

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter- Week 4

Monday 21st September 2020

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter! Our staff are working incredibly hard to support and nurture your children and we're very confident that, despite the present climate and a setback yesterday, this year will be a very successful one here at Springvale Primary!

Learning Journal: Please note our first 'Learning Journal' of this school year which is attached. This document will share the main learning content in each class, each half term so please do look out for it and help us to secure the key skills being taught each weekend where you possibly can! We hope to get our Twitter feed back up to speed soon with even more updates and pictures of superstars and great work in the coming weeks! We've been a little quiet of late but we had to focus on safety standards so much over the last few weeks to make sure that everything is embedded. Staff are already delighted with the quality of reading records, spelling scores and positive attendance at any events for parents online. Thank you for your outstanding support!

Behaviour Policy: Please find online under 'letters home' and attached to this email our suggested Behaviour Policy. This is a key policy that impacts on every child as it also includes key messages about how reward positive behaviours and how we keep children safe when a child's behaviour falls below the expected standards. As a key policy in school we always encourage your views, feedback and ideas. The GOOD to be GREEN texts have been in place for 3 years now, any ideas to improve the system or freshen up the rewards we have are welcome! The deadline for consultation views is on Monday 5th October 2020. Please note that the purple text is where changes or additions have been made to the existing policy, this includes a COVID specific section near the end.

Health and Safety Update: As you will be aware from our update yesterday, we have had a positive case in our Nursery setting. For this reason, we have closed our nursery bubble to all pupils and the staff who worked with the children since Tuesday of last week (48 hours before the positive test). We have reviewed our risk assessment and feel that we continue to meet all requirements and guidelines and that we are minimising risk in every way possible. The staff member who tested positive is almost at full recovery now and we expect her to join our team soon subject to continued improvement. We have had various children across the school displaying potential COVID symptoms but our systems seem to be working so far- touch wood! We would ask that all parents make sure that we have your up to date contact details and back up family members to contact in the event of needing to send a child or a bubble home. If this was to happen to us we would need to make contact immediately with an appropriate adult for each child affected.

Please take extra care in and around school including the drop-off area which is always busy. Due to the different times of each group we occasionally have parents with young siblings getting back in the car, etc as other cars arrive for later slots. As the weather worsens and mornings and evenings are darker please do take extra care at all times. Parents are not using the main school car park anymore which is great and keeps everyone even safer. Please do not walk/cycle through the car park too as we have many staff cars coming and going as well as large delivery lorries which may need to reverse out of tight spaces. The drop off and collection systems appear to be working well and 94% of parents polled on Twitter said the new system is much better. We agreed that it seems to be working well. It is much safer for children in school too but we would urge all families to:

1. **Only arrive at specified times and avoid being early and having to wait for doors to open (the playground is completely closed to parents before 8.30am and until 3pm)**
2. **Keep a safe distance from other families whilst on the playground**
3. **Keep children close by at all times- even after you have initially collected them. Please do not allow children to play on the trim trail or in the MUGA as these have been used by specific bubbles during the day.**
4. **If using bikes or scooters, please dismount once you approach the school grounds and do not start to ride them inside the school grounds as there are some blind corners and tight spaces.**
5. **Please leave the school grounds as soon as you are ready to and avoid congregating on school grounds**

Harvest festival: We are excited to announce that this year's Harvest Festival will be live on Penistone FM (online and 95.7FM) with a special Harvest message from our classes to the whole of Penistone. The theme will be being thankful to those who look after us with songs, shared work and comments to the elderly and vulnerable in the community. It is such a hard time for so many at the moment and the elderly that I care for in my own family are very low, isolated and lonely. We want to spread some cheer to everyone and here is how we intend to do it!

- We will continue to build up our Food Bank for local families- please leave any donations in the shelter so that we can clean or quarantine them over the next week so that we can present some food hampers to our families in need- any donation is so greatly appreciated!
- We also seek donations of items that we can use to make special packs for the elderly and vulnerable in our community. We hope to make cards and deliver them in small groups- keeping a safe distance and following all necessary measures to get them where they need to be! If parents have any donations of items like tea, coffee, biscuits, tinned goods, puzzles, cards or messages prepared by children please leave them in the boxes in the shelter over the next two weeks. We will clean and/or quarantine all items before redistributing.
- The packs will contain a special invite to the Harvest show which will be between 11am and 12noon on Friday 16th October 2020 on Penistone FM!

We are working hard on adjusted plans for parents' evening and Christmas already, some of the ideas are very exciting indeed. Please note that there will be no formal Halloween disco or Christmas Fair this year although we do hope to hold many of our traditional activities with slight adjustments. We also hope to hold a grand Christmas Raffle to raise money for school funds.

Home Learning: We have kept our extensive range of home learning materials on our website at www.springvaleprimary.org/curriculum if children are absent from school please do take a look at the materials and feel free to use them. National Oak are still providing online and real time curriculum content which may also be useful. If children are away from school due to COVID guidelines for more than a few days, e.g. forced isolation, then we will endeavour to send some details of the content from class to help them to keep up with the curriculum. If we ever have to close bubbles then we will revert to providing high-quality home learning for the entirety of the disruption to school life. Please do remember that we 'paused' our school curriculum from March to September and used stand only projects each week so that we didn't create gaps within our classes. The initial assessment/class context meetings last week were a huge success and staff felt confident that pupils are well placed to achieve the necessary progress to meet their potential. With that in mind we must thank our staff for their excellent home learning projects and the families for providing outstanding support during the most turbulent of times. Again, thank you!

One way system: Please note that the one way system is in place for all drop offs between 8.30 and 9.05am and for collections at the end of the day including clubs. Lunchtime collections/drop off for nursery pupils or collections during the day for medical reasons can go against the one way system when you leave the site but please take extra care as you leave.

A culture of kindness: Over recent years we have managed incidents of behaviour consistently with the support of our parents. We have a very low number of amber and red lights and this means that children can feel safe in school and their learning experiences are maximised. Children will naturally fall out and say things that could cause upset or offence. We very rarely hear the word bullying used in school and, when it is used by a parent or child, we work relentlessly to investigate and address any issues quickly and efficiently. We would like to use our Harvest plans (see above) to launch a new theme in school...a culture of kindness. Over the next few weeks pupils will be recognised for thinking of others, helping their peers or supporting someone who is vulnerable. Please share any stories of kindness from home with us on email or Twitter so that we can celebrate them. Unkind words or being left out at school can have a negative and long lasting effect on a child for many years and we want to show the power of kindness at every opportunity!

SMSA role: We have had one application for the SMSA role but we require more support so the advert will go live again very soon for 2 weeks.

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

Week 3 Information	2019/20 Average	Week 4 Diary Dates
Attendance: 98.3%	Attendance: 97.1%	Tuesday 22 nd and Friday 25 th : Y5 and Y6 Road Safety training
Late marks: 0	Late marks: 0	Friday 25 th : Star of the Week
GREEN LIGHTS: 99.4%	GREEN LIGHTS: 99.6%	Friday 25 th : Macmillan Cancer Dress Down- any colour, suggested £1 family donation
Class of the Week: Y4 Fantastic Flemings with 99.7%		Friday 25 th : Y6 swimming continues (PM)

