

## SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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### Week 3 Newsletter

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear families,

School is firmly back in the 'swing' of things now and staff and leaders are delighted with the efforts of the pupils in class so far! A reminder that we shared our detailed Autumn Term dates last week- please do make a note of them! It has been lovely to hear of so much reading in school and also across the Summer holidays! Could we please ask that anyone who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge brings their certificate in ASAP and passes it on to their class teacher!

**School Staffing Update:** School has settled well once again and we're really happy with the start that staff and pupils have made. We have found it difficult this year to timetable everything that the children like and need but we have managed to map out excellent provision and still have a good extra-curricular and intervention programme! It is important to note that, due to issues around 'real terms' school funding, we have lost 2 Teaching Assistants, 4 days of teaching capacity and I am now split 50/50 with another school since September. This is a significant cut to our capacity but staff are working harder than ever to keep Springvale as the strong and exciting school that it is. I just wanted to highlight the amount of capacity lost to keep our school budget balanced this year as, despite every year being a juggling act financially, this has been the most challenging. This also means that we have less flexibility for illness and courses but, as always we will work hard to ensure that children are safe and supported in their wellbeing and their learning every day. The good news is that school continues to thrive and feel calm, happy and safe for everyone- a testament to the wonderful children and staff!

**School Visits:** Y5 and Y6 had wonderful days exploring Ancient Egypt and the Yorkshire Coast respectively and we were so impressed by their behaviour and attitudes to learning! Well done to both classes and thank you to staff for your hard work! We also wanted to thank our families for supporting such opportunities financially, we know that this is not easy to do with rising costs in all areas of our lives.

**Mobile Phone Policy:** Please note that children are not to use mobile phones on school property at any time. Children should not be seen using phones on the school paths or playground before or after school. We understand that some of our older pupils bring a phone as they move from one parents house to another via the school, for example. Our concern is that phones can be used to take images or record sound/moving pictures and this can create safeguarding concerns. Phones must be turned off and out of sight once on school property. Bringing a phone to school is also on the provision that the phone is the responsibility of the child.

**Author Day- Reminder:** On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 Springvale School will be celebrating an Author Day. On this day the children can dress up as their favourite character from a book or they could dress up as their favourite author or illustrator. Dressing up is optional but we would like all children to bring in a treasured book from home that they can share with their class. They do not need to bring in any donations-but the best dressed in each class does have the chance to win a prize!

**Learning Logs:** Routines should now be taking shape and staff will be ready to start weekly routines around homework- please help us to log your child's learning at home by commenting regularly and checking the pages at least once per week, regardless of your child's age- this is crucial in Y5 and Y6 too as we see less of parents in these year groups now that many walk home!

Have a wonderful week everyone!

### Regards

Mr L McClure and Mrs R Fearn

Executive Headteacher and Head of School

Key Dates	Weekly Stats and Info
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> : Parent meetings in classrooms (5, 5.20 and 5.40pm for Y1, Y2 and Y3) Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> : Y1-6 Football Club begins Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> : Y5/6 Girls Football (4-5.15pm) Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Author Day Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Y5/6 Leadership training with LM (PM)	Attendance last week: 98.5% Late marks last week: 1 Class of the week: Y6 Swans with 100% GOOD to be GREEN last week: 99% Dinner Menu: Week 2 Wellbeing Theme: Road Safety Music of the Week: Music at the Movies

