

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter- Week 6

Monday 7th October 2019

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We have so much to share so let's get started!

Recent Feedback: I'm delighted to say that we have had several visitors in school recently who have commented on the manners, attitude and learning potential of our children. In fact, many comment on the atmosphere in school from 'the second you enter the building!' Isn't that lovely! It shows what can be achieved when we all work together to follow our ethos!

Key Dates: Last week we alerted parents in Y1, Y2 and Y6 about key dates to avoid. These dates are listed below. Children in Y4 will also take a multiplication check (online) which must be taken on certain days but we do not have the confirmed dates yet so please do not book holidays without checking if your child is in Y4 this year. As ever, we understand that holidays need to be taken when work/family commitments allow and we are as understanding of this in our policy and practice as we can be but, naturally, there is no time when holidays are taken in term that do not affect progress and achievement. We will always highlight the key dates to avoid for each year group when assessments are taken to ensure full attendance on these vital days/weeks. Thank you for your support in helping us to 'show off' the amazing progress that our children make!

Y2: SATS taken in small groups across the month of May 2020 (vital preparation from January)

Y6: SATS taken week commencing Monday 11th May 2020 (vital preparation from January)

Y1: Phonics check taken w/c Monday 8th June (vital preparation Summer term)

Attendance and Punctuality Updates: We have had a simply amazing start to the school year in terms of attendance and punctuality. We currently stand at a record high 97.9% with only one late mark across the whole school. This is an excellent standard but we always want to do even better! We do have some children arriving just after 8.45am each day and while this means they don't quite miss the close of registration and get marked as officially late, it does mean that they miss vital instructions and settling in time. Let's work together so that we are all ready to learn at 8.45am when the doors open please! ☺

Drug Education: A reminder that Y6 parents received an email last week about the content of our drug education programme which links to our science curriculum. Please let us know of any concerns about the content as soon as possible.

Sporting Updates: A huge well done to our KS2 cross country runners, boys' football teams in Y5/6 and KS2 girls' football teams for their hard work last week. The runners are absolutely on fire as we move towards the team and individual final events. Many came in the top 10 of all competitors again and we won several of the team events with every team competing to an excellent level and, more importantly, smiling (after getting their breath back!) The finals' events will be on Friday 25th October (PM) and Wednesday 6th November (PM) with both events at Cannon Hall. We will be writing to parents soon and asking for any help from parents so please save the date! Awards and qualification for South Yorkshire level are up for grabs at these events.

Our Y5/6 boys came 2nd and 7th respectively in the local P4Sport Football event. All of the players did a great job and the (mainly) Y6 team featuring Finlay B came within a whisker of the trophy! They all did us proud as ever! Our girls' in Y3/4 and Y5/6 took on Churchfield on Friday afternoon and it was a superb afternoon of football. The Y3/4 game was a joy to watch and it ended in a 1-1 draw. I suggested penalties but the weather and their coach disagreed! ☺

The Y5/6 team have come so far and they beat, in my opinion, the best girls' team in Barnsley in recent years for schools. The game ended 1-0 thanks to a Keira-Leigh goal rounding off a great team move! Well done to everyone involved and a special mention for captains Paige T (Y6) and Jessica B (Y4) and players of the match Poppy J (Y5) and Mia C (Y4).

P4Sport Update: The events have started really well and we have another one this week- 'Get Mucky' for Y5/6 which is a version of the 'Tough Mudder' events which are growing in popularity. Next week all children from Y1 to Y6 will be given a 'P4Sport' booklet which is their 'passport' to health, fitness and fun. Each half term the children will fill in any clubs, fixtures or competitions they have been involved in with a goal to fill the chart by the end of the year. Stay tuned to Twitter to see/find out more but children will complete them in assembly time with the help of young leaders and the passports will link to our end of year Sports Awards. Following development work last year we will be celebrating sport AND well-being in awards next year at a special awards evening held, once again, at PGS. We will continue to seek out those success stories in all classes and at all ability levels! While we understand that some children engage more frequently with sport we will target pupils who wish to get involved in events but have not yet represented the school as the year develops.

London Meeting: Thank you to everyone who came along to the meeting last Wednesday! The parents in attendance have fed back that they found it very informative and feel at ease about the plans and excited for their child! The presentation slides have been shared on email and added online too. Please let us know of any questions that you may have. We will meet again six weeks before departure.

Nursery Visit: On Friday 25th October we have a special visit to Oxspring Park for all Nursery pupils. We will run the visit from 8.30am to 12.30pm but we are kindly asking if all children can attend for those 4 hours (at no extra charge to children who only stay 3 hours normally) as we have some important work going on in the classroom that afternoon as the nursery is being refurbished over the half-term holiday. Please contact us ASAP if your child does 30 hours and this arrangement would create a problem for you. Mrs Exley will send out further details about the visit and the intended learning in due course.

Harvest Festival: A further reminder we will have our annual Harvest Festival at 10am on Wednesday 23rd October. Please note that this is for grandparents and the elderly only as is tradition at Springvale. We have opened up a guest list so please e-mail office@springvaleprimary.org to book grandparent places. We gather harvest donations, display them to our children and the community and then we deliver them to elderly residents in the local community. It is a fabulous day that helps us to celebrate the joy and importance of helping others to our children. We will update you closer to the time about potential donations. The Harvest festival will be captured and shared with parents through social media. If you know anyone in the local community who would appreciate a Harvest package please let us know.

On the day (or the few days before) we will gratefully accept any donations for the Harvest assembly. Any items donated should be brought to the reception area from Monday 21st please.

JAM Club: Mrs Walker and some volunteers run our JAM club and a few new KS1 parents have asked what JAM stands for. Many think it is music related and some even think it involves making jam! JAM stands for 'Jesus and Me.' The children learn about bible stories and different aspects of the Christian faith. As we are a school which does not have a religious denomination I just wanted to make parents aware every so often so that any new attendees know the content of the sessions. Mrs Walker can explain the likely content further if your child is interested in joining the club.

Have a great week everyone!

Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

Week 5 Information	2019/20 Average	Week 6 Diary Dates
Attendance: 98.7% Late marks: 0 GREEN LIGHTS: 99.3%	Attendance: 97.9% Late marks: 0.2 per week GREEN LIGHTS: 99.2%	Thursday 10 th : Inclusive Table Cricket AM (selected pupils) Thursday 10 th : 3.50-4.50pm Y5/6 Get Mucky event (PGS) Thursday 10 th : Y6 Open Evening at PGS (6pm) Friday 11 th : Imagination Gaming Day (4 pupils from Y3/4 involved) Friday 11 th : Star of the Day and lower school Captain's Table
Classes of the Week: Y3 Heroic Higinbothams with 100%		

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO TODDLERS SESSION ON WEDS 16th and 23rd OCTOBER