

# SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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2019/20 Newsletter- Week 1

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Dear families,

**Summer:** We hope and trust that everyone has had a great Summer break. Our staff have returned looking rested and energised for the new term and we hope that children have full batteries too!

**Thank you:** A special thank you to everyone for their warm words and messages/gifts at the end of the last year. We appreciate the support given all year and look forward to another successful and exciting year throughout 2019/20!

**Hello, Goodbye:** At this time of year we must always remember to celebrate the achievements of our recently departed Y6 pupils and some fabulous children who have left us for pastures new. We hope that they settle very well in their new learning environments and continue to thrive. We also say a huge hello and welcome to fabulous new families and many new children and parents/carers in F2...we look forward to helping you all to settle in and we hope that you enjoy playing, learning and achieving together with us!

**Class Names 2019/20:** Please see our exciting class names as chosen on transition days by the children in their new classes. The EYFS theme is animals and the Y1-Y6 theme is people who have changed the world!

**F1:** Discovering Dolphins

**F2:** Curious Cubs

**Y1:** Excellent Earharts

**Y2:** Attenborough's Animals

**Y3:** Heroic Higinbothams

**Y4:** Resilient Rowlings

**Y5:** 'Thee' Shakespeares

**Y6:** Magnificent Malalas

**Reading Army:** Our children made better progress than ever last year thanks to support in school and at home. One initiative that made a significant difference was our Reading Army! Our Reading Army are a team of volunteers who help our staff to ensure that every child reads/works on spelling, etc, as often as possible. If anyone is interested in giving up just one afternoon a week (or as many as you like/are free) please get in touch. We can provide support and training materials to help people who feel they need it. Volunteers work alongside our staff team and any help is very much appreciated and vital to us achieving our goals. Please do get in touch if you are interested at all.

**EYFS Timings:** Since we changed the EYFS classroom layout and lost the extra fire door to the front of school (this has since been replaced to the adjacent EYFS playground) we have really struggled to find the most safe and calm system for releasing F2 children and their siblings from the same door. Having the number of siblings that we do this new school year for F2 children, we are concerned about how we can safely release so many children from one door at a single point in time. With this in mind, from Friday, we will be opening the F2 door from 3.10pm to 3.15pm each day. This gives staff the opportunity to release children who have siblings first and the parents have enough time to collect from F2 and then get around to the other classroom doors as necessary. Any parents with children in F1, F2 and upper school can also collect from nursery slightly early. Collection at F2 for parents without older siblings can still take place by or immediately at 3.15pm. This little adjustment makes things much safer for everyone and just allows a calmer end to the day in EYFS. Older children are still quite welcome to head through to their classrooms through EYFS at 8.45am as this works quite smoothly and ensures that all children are in class and ready to learn on time.

**Medicines in school:** Could parents and carers please help us to ensure that all medicines and inhalers in school are suitable and in date. Mrs Kelly will review the items in school but this time of year is always a good one to refresh what we have available for us to use.

**Attendance:** Our attendance finished off the year at 97.2%, the same as last year. This is a fantastic standard to reach two years in a row...let's keep it up! As ever we will be monitoring every child's attendance very closely and ensuring that we all work together closely to continue be the best school in the region! Indeed, standards of uniform, PE kit, appearance, punctuality and readiness to learn are vital to our school's success. Let's continue to aim high and be the best...it really does have a huge impact on learning and progress!

**Class Web Pages:** These will be developed over the next week or so and updated- please do take a look! The link is here... <https://springvaleprimary.org/classes/> The new web pages will confirm staffing and curriculum content.

**General Reminders from the School Office:**

- The school office is open between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm.
- Reminder: The lunch menu you had before the summer will run up to 21 October- this should be in starter packs for new children. We have spares in reception if needed!
- The school payment system has been on line for a while now. If you're still having trouble accessing your child's account please feel free to ring the school office to get you up and running!
- Please check your child's account as there may be new payments for the new school year. e.g trips/dinner money.
- Please ensure all uniform has your child's name and, ideally, class inside.
- If your child need school uniform, orders go to Vortex every Thursday and return the following Thursday.
- Please ensure all contact details for your child/ren are up to date.
- If your home circumstances change please inform the school office or Mr McClure as soon as possible. Any information will be handled in the strictest confidence.

**Safeguarding:** Please note that we ask parents to make us aware of anyone, other than themselves, who will collect their child. If this is a regular arrangement we would ask that you complete a safeguarding proforma or email me at [l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org](mailto:l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org). This means that we can ensure all staff have up-to-date and accurate details to ensure the safety of all pupils. This is important all year but especially at the start of the year as all staff (except Miss Alderson!) have to learn so many new names and faces! Please note that only Y5/6 pupils are allowed to walk home. Pupils now in Y6 with permission granted in Y5 have been added to the list automatically. Anyone else, or new to Y5 pupils, require written permission. This will mean that children will be allowed to walk home at the end of the school day and after clubs (with the exception of winter clubs that finish after dark).

**Diary Dates:** Our annual planner for parents and (more in depth) diary dates for this term up to Christmas are almost ready to share. They are being finalised and checked ready to share next week. One date to be aware of now is that **next Friday (13<sup>th</sup> September) is Roald Dahl day**- the day that would have been the great man's birthday! We always celebrate by allowing children to attend in fancy dress as a Dahl character or in dress down. We normally encourage children who dress down to wear something yellow as this was Roald Dahl's favourite colour. There is no donation for this day. Children can bring their favourite Roald Dahl book too on the day to show everyone in assembly!

**Before/After School Clubs:** Our clubs will be launched next Monday (9<sup>th</sup>) at 9am. The list of clubs will be emailed out tomorrow so that you can plan the clubs you would like to book. I'm sure you will agree that our club list is bigger and better than ever- what a fantastic range of quality opportunities for our pupils!

We look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow and we hope everyone has a fabulous first week!

**Kind Regards**

**Mr L McClure**

**Headteacher**