

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

01226 760930

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



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Newsletter- Spring Bank Update

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We have sent two significant letters about potentially extending the number of pupils accessing school from 1st June in the last week. They are online and on emails now. Please ensure that you have seen them, noted the significant and pertinent details and replied to school with any needs or issues ASAP so that we can support everyone and be ready for 1st June.

We know that some of the content of the plan has created logistical problems for some of our families. We are being incredibly strict on our plan as this is about so much more than flexibility. The entire plan is centred around crucial medical/science advice to keep children in strictly controlled bubbles and we have to protect the pupils and our staff by following the safety guidance to the letter. Unless the Government provides us with or announces specific details and guidance to go against our plan we will carry it out to the letter. The main issue seems to be around parents having to drop and collect. This is because it is the only way to ensure that a child only accesses one bubble. Use of other childcare settings as well as our provision will multiply the number of contacts across two different settings and two different bubbles. We know that some settings are allowing this but the guidance is clear that it is only deemed to be safe for school provision to extend when bubbles are controlled to a maximum of 15. Indeed the hard work over the last fortnight has been geared around this with allotted staggered arrivals, departures and breaks, complex staffing plans and detailed risk assessments of every aspect of school life.

Learning Projects and Home Support: There is no formal work set this week but we do have the Springvale 'Stay at Home' Olympics (online and attached to this email) to enjoy! We have received some amazing tweets and emails already- thank you! We hope you enjoy the video we have made too! Our website link www.springvaleprimary.org/curriculum provides everyone with a wide range of free resources with lots of new content including some extra support for parents of pupils with social or communication issues. **Please note that we are committed to offering home learning until all children return safely.**

Spring Bank: As ever, since the outbreak of COVID19 and the school 'closure,' we are open to key worker and vulnerable pupils for the week ahead. We will be based at PGS all week. A reminder that pupils do not require uniform and the usual rules and expectations apply. Provision is 9am to 3pm and children need to bring their own packed lunch.

Home-School Agreement: There will be four communications during the week ahead to help everyone to prepare for the potential return to school. The key one will be a home school agreement that must be signed and returned via email or hard copy before your child starts back at school. This will set out the safety agreement between the family and school. In the interests of safety and respect for each other, we expect all staff, pupils and parents to follow the Government's guidelines and the statements set out in our home-school agreement. The four communications will all be sent together later in the week so that you are more likely to see them all and the other three documents will be:

1. A document to support families where children are anxious about returning
2. A letter for parents with all of the information about school will be like
3. The same letter as above but written for the children specially, using lots of pictures

Volunteers: Our school is very lucky to have so many volunteers who support and supplement the work of our staff team. With the current situation in place we have asked that all volunteers on an ad-hoc or short time commitment stay away from school to support their safety and ours. Volunteers who commit to the full school week are allowed assuming that they are healthy and clear of symptoms and that their support would not take any group over the maximum bubble size of 15.

Stay safe everyone and thank you for your continued outstanding support.

Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher