

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: Mr L McClure

Head of School: Mrs R Fearn

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Week 29 Newsletter- Part 2- Leadership Update

Monday 29th April 2024

Dear Springvale Families.

Since the news of Mr McClure's resignation at the start of this term, the school's Governing Body have been working hard behind the scenes and meeting regularly, together with support from our School Evaluation Officer at the local authority, to discuss the best way to take the school's leadership forward.

Like all of our hugely supportive families, the Governors at Springvale are passionate about the school, it's ethos and want to ensure that the high standards of teaching and learning set by Mr McClure are further developed and built upon by his successor. With this in mind, and given the timing in the school year of Mr McClure's resignation, the Governing Body have decided to appoint Mrs Fearn as Acting Head of Springvale from September 2024, pending a formal recruitment process for a permanent Headteacher at some point during the next academic year.

As you all be aware, Mrs Fearn has already stepped up to be Head of School this academic year due to the Springvale/Oxspring partnership which has given her vital experience of leading the school. She has been our Deputy Head for 10 years now, our SENDCO lead for 8 years and knows the school, the staff, the children and their families very well. In our opinion, Mrs Fearn is the best person to lead the school through the upcoming period of change and transition to ensure that there is stability for staff and pupils alike.

Mrs Fearn will be working closely with Mr McClure for the remainder of this term planning for next year. When she starts her new role in September, she will have mentoring support in place from an experienced headteacher from another school - similar to the work Mr McClure has done in the past for other schools within the Barnsley area. This is an exciting opportunity for her and we hope that you will all join the Governors in congratulating her in her new role.

This letter is also an opportunity to clarify that the Springvale/Oxspring partnership will terminate early at the end of the summer term, as Mr McClure will no longer be able to act as Executive Head of both schools. The school has benefitted from the knowledge sharing that has taken place between Springvale and Oxspring staff and key connections have been formed that will most likely continue in a more informal fashion.

With Mrs Exley due to retire this summer and Mrs Wildsmith going on maternity leave at the end of this year, we will be recruiting some new staff and the changes in leadership will also lead to some further staff reshuffles and reallocation of roles. Once we have recruited to the teaching roles, the Governors and the Senior Leadership team will consider the best options for our pupils and their needs in order to plan how next year's staffing structure and class organisation is going to look. We will communicate this to parents and carers as soon as we are able to.

Whilst we are all sad to be saying goodbye to Mr McClure this summer, we are immensely grateful for everything he has done for Springvale over the past 7 years and we feel incredibly lucky that he is leaving the school in such good shape for his successor. With change, comes opportunity and we have no doubt that Springvale has an exciting future ahead.

Mrs K Thorogood

Chair of Governors on behalf of the Springvale Primary School Governing Body

Key Dates	Weekly Stats and Info
<p>Dinner Menu: Week 1 new menu Wellbeing Theme: Kindness- How We Can Help Others Music of the Week: Elvis Monday 29th: Y4 with Hepp DT, Y3/4 football v Cawthorne (selected pupils) Wednesday 1st: Photography Day Thursday 2nd: Y5/6 tennis event (4pm, selected pupils) Friday 3rd: Star of the Week, lunchtime DISCO, Y5 swimming, KS2 Captain's Table Y4 Ramp Up event and whole school Dr Bike event</p>	<p>Attendance last week: 98.4% Late marks last week: 2 Classes of the week: F2 Wrens and Y4 Puffins with 100% GOOD to be GREEN last week: 99.3%</p>

