

**SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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## **Newsletter- Week 8**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

**Reading Update:** Over the last few weeks we have spent lots of time monitoring the quality of teaching and learning. It has been a very positive experience and we have found lots to celebrate. As ever we want to go further than ever before for our children and we will be monitoring home reading alongside the quality of guided reading, comprehension lessons and free reading activities. The new Ofsted framework is very clearly focused on the quality of reading and, crucially, what we do to support less confident or reluctant readers. Staff and leaders have been working hard already and we have decided to spend on new and improved reading areas in each class, continue to develop the library and update our reading materials throughout school over time. We will also continue to progress with the quality of phonics, an area which has improved significantly in recent years. We are also looking at introducing a sponsored read later in the year, some staff events to promote the love of reading as well as keeping all of our old favourites like Shakespeare Week, Books for Breakfast and Roald Dahl/World Book Day dressing up events! Lastly, we are planning on holding some workshops to help parents to see how we teach phonics and reading so that we can share good practice and have a further impact on how confident our children are at reading.

We have struggled to get our Reading Army together and off the ground this year but we are desperate to run it as it had such a huge impact last year! We are trying a different approach after half term- rather than adults spread across the week we are asking for anyone who can volunteer between 1.40 and 3.10pm on a Wednesday afternoon to get in touch please. We would like to see reading going on in every nook and cranny of the whole school so that as many pupils as possible get the opportunity to read 1:1 once a week in school as this will help their love of reading and their progress. One pattern that we have noticed during our monitoring is that pupils who read 3-5 times a week at home generally make good progress in reading and other subjects and children that read less frequently (or not at all) often make only expected progress or less. There are exceptions to the rule but a pattern is clear and we would like to reiterate that our school ethos is centred around that crucial partnership between home and school. We really do appreciate your ongoing help and assure you that any time given will have a significant impact on your child's future achievement and enjoyment of learning!

**TT Rockstars Update:** Our children are absolutely flying on this and the impact is clear to see! Thank you all so much! We are on track for the promised 'Rock Star Day' but we need to keep going. If we do finish top of the leaderboard by Friday then we will text out to parents but please be aware that our plan would be to offer the dress up Rock Star Day on Children in Need Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Children who aren't interested in dressing up can follow the original plan and wear spots or stripes instead.

**Hallowe'en Disco:** A reminder that we have our Hallowe'en Disco on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 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! We are very short of parent helpers for the event this year- if you can stay and help out with refreshments, etc, please let me know ASAP.

**Half-term break:** A reminder that we break up this Friday for a half-term break. We re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November at the usual times.

**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 **today please**.

**Club Update:** Our clubs for Autumn 2 launched today at 11am. **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 Mr James Clark who will be here during clubs this week to get to know the clubs and the children. Please note that our final Pop Shop of this current run means we have a show tomorrow (Tues) starting at 3.45pm!

**Books for Breakfast:** A massive thank you to everyone who came along to our firsts Books for Breakfast event last week. It was a roaring success and everyone seemed to enjoy a good read with some nice refreshments. A big thank you to Mrs Fearn and Mrs Ridgwick for organising, to Kerry for cooking the food and to Mr Kilner and Mrs Tucker for their hard work. I must also thank ENGIE our building owner and facility provider for sponsoring the event as they have done for 3 years now.

**Kindness Week:** This week is Kindness Week and we will be encouraging everyone- staff, parents and pupils to remember the importance of caring for and thinking of others. Even the smallest act of kindness can make a huge difference. Our dream is to have a school where every week is kindness week! We are certainly very lucky to work with the children and families that we do and we continue to think of new ways to work with our amazing community. This year, for example, we will be singing at elderly resident homes for the first time- look out for details soon!

**Drug Education:** Our Y6 children recently enjoyed some lessons in drug awareness. I just wanted to say how impressed I was by their awareness and their mature approach to the concept. They made us really proud. We will be following up the sessions soon, including some work at Crucial Crew later in the term.

**Springvale Museum:** Eagle-eyed parents may have noticed a 'new' event on our parent calendar for 2019/20. The event is on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January and it is called Springvale Museum! This event has replaced the parent drop in in our schedule. The evening will be an open house so that families can call in across the early evening to see the work that we are doing across the whole curriculum. Each classroom will be themed around a curriculum area 'design technology' for example and you will see work from the youngest learners to the oldest and have some pupils there to explain their work and progress. We hope that parents will get the opportunity to come and along and see all that we offer!

**Parents' Evening:** A reminder that our first parents' evening of the year will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November between 1.30 and 7.30pm in the school hall. Appointment bookings will open at 5pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. We will offer some extra appointments to nursery parents on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November as Mrs Exley has a lot of parents to see! Online appointments will be sent to everyone as a link on email and mobile phones but the Monday sessions with Mrs Exley will be a sign-up sheet at the Nursery entrance.

**School Photographs:** Photographs were taken last Friday and we have a deadline for the return of photograph orders of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Where we have separated families we will post a copy to father's address so please ensure that you contact us ASAP if you haven't seen an order form within the next few days.

**Sporting Updates:** A big well done to our amazing Y3/4 footballers who played in the wind and the rain last week in a pulsating, end-to-end match. It was great to see a record crowd of parents in attendance, 6 fantastic goals, lots of amazing tackles/goalkeepers making world class saves and just the 12 red cards. Only one of those is not true and I will let you work out which one! Well done to Josie and Nathan who were selected as star players...it was a tough choice to make as we had 30 players involved! Well done also to the small team that went to PGS to take on local Y3/4 teams last Thursday. The children were a credit to us all once again and they drew three games and lost one.

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

Week 7 Information	2019/20 Average	Week 8 Diary Dates
<b>Attendance: 97.6%</b> <b>Late marks: 0</b> <b>GREEN LIGHTS: 98.3%</b>	<b>Attendance: 97.7%</b> <b>Late marks: 0.6 per week</b> <b>GREEN LIGHTS: 99.0%</b>	All week- Kindness Week- see how many people you can make laugh or smile?! Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Pop Shop Show (3.45-4.30pm) Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> : No toddler session Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> : 10am Harvest (grandparents and elderly residents) Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> : Inclusive Table Cricket AM (selected pupils) Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> : 3.50-4.50pm Y1/2 Family Multi-skills event (PGS) Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> : Hallowe'en Disco (6-7.30pm) Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> : Nursery visit (all pupils) 8.30-12.30pm Nursery closed PM Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> : Cross-country (team finals) Cannon Hall PM
<b>Classes of the Week: F2 'Curious Cubs' and Y3 'Heroic Higinbothams' with 100%</b>		