

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 19th June 2020

Newsletter- Week 36

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Another successful and fantastic week of learning has passed by, let's take a look at the latest school news for the coming weeks!

Extension of provision: We are now three weeks in to the extension of our school provision. Feedback is very positive and our numbers have grown and grown. It is a joy to see teachers and children doing what they do best- playing, learning and achieving together! Most pleasing of all is the continued excellent record of health, safety and cleanliness. We are revisiting our risk assessment each week making minor tweaks and Governors are reviewing our plans every fortnight. Last night our Governors met and we celebrated the positives so far but stressed the need to remain cautious. We feel that guidance is likely to change soon, and surely significantly by September, so the time was right to try to gradually move towards normality making minor tweaks to our systems every few weeks. We have made two adjustments to our risk assessment/provision which will take place from Monday. Staff and the relevant parents have been informed already but these were formally approved by senior staff last week and by Governors last night.

1. Y6 children will be allowed to 'mix' during outdoor break times as long as social distancing is adhered to. This will support the Y6 children and their social and emotional needs with a significant transition to secondary setting on the horizon. This is also reward for excellent behaviour and a commitment to social distancing both in and out of school- this needs to continue in order to keep the new, more relaxed, stipulation in place. Indoor activities and dining, for example, will remain in isolated bubbles. Additional handwashing and exclusive, personalised resources also remain.
2. EYFS children who have been accessing the emergency groups since Monday 1st June will now access their normal setting on their dedicated days, this had always been part of our plan after an initially more cautious approach than many schools. **The risk assessment of classroom capacity stands and will not exceed 13 on any given day.** This means that 4 children in Nursery and Reception will now receive a more appropriate educational experience with the staff and environments most familiar to them. I would like to express my thanks to Mr Venus, Mrs Slack and Mrs Fearn for supporting this group of children to stay safe and learn well over the last few weeks. We have reset the bubbles and adjusted staffing so that Mrs Slack can return to her EYFS role and Mrs Northrop will revert to supporting KS2 emergency bubbles in-line with her normal role too.

EYFS Transition Meeting: A reminder that we will have a transition meeting for new Nursery and Reception starters on Wednesday 24th June. This will be held between 5.30 and 6.30pm via zoom. Look out for a link on Tuesday 23rd June via email (please call us during the hours 9am to 3pm with any issues or questions about the meeting or how to connect.)

Online Assemblies: Last week we trialled zoom assemblies for children at home, as well as at school. The assemblies are Monday to Thursday at 1.30pm. We cannot post the details for joining the meeting here as our letters go in the public domain. If you would like to join us please use the code and password shared on Twitter (it is the same each day) or contact us via email or telephone for the details. The themes will be: Monday- PHSE, Tuesday- storytime, Wednesday- school ethos messages and Thursday- History or Geography skills. All are welcome but to navigate our GDPR and safeguarding policies we would ask that all parents and classes turn off videos and microphones please.

Recruitment: We have now shortlisted and held initial interviews for the EYFS TA position for September. We were amazed by the standard and number of applications! We have narrowed the very strong field to three remaining candidates and the final stage of the recruitment will take place on Monday. We will keep you updated!

Learning Projects and Home Support: This week's theme is 'Famous and Significant People.' We also have our Virtual School Games event- please see previous email or letters home online for details! We have also shared our weekly Art/DT challenge from Mrs Tomlinson! We hope that you enjoy all of next week's opportunities! Our website link www.springvaleprimary.org/curriculum provides everyone with a wide range of resources. **Please note that we are committed to offering home learning until all children return safely.**

Dress Down day- Cystic Fibrosis: On Friday 26th June, next week, we will hold our annual fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis. If pupils could wear yellow or summery colours please- whether you are at home or at school! Families are very welcome to make a donation to the charity by putting money in the tub in class at morning registration. A charity box will also be in the shelter between 10am and 2pm (alongside our library) on Friday should any families at home want to take part. Due to the current situation there is no obligation to contribute to the funds but we would love for the whole school to wear the colour coded outfits!

Risk assessment: Our risk assessment has been updated weekly since 1st June with minor tweaks and improvements. The latest version is attached and has been added to our website. Please note the tweaks for assemblies, Y6 pupils returning for special events, toilet access for staff and pupils in bubbles and F1-Y2 first aid provisions.

Wraparound: We have had confirmation today from the DfE and a local provider that wraparound care should not be used alongside a school place under any circumstances. The small number of families who were using wraparound alongside our emergency provision have been informed and they have adjusted their plans. We thank them for their support. We will update you immediately if the guidance changes. Some childcare providers/wraparound staff do have their own children at our school so please don't be alarmed if you see them collecting children from school!

Updates and reminders:

- Emergency group bookings must be made by lunchtime by a Wednesday for the following week's planning documents to allow time for leaders to organise staffing, resources, groups and safety measures.
- Our sharing libraries will be back out in the shelter between 10am and 2pm each Tuesday and Friday
- Water bottles must be taken home, cleaned and returned to school each day. If children ever attend without a bottle we will provide one and charge £1.40 through the School Money system.
- Year 6 parents should note the letter sent last week about Sexual Relationship Education update and how we intend to deliver this vital content to all Y6 pupils this year.
- Nursery uniform- our consultation period has now ended and there will be no need for nursery uniform despite our plans for an EYFS unit next year. F2 children will still wear uniform and F1 children can choose what to wear but there is no expectation to buy or wear school uniform. Standard aspects of the uniform policy linked to the health and safety of pupils- like not wearing ear-rings or make up- must be adhered to each day.

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

Kind Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher