

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Week 16 Newsletter

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter! Last term was a roaring success and we're all ready to deliver another fantastic term of playing, learning and achieving together this spring. We hope that everyone had a wonderful festive period and on behalf of the staff and Governors we wish you all the very best for a happy and healthy 2022!

Return to school: We have sent out an update regarding the latest COVID guidance on email and this is also now on the 'letters home' section of our website. Please note that the new term brings a push on high standards in all areas. We had more late marks in the last two weeks of term than the first 13 weeks so attendance and punctuality are a key focus for all pupils alongside the need for full, appropriate uniform (plain, black shoes) and having a full PE kit and learning log in school each and every day. Being ready to learn is one of our three school rules so we are having a huge push on this for every class and every child to make the spring term as successful as possible!

Christmas Events: The children had a fabulous festive run-in with cinema visits (not forgetting the yummy ice cream), visits from Santa with gifts, a hearty Christmas lunch and their little parties too! The pantomime/EYFS show were lots of fun too and the whole package worked beautifully to set the children up for their Christmas at home. We are delighted with the progress of our children so far this academic year, despite ongoing issues with COVID and absences of staff and pupils to navigate. Please keep up your fantastic support and encourage children to love their learning!

Learning Logs: During an inspection of learning logs at the end of last term we were delighted to see that 80%+ of pupils are reading regularly and logging their reading. We would like to ask all parents to please ensure that a weekly comment is made at the bottom of the sheet. Only 40% approx. of parents are completing this section on a weekly basis. This summer we reduced the expectation to comment from daily to weekly based on parent feedback so it is vital that the new system is supported. Thank you for helping us to track reading in school, it is so important to the work that we do and a huge part of our ethos. We will continue to monitor and text reminders to families where needed over the coming term to hopefully raise those percentages.

Christmas Raffle: Thank you once again to everyone who provided donations for this year's mega-raffle- we raised over £1750! Amazing support as always! We also want to thank everyone who bought a ticket to raise money for next year's exciting events. If you still have a prize to collect please come to the school office ASAP.

Staffing News: A reminder that Mrs Wildsmith will now work alongside Mrs Henstock in Year 5 and Mrs Fearn will take on a role working on writing/Literacy development across the school. We welcome Mrs Wildsmith back after her maternity leave. She will work in class on Monday and Tuesday plus, sometimes on a Wednesday morning.

Online Safety: Many families will have new devices or games in the home after a visit from Santa. This is a really crucial time to talk about Online Safety with our children (we will have an assembly about this soon, as well as our ongoing curriculum work in this area) and for parents to think about making devices safe. We have shared on our Twitter feed some excellent advice on how to set up a new device safely. Please let us know if you would like a copy of this or further information and/or support. Unfortunately, we did experience some issues with pupils watching and playing inappropriate games at the end of last term. Please ensure that children are only accessing age-appropriate content at home and that the games/online content being accessed are safe. We have had a number of pupils talking about 18 age rated games that promote very concerning behaviours. Please also note than many children do not have these games but they can watch them/access elements of them on Youtube and similar platforms. It is vital that we monitor what our children are accessing as one child having access to something dangerous or inappropriate can bring that content in to the world of the whole school at break and lunch times. We have children are young as 3 years old in school and we want to protect all pupils as well as we possibly can. Once again we thank you for your support in this vital matter. We have been asked by the safeguarding lead for BMBC to share this website <https://lurkingtrolls.com/parents/> A lot of the content is aimed at older pupils (Y5/6) and secondary but it might be useful for other parents to see it.

Clubs: Our latest clubs are being launched today at 2.30pm. We are delighted to offer so many opportunities despite the ongoing COVID challenges. We will do all that we can to keep clubs on and we will never cancel at short notice (e.g. overnight or on the day) as this can lead to safeguarding issues and challenges for working families. Please note that following a Pupil Premium review in school we are offering all pupils who receive the Pupil Premium funding one free club each half term. This must be a 'school' club so it needs to be one run by school staff (games, basketball, rugby, environment, running) and not external staff. To book your free club please call or email the school office ASAP. If Pupil Premium child book on more than one club then any extras should be booked in the usual way.

How to help your child and their wellbeing: We are delighted with the approach that our school has to wellbeing and the way in which our parents support this as a priority. We have navigated the additional challenges and pressures created by COVID and we are keen to take this even further in the coming years. We are sad to say that we will be losing a vital member of our wellbeing team. Sonia Prescott has supported our wellbeing work for the last four years- and has supported my previous school for 4 further years before that. She has been a wonderful asset to the school and she will be missed. We wish her well as she moves away from the area, thank you Sonia and good luck! We have plans in place to appoint a new wellbeing counsellor and we have a very experienced candidate to interview in the next few weeks. We will keep you updated. Mrs Royston, Mrs Wildsmith and I are planning an online support meeting for families for later this term. We hope to offer support with online safety, resilience, sleep and behaviour at home. We are planning out the content and seeking external partners to support the evening so please look out for details about the event.

Safe collection List: Our safe collection list is now closed for the spring term and we will open it again during the Easter holidays ready for the summer term. Please continue to tell us if someone who is not on your list is collecting your child and note that children will stay in school until we can gain permission verbally on the telephone where we have not received this permission. Please also consider how busy school is in terms of making us aware of any such plans. Last term we had a lot of permissions called through around 3pm when the phone lines are busy and it makes it hard for the office staff to get messages to staff. We have also had permission emailed through to me or the class teacher or through our Twitter account which is highly unlikely to be seen. Please call the school office ASAP if you are making arrangements on the day.

News nuggets:

- Our staff wanted to say a huge thank you for the kind cards and gifts received. They are never expected but always appreciated. Thank you.
- Just in case anyone has new phones, etc, a final reminder to please ensure that we have up to date contact details for at least 2 emergency contacts per child. If you have grandparents/family friends listed as contacts please ensure that we are provided with any updated phone numbers, addresses or email contacts, etc.
- Please see the Spring Term diary dates below this newsletter.

Have a great week everyone!

Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

School Statistics- Week 15 (Autumn Term averages)

Attendance: 96.9% (96.1%)	Classes of the Week: Y2 with 99.7% (Y4 with 98.6%)	Late marks: 9 (1 per week)	GOOD to be GREEN: 98.7% (99.1%)
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Mini Diary- Week 16

(Well-being theme: Making Resolutions/Music of the week: Prince)

Dinner menu: Week 1

Monday 3rd: BANK HOLIDAY- SCHOOL IS CLOSED

Tuesday 4th: INSET Day- SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO PUPILS

Wednesday 5th: All pupils return to school

Friday 7th: Y3/4 visit all day

Spring Term 2022 Diary Dates:

January

Monday 10th : KS1 Historian Visit (in school)

Thursday 13th: Y3/4 Sports Hall athletics (P4Sport- selected pupils)

Saturday 15th: Primary School Admissions Deadline (new F2 for September)

Thursday 20th: Y1/2 Sports Hall athletics (P4Sport- selected pupils)

Thursday 27th: Y5/6 Sports Hall athletics (P4Sport- selected pupils)

Monday 31st: Parents' Evening Booking opens at 5pm

February

Tuesday 1st: 5-6pm Y6 parent meeting on Zoom- SATS, residential and Steps to Secondary

Thursday 3rd: EYFS: dental/oral hygiene day and Y5 Arctic Angels online presentation

Thursday 3rd: Y5/6 basketball (P4Sport- selected pupils)

Tuesday 8th: Safer Internet Day and KS2 Yorkshire Water workshops

Thursday 10th: Parents' Evening Appts (1.30-7.30pm) plus some additional times for EYFS/Y1 (Fri 11th)

Weds 16th: Potential visit for Y3/4 TBC

Friday 18th: Break up for half term

Half term week: Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February 2022

INSET DAY: Monday 28th February 2022

March

Tuesday 1st: Return to school and some Literacy events to promote reading/World Book themes

Wednesday 2nd: F2 and Y6 height and weight checks (public health)

Friday 4th: World Book Day (dress up as book character or wear PJs/onesie)

Friday 4th: Y5 swimming lessons begin (every Friday unless a special event clashes- see letter)

Monday 7th: 5-5.30pm Y2 parent meeting on Zoom about SATS and supporting pupils at home

Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th: Y6 on Residential

Monday 14th to Friday 25th: 10 day active travel competitions

Friday 18th: Sports Relief- wear sports clothing all day

Monday 21st: DT Day in Nursery

Tuesday 22nd: DT Day in Reception

Thursday 31st: Class Photos and Individual Photos for new nursery pupils

April

Friday 8th: Easter Egg Competition and art contest judged

Friday 8th: Break up for Easter

Easter Holidays: Monday 11th to Friday 22nd April

Return to school on Monday 25th April (no INSET Day)