

**SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**01226 760930**

**Headteacher: Mr L McClure**  
**[l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org](mailto:l.mcclure@springvaleprimary.org)**  
**[www.springvaleprimary.org](http://www.springvaleprimary.org)**  
**@SpringvalePS**



**Week 6 Newsletter**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter! Lots to share with you this week so let's get going!

**COVID update:** Last week we had four new cases in school and three more this weekend. We will always email an update to the relevant class(es) each day with any new cases. Most are from LFT results but we will update you if they DO NOT convert to confirmed cases on a PCR test. The rules remain that it is advisory to take a PCR test if someone in your household or a close contact tests positive. Some parents have decided that they will keep their child away from school until the PCR test has returned negative. This is something that we can enforce but the Governing Body and I feel that it is a sensible approach and we thank parents who take this precaution. We have now made this an expectation for all staff to help to keep our school community safe. A reminder that our Remote Learning Policy is for children to use their Learning Log for any single day absences but that we WILL provide work if a child tests positive. Please contact us if your child tests positive and they are well enough to complete work. We will get it to you as soon as possible and please feel free to share their work on email for feedback or return it as a pack when they are clear for school attendance again.

**School News:** There is so much going on in school I am struggling to keep up! Our School Council are now fully elected and they are working hard to garner the views of their classmates ready for our first formal meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 1.15pm. The agenda is pretty busy with COVID and the fuel shortages to address but we hope to get on to the real demands of the children like longer playtimes, more discos and bigger jacket potatoes! In all seriousness, teaching our children about democracy and everyone having a voice is so important and I'm excited to get the group moving and make some key decisions as I lead the group during Mrs Wildsmith's maternity leave. Our lunchtime DISCO returns this Friday too after a little break with the full lunchtime covered so that all age groups get a 30 minute boogie! Finally, a huge well done to our Y5/6 boys' football teams who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and 4<sup>th</sup> in their group respectively...they played so well and never gave up despite torrential rain! A massive thanks to Mrs Exley and Miss Ryalls too for their time and enthusiasm...I'm sure they will appreciate the thanks once they have dried out in a few weeks!

**School Census Day:** This Thursday is our School Census day. This means that we submit lots of information about our school which is used moving forward as an 'average day' at Springvale. This day calculates what our budgets are based on. One area where parents can help us is by taking up a school meal on this day- especially if your child is entitled to a free school meal either due to their age or entitlement. For this reason we have switched a menu a little so that our most popular meal is on Thursday this week. Children who have a packed lunch in F2-Y2 and those who receive a free school meal can actually order a 'back-up pack-up' and try a school meal at no cost. Any meals ordered this Thursday will really help us to receive the full funding for school meals and avoid putting pressures on our curriculum budgets. The menu now looks like this just for this week:

**Thursday**

Battered Fish & Chips  
Vegetable & Lentil Bolognese

**Friday**

Chicken Korma with Rice  
Cheese & Tomato Panini

**Shakespeare Play:** KS2 will be treated to their annual Shakespeare Day on Friday. Thanks to Mrs Fearn for organising as always. This is a highlight of our school calendar and the children absolutely love it. This experience is being provided free of charge to our pupils. During the year all school visits are partially subsidised and each year group will receive some 'free' experiences. We use funds generated by our leaders and staff supporting other settings to cover these costs. Just so that parents are informed, please be aware that Ofsted now ask schools to evidence the 'cultural capital' that we provide children with. This means we are asked about new or experiences for pupils that go above and beyond the National Curriculum expectations and we are keeping a wide range of evidence this year to show just how many experiences we provide to children. Cultural capital also refers to the breadth of texts read in school at home and taking children out of school (sports events, residential visits, day visits, etc). Mrs Fearn will be compiling a questionnaire soon for all families about what experiences children have had out of school so that we can plan a curriculum (with a cherry or two on top) that will inspire our pupils. If you have any ideas or feedback about how well the school provides such experiences please let me know!

**Nursery Places:** We have a number of Nursery places available at the moment. These will start to fill up after Christmas and Easter but we wanted to ask if anyone had, or knew of anyone who had, a child at the suitable age who could benefit from our school based nursery offer. The progress that children make in our nursery and the evidence that we have in terms of nursery helping children to prepare for full time education effectively is really clear. We are preparing a little advert to share with local parents and on social media so please pass this on should you know anyone with a child at the relevant age(s).

**Prospective Tours:** Please note that we have set up three open evenings to allow new prospective parents to access the school safely. The dates and times are:

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October @ 4pm, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November @ 5pm, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December @ 6pm

We have decided to arrange our tours a little differently this year as we used to have small groups of parents during school hours. We feel it is more appropriate at present to take tours outside of school hours and we will be booking up to 12 sets of parents/ families on each date. Our Headteacher Mr McClure will give a short talk and we will have some of our staff and Y6 pupils to help conduct tours of the school afterwards. The whole event will be approximately 1 hour long. Please arrive at the main reception at the time stated. We would advise you to wear a mask, unless exempt, for your safety and the safety of our pupils and staff. Please note that on site visitor parking is limited. If you would like to book onto one of these tours please do so by reply to this email or call us on 01226 760 930.

**Learning Logs:** Thank you for engaging with our learning logs, we have had some excellent feedback about how useful they are and these will become a constant feature now moving forward with some ideas to make them more useful (and better quality/colour printing) next year. Please ensure that children or adults log daily reading AND add a weekly comment about your child's effort or progress that week. This is so important! More and more people are doing it but we want every family to do so to show just how much we all value reading and the progress that can be made when we work together.

**Meetings for F2 and Y1 families:** Please note that we have set up our traditional parent meetings for pupils who are new to F2 and Y1. These will be sent as on separate emails to parents but please save the date! Both meetings are really important in terms of understanding our approach to supporting children and the significant role that you can play in helping us to ensure that your child reaches their full potential! The Y1 meeting is on Zoom (a link will be sent) on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October between 5-5.30pm. The F2 meeting is in the school hall (with a zoom link for isolators etc) on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Attendance in person will be beneficial for this one due to the resources we want to share with you.

**Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA):** Please be aware that children in F2 (reception) are working one to one with Mrs Exley at some point over the coming weeks to complete a new assessment called the Reception Baseline. This helps us to ascertain a child's ability across the curriculum from their full-time starting point with us so that we can set appropriate work and targets moving forward. Mrs Exley will explain more at the F2 meeting mentioned above.

**Online Safety:** On Friday we sent out a summary email for all families about the importance of Online Safety. Today we will send home our annual Family Online Agreement. Please complete it and keep it on display in your home office, bedroom, maybe even on the fridge...it is so important that we work together to keep children safe online.

**Poetry Day:** This Thursday we have a local Headteacher turned published poet visiting us to share his amazing and very funny poems. Please see the email sent out on Friday with full details including a poetry competition and an opportunity to purchase a signed copy of the author's debut poetry collection entitled 'Kamikaze Mouse!'

**Barnsley FC Penalty Shoot-Out:** Well done to everyone involved! 13 pupils scored all 5 penalties and they will get a medal! Please return any monies raised by this Wednesday! We will offer a chance for anyone who missed the event a chance to take 5 penalties the next two Monday lunchtimes so they can still get involved but the money is still needed on Wednesday please! Thank you all for your incredible support!

**Harvest Festival (Reminder):** This year our Harvest Festival performance will take place on the radio again. We will be live on Penistone FM on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October between 10-11am so please spread the word and get the whole family involved! We will be welcoming donations for our harvest/wellbeing deliveries to the elderly and vulnerable too- more details next week but we are ready to welcome any donations of tinned goods, packet foods, non-perishable items and/or magazines/puzzle books etc that can be shared. These can be left in the boxes in the shelter or in the foyer at reception.

Have a great week everyone!

Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

**School Statistics- Week 5**

Attendance: 95% Class of the Week: Y4 with 99.1% Late marks: 0 GOOD to be GREEN: 99%

**Mini Diary- Week 6 (Well-being theme: Friendship/Music of the week: Mozart and Beethoven)**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October:** KS2 Football events (Y3/4 girls 2.00pm, boys 2.30pm, Y5/6 girls 3pm, boys 3.30pm)

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October:** Deadline for penalty shoot-out funds

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October:** P4Sport event at PGS- Get Mucky KS2 event (selected pupils will have an email) 3.45-5pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October:** World Poetry Day- special assembly and poetry competition. Y1/2 Wild Science event in the AM

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October:** KS2 Shakespeare Day