



# Springfield School Newsletter

## January 2018

### Head Teacher's News



I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term.

We are welcoming another new pupil, Bella Ball is joining Val and Carol's Nursery/ Reception class.

At the end of the Autumn Term we said goodbye to temporary teacher Amber-Jade Fourie. We welcome teacher Jo McGill who will now be sharing the Key Stage 2 class with Louise Jones. In the Autumn Term we welcomed back TA Julie Radford from her travels. We also welcome three new Teaching Assistants, Georgina Woodward in Nic Evans' class, Heather McParland in Tim's class and Sharon Butcher will be working in Val and Carol's class. Jessica Zupancic is also working part time in Sue's class.

Congratulations to TA Olivia Jeffs on the birth of her son Albert on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Please see attached poster about help needed with the grounds at the Bronze Barrow site.

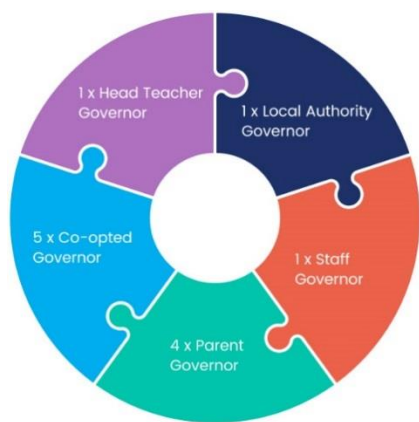
This month we are sadly saying goodbye to Lisa Benson. Many of you will know that Lisa has been instrumental in re-launching the Friends of Springfield; marketing of the school and promoting us within the local community to raise our profile and to raise a considerable amount of money. This has been a part time role and we are looking at how Lisa's roles will be covered in the future. We wish her lots of luck with her new business venture and will convince her to still attend some events!

*Emma*



The value for this half term is Responsibility.

## Governors



We have said a HUGE thank you and goodbye to two governors. Phil Bloomfield was a Local Authority governor for 12 years and David Mytton was a parent governor for 9 years. The School has benefitted greatly from the enormous support of both David and Phil. They have seen a range of changes within the school and within the education system. Their commitment and knowledge will be missed.

We are pleased to say that we have two new parent governors to fill the vacancies – hurray! James Shryane's son is in Kate's class and Helen White's daughter is in Sue's class. They were both able to attend the December meeting so we have welcomed them aboard and look forward to working with them. We do have another parent governor vacancy so please let Emma know if you are interested in this.

Since the last Newsletter there have been two governors' meetings where we have:-

- Approved the annual Safeguarding Report that goes to the Local Authority
- Monitored the budget
- Reviewed the School Improvement Plan and the School's Self-Evaluation Form
- Considered the Academies agenda
- Reviewed several policies
- Reviewed appraisals and pupil progress.

Many thanks to the governors who were able to help with tea and mince pies at the Christmas Performance and to Ruth Lockwood our clerk who did the organising.



### Congratulations to Tim

One of our Key Stage 3 teachers, Tim Walker was nominated for a School Trip Champion Award. Tim has been instrumental in successfully setting up the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme for Springfield KS 4 pupils. A special ceremony at Blenheim Palace in July saw the inaugural participants awarded with their Bronze Award – a brilliant achievement!

The School Travel Awards 2017-2018 is organised by School Travel Organiser.com and the School Trip Champion award recognises the people who organise amazing school trips and champion learning outside the classroom. After months of nominations, Tim was announced as one of the four finalists for this year's award. Tim attended the five-star School Travel Awards luncheon and ceremony at the Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington, London in November. Although Tim did not win overall, we are very pleased that his achievements were recognised, well done Tim!

## Friends of Springfield School [FoSS]

The Friends are a group of supporters who:-

1. provide financial support to Springfield School to enhance the educational experiences of the pupils as a registered charity,
2. organise events that provide social opportunities for the families and the chance to develop mutual support
3. raise the profile of the School and special needs in the local community.

The work of the Friends reaches into every facet of school life, from minibuses to theatre groups and from IT equipment to Horse Riding.

It's also a great way to be involved with the school and meet other parents.

### **Right now, we need more parental support.**

We have a number of longstanding committee members including some whose children left the School a few years ago and we really would all like to meet some new parents. We meet roughly once a month (usually in the pub!) and there's no pressure to take on lots of jobs! If you can come to some meetings and support at least one event a year that would be great.

**Our next meeting is the AGM on 24th January 2018 at 2.00pm.  
We do hope you can come along and play a part in helping to  
keep this school amazing!**

### **Out of school activities**

At Springfield School we believe that opportunities outside the school day can have a significant impact on the learning ability and social development of the pupils. Springfield School employs an Out of School Liaison Officer [OSLO], Gwen Taylor, to support pupils and their families to access out of school childcare, play and leisure activities.

Gwen works closely with after school club staff and supports clubs with planning to ensure pupils settle quickly and get the most out of the activity.

Gwen also works closely with pupils' families to identify which clubs they would most enjoy and benefit from, what costs are involved and if any funding is available to help cover this.

Please do look at the "Extended Schools" section of the website for information on activities outside of school and do contact Gwen for further information [her contact details are on the website].

Also if you have any information about after school and holiday activities or good places to visit as a family then please send the information to [office.7012@springfield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.7012@springfield.oxon.sch.uk) and we can add it to the website. It would be useful if you could add why it is a good place e.g. it is wheelchair accessible or has good toilet facilities or is very secure etc.



## Dates for your diary

- ★ **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018** - Parents'/Carers' Evening for most classes
- ★ **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 2.00pm** - Friends of Springfield AGM
- ★ **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018** - Finish for Half Term
- ★ **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018** - Start of second half of Spring Term
- ★ **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018** - Parents'/Carers' Evening  
[not for Years 6 and 9 as Annual Reviews just after Easter]
- ★ **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018** - Finish for Easter
- ★ **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018** - start of Summer Term

There is an events calendar and full term dates on our website.

Visit [www.springfield.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.springfield.oxon.sch.uk)