

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

01226 760930

Headteacher: Mr L McClure
l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org
www.springvaleprimary.org
@SpringvalePS



Newsletter- Week 7

Monday 14th October 2019

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We hope everyone is enjoying the term so far. Not too long now until we take a little break but there is a lot to squeeze in before we do so!

Improvement Work: It has been a pleasure and a joy to see the school's development over the last two years and we have big plans for the future as I'm sure you would all hope and expect. The passion and drive that leaders have, and indeed share with all of our staff, are a key feature of our recent improvements. This year our improvement work will be mostly centred on creating a culture of excellence around reading and the wider curriculum as explained recently on a newsletter. Next week we will update you in more detail about our improvement work in these areas and some exciting events that are planned for the near future.

Sometimes leading an improving school isn't just about 'new' initiatives. It is just as important to revisit existing policies, some of which that are working very well, to make them even better. One area of school that is very strong and consistently managed accordingly to parental views is behaviour. The policy that was brought in two years ago has been fully embedded and we have very few incidents of note. In terms of serious behavioural incidents we deal with two or less each week, on average. We have however started to analyse amber incidents and the impact that this has on learning and progress. In some classes we have had a small number of pupils on amber each week. This is often for minor issues and the child then works their way back on to green very quickly and stays on green, as is desired by the staff and a key part of the system.

We would love to maximise learning time in class and the potential that each child has. For this reason we have attempted to work as a team of staff to tweak our behaviour policy to make regular amber lights a thing of the past. As you will be aware, we have very high and rising standards at Springvale and we want to continue to raise the bar so that pupils constantly make us proud with their outstanding behaviours and attitudes to learning. Please do not think we are suggesting that behaviour is an issue at present but we are here to make Springvale the best school in the World so we want to keep working with our families to move towards that ultimate goal! In-line with our ethos, we would love to hear your views about the new, slightly tighter guidelines. The main change is that we would introduce consequences (missed clubs, events) for children who are regularly on amber as well as children who have received a red light. We welcome any views from families in person or on email over the next two weeks as we head in to the half-term break. These views will be discussed by Governors as we agree a final policy/behaviour system.

TT Rockstars: Starting today and running for the next two weeks (up to half term) between the hours of 8am to 8pm we have entered into a TT Rockstars competition with the other local primary schools in our cluster. Children are encouraged to log in and practice their skills and improve their speed. We will launch the competition in a special assembly today and show the children how to log in to the challenge. The site has really improved our pupils' confidence levels, speed and ability and it is vital part of our improvement plan, especially for pupils in Years 3 and 4. If you are having issues logging in please email us and we will see if we can help you as soon as possible.

New Classroom Screens: We are very excited to share with you all that we will be replacing 4 of the 6 classroom screens with TV style interactive boards over the next 2 weeks. These screens are top of the range with high quality sound and interactive features. The classrooms for Y1, Y2, Y4 and Y6 will be replaced first and then, in April or May, we will replace the boards in Y3 and Y6 (as their boards are not as weak at the moment. This will mean that all classrooms have top class facilities.

Hallowe'en Disco: A reminder that we are currently planning a fantastic Hallowe'en Disco on Thursday 24th October between 6 and 7.30pm. Y1-Y6 children can be left with us but EYFS children must be accompanied by an adult throughout. EYFS children will leave at 7.25pm and then we will start to release one class at a time to parents who should wait in the reception area. Children need to pay £1 to attend and some light refreshments (reasonably priced) will be on sale. Please bring change if possible! All children need to sign in at the front desk and then be highlighted off the list when they leave. Please consider your outfit carefully so that it is fun and scary but also appropriate for a disco with children aged 3-11 years old! Please follow the advice on signage during the evening to help us to safeguard children effectively!

Club Update: Our clubs for Autumn 2 will be launched next Monday (21st October) at 11am. This is a change to the originally advertised date as we wanted to get the clubs opened up for booking so that they can begin straight after half term and run for just 5 weeks as the last two week before Christmas are busy with Christmas events. The usual batch of clubs will be on offer plus a new inclusive sports club on a Monday morning (all4games with Emma and James) which is open to all children who want to learn about a wide range of inclusive sports and games. Children who do not normally enjoy sports or those who are less confident may like to try this club as it features games that are adapted for all levels of ability. Our KS2 football will be split as the weather starts to decline and we need to move indoors. There will be 30 places for Y3/4 next half term and then 30 places for Y5/6 between January and February. Please note that all of Mr Crossfield's clubs will still run and these will now be provided by an experienced PE teacher who we have brought in from Team Activ. We will share more details about the new club leader in due course.

C-POMS (Safeguarding): Even though our school deals with a relatively low amount of well-being and/or safeguarding concerns we have decided to sign-up to a very impressive system called CPOMS. This is an online, secure and interactive tool to help school leaders to communicate any well-being, behavioural, safeguarding, etc updates with staff. The system sends notifications to the necessary staff so that they are fully informed of any feedback from other staff, parents or the children themselves. I feel that communication is a strength in school but this tool will take it even further forward.

Books for Breakfast: This Wednesday we have our first Books for Breakfast event of the year as F2 to Y3 children come in to school to enjoy breakfast and a book together. Please refer to the main letter for timings and details (the letter is online). Please note that only families who have pre-ordered breakfast should come along to the serving hatch for food. All families, even those who haven't replied, are welcome to come along and enjoy a good book together.

School Photographs: A reminder that we have individual and family photographs being taken in the Community Room this Friday. If you have younger family members who you would like including on the photograph, it will be possible to come along to the community room at 9.00 am. Unfortunately, it is a case of queuing and we have found that the best solution to this is for you to take your child to class and then wait by the community room with your younger child(ren). As your turn approaches your child will be collected from class by a member of staff and they can have their photograph taken. This cuts down on the time children miss from lessons and is less of a distraction for the photographer and others having their photographs taken. Parents of afternoon nursery children may bring other family members to Reception at 12.45 pm. If you do not wish your child to have an individual photograph taken, please inform the office. Children already in school will automatically have their photograph taken with their sibling as well as individually. If you don't want your children taken together please inform the school office.
office@springvaleprimary.org

Food Bank Collections: Following our harvest collection at the end of this half term we will be starting to collect ongoing items for a Food Bank donation in school. This is due to popular demand following a tweet that shared news of our staff and Governors creating a donation package for a family in school who were going through some challenging times. The interaction between parents and school was amazing and many feel that this was an act that links perfectly to our school's ethos around togetherness. Many parents have since requested that we support any families in need on an ongoing basis and, if our families do not require this support, we now have a link directly with the Barnsley Foodbank manager who is willing to collect any items. This will start after half-term so we will update you as to where items should be placed and which items are the best to include in such packages.

Harvest Festival: A further reminder we will gratefully accept any donations for the Harvest assembly. Any items donated should be brought to the reception area from **Monday 21st please.**

Sporting Updates: A huge well done to our Running Club children who keep smashing their best ever time records. It is amazing to see how engaged our children are with running and, indeed, health and fitness in general! Twelve children from Y5/6 took part in a 'Get Mucky' fun run last week and they absolutely loved it. They were commended for their efforts and their team work. This week we have 9 children at a Y3/4 football competition and then all interested footballers in Y3/4 are welcome to play in an inner-school game on Friday at 3.30pm as Y3 take on Y4 in the battle of Springvale!

Gaming Competition: A big well done to the 24 children from Y3/4 who took part in a special gaming day where they played games to develop their thinking skills and strategic abilities. The day was a huge success and we plan to buy some of the games and/or bring back the gaming specialist so that all of the Y3/4 children, and maybe other classes too, can benefit. Playing games is such a great way to learn socially!

Have a great week everyone! **Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher**

Week 6 Information	2019/20 Average	Week 7 Diary Dates
Attendance: 97.0% Late marks: 3 GREEN LIGHTS: 99.3% Classes of the Week: Y5 'Thee Shakespeares' with 100%	Attendance: 97.7% Late marks: 0.7 per week GREEN LIGHTS: 99.2%	Wednesday 16 th : No toddler session Wednesday 16 th : 8-9am Books for Breakfast (F2-Y3) see letter Thursday 17 th : Inclusive Table Cricket AM (selected pupils) Thursday 17 th : 3.50-4.50pm Y3/4 Football event (PGS) selected pupils Thursday 17 th : TA interviews in school Friday 18 th : Individual and Family Photos Friday 18 th : 3.30pm Y3/4 Football match (school field)

