pm as we start to pair families up with their children. If parents cannot attend then we will supervise your child on the field anyway so that they can still take part. We will have some extra stalls and games going on at a small cost to raise school funds while we enjoy the (hopefully) good weather and celebrate another excellent year in school. Children can leave with their parents from 2pm if desired but they must sign out at the top gate. AM nursery children are encouraged to come back and join us with an adult too!

Leavers' Assembly: On Friday 19th July, the final day of term, we have the Y6 leavers' assembly at 9am in the school hall. The rest of school will attend but there is space for all Y6 families. We hope that you can join us.

General Reminders:

- Please ensure that all lost property is claimed before the end of the Summer Holidays and please add your child's name to any items brought into school next year
- A reminder that no items of jewellery, other than a simple watch, are allowed in school. If child are having their ears pierced in the Summer Holidays please ensure this is done straight away so that they do not have to miss PE activities on their return in September
- After some children lost/misplaced trading cards, which can lead to friendship issues, we would ask that children do not bring in such cards. We will be adding a lunchtime club for 'trading cards' next year so that this fun activity can take place without any issues and without impact on learning time
- School will be closed over the Summer Holidays as vital premises/cleaning work is completed

Thank you all once again and have a fabulous Summer break!

Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

Week 38 Stats	Final 2018/19 Stats	Week 39 Diary Dates
Attendance: 97.7%	Attendance: 97.1%	Monday 15 th : Y4 Visit to Old Moor, Y5 Quiz Final (PM)
Late marks: 1	Late marks: 0.6 per week	Tuesday 16 th : Reward Afternoon- Blue Ash- cinema and popcorn (1.45-3.15pm)
GREEN LIGHTS: 99.3%	GREEN LIGHTS: 99.2%	Wednesday 17 th : Family Picnic- Gates open at 12.30pm
		Thursday 18 th : 11am Staff v Y6 Pupils Rounders
		Friday 19 th : Leavers Assembly at 9am
Class of the Week: Y5 Tropical Orchids with 100%		Friday 19 th : School closes for Summer Holidays

