

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Week 12 Newsletter

Monday 28th November 2022

Dear families,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. A huge well done to the children for their hard work so far this term, we are seeing many pupils thrive socially and academically across all of the subjects that we cover...this makes our staff and Governors so proud. As our clubs and competitions start to wind down for the Christmas break we say well done for the many excellent achievements of the pupils to supplement those across the curriculum on offer in school time. We also wanted to say well done to our Y6 pupils who enjoyed a brilliant visit at Greenhead College learning exciting science skills in their labs- as always we had glowing feedback on the pupils from the college staff and the public on the same train! Well done also to the 38 footballers last week who braved the weather to compete against other schools in our Y5/6 finals and the Y3/4 World Cup fun event! There was some superb football and great sporting attitudes as well as the resilience required to keep going in the cold and rain!

Christmas Raffle: Next week we will print a final list of raffle prizes. The list is a little shorter this year due to the financial pressures around but we are delighted to confirm that we have had very kind donations including a Kindle, original art work, local business vouchers and, of course, 8 fantastic class hampers which are very popular indeed! Families can continue to bring in items to add to the class hampers right up to the raffle being drawn but the sooner the better please as we like to showcase the hampers as families arrive for the Christmas shows! Thank you to everyone who has already donated prizes or bought tickets! Sheets of tickets have been shared a little early this year- if you would like more please let us know or print yourself from the attached sheet. Please return any sheets and cash back to the school office before the raffle is drawn on the afternoon of the 15th December. We will tweet a video of the top ten prizes being drawn and then tweet/email the winners for all prizes that day.

Questionnaire Responses: Please see the page below for a selection of the comments in the 'open' section of our recent questionnaire. We include some of the key strengths and some of the areas to improve. As always, we would urge you to share your views with us whenever you can to help us to keep improving!

Y6 SATS week: As Monday 8th May is now a Bank Holiday, the DfE have announced that SATS tests will now be taken on Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May 2023 with the suggested timetable of test papers shuffling down one day.

Ready for winter: The winter weather is really setting in now at school! Please ensure that children have a suitable coat and extra warm clothes for any potential outdoor PE. Please ensure that, as much as possible, any items like gloves, hats or scarfs are labelled as these are the most frequently lost items in school!

Achievement Assembly: A small number of parents/carers in each class will receive an email this week inviting them to a special awards assembly a week on Thursday in school. This is a new initiative, led by Mrs Fearn, which we hope to run each term.

Final clubs for the term: This week sees the end of all clubs as we break for the Christmas events. Please note that Singing Club parents are invited in at 4pm this Thursday (please go to reception and we will open up at 4pm for you) to watch a few of our songs. The singing gang have also been invited to sing on Friday PM at a local Care Home for the elderly residents- see emails for full details and timings. Any families of pupils who attend Speaking Club should also note that this week we have a little showcase at 3.30pm on Friday- please come to reception so that you can take a seat in the hall.

Have a good week everyone,

Regards, Mr L McClure, Headteacher

Mini-Diary and School Statistics (Week 11 and averages)

Attendance for the year so far: 97.3%

Attendance last week: 97.7%

Late marks last week: 4

Class of the week for attendance: Y1 Smart Circles 99.3%

GOOD to be GREEN 2022/23 average: 99%

GOOD to be GREEN last week: 99%

What is happening in school this week? (Week 12)

Weekly themes: Music- Brass'd Off; Wellbeing- Being Responsible; Week 2 dinner menu

Final clubs this week- all clubs end for Christmas on Friday

Monday 28th : Phillip Kaye Assembly and DT day for Y1/some of F2

Tuesday 29nd: DT day with Hepp DT for Y2/the rest of F2

Wednesday 30th: Y3 parent meetings all day (held in Heads office or online- link sent yesterday to all just in case)

Thursday 1st: Y3/4 basketball event (selected pupils), singing club parents welcome at 4pm to listen to some songs

Friday 2nd: Star of the week and lunchtime DISCO, Singing club at a care home (2-2.45pm), Speaking club showcase: families welcome to watch from 3.30pm in the hall

Questionnaire Feedback Autumn Term 2022

The best things about Springvale are...comments included...

- The staff (comments about their level of care, communication, passion, support, knowledge)
- Leaders and staff care and go the extra mile
- The range and quality of clubs
- The curriculum
- High expectations and standards
- Cultural capital on offer
- Visits
- Trips
- The approach to kindness and tolerance
- Sports
- Great communication
- Leaders who know every single child really well
- Children are happy to go to school
- Safety is taken seriously

We'll end the section with a full quote which the staff will appreciate..."Lovely, approachable and knowledgeable teachers who are part of a happy workforce..."

The areas that could improve further at Springvale are...comments included...

- Knowledge organisers are overwhelming and need to know more about how to use them effectively
- More history and geography
- Parking around school
- Pick up system should have a queue as it is not time effective
- Ensure that reading log are checked every week in every class
- More comments in learning logs from staff to make it more of a two way process
- More football teams just for boys as well as girls only and mixed
- More for the less outgoing pupils
- Bring back Captain's Table!
- More stretch and challenge
- Continue to develop curriculum content around diversity and equality
- Communicate things earlier and in more detail
- Reward systems- takes a long time to work to achieve merits etc
- More opportunities for feedback from teachers- not just parents' evening

These areas have been shared with all staff and will be analysed and developed further in staff meetings and briefings in the coming weeks and months.