



Springfield School Newsletter

November 2018

Head Teacher's News



The Values for the 2nd half of the Autumn Term are Positivity and Perseverance

After over 18 months of waiting, we finally had the Ofsted phone call on 3rd October and two Inspectors visited us for the day on 4th October. It was a long and busy day for everyone and my thanks go to all of our staff, pupils and Governors who remained calm and truly worked as a Springfield team on the day. I was extra proud to be the Head of Springfield that day. It is good to know that we have now received the letter from Ofsted and continue to be a good school.

The Friends of Springfield are looking for some new places to have a charity tin. If you know of somewhere that would be willing to do this, then please give the contact name and details to either of the school offices.

Please look at the dates in this Newsletter for Parents / Carers' evenings and the Christmas Performance.

Emma

It has been a busy start to the school, settling into classes and getting to knot our new pupils. After half term we welcomed Breanna Bolster to Nicola's class and officially have reached 110 pupils.

Congratulations to teacher Cath Fairfield on the birth of her son William on 15th September and to Assistant Head Topaze Skerrett on the birth of her daughter Orla on 30th September.

We have sadly said Goodbye to TA Holly Hackston who is now working full time for Barnardos as their Co-Ordinator so at least we will still be working with her.

Many thanks to our two Key Stage 4 classes for organising the MacMillan Coffee morning in September. It was good to see the primary classes going to the secondary site and many parents / carers there too. We raised a super £208.50.

Thanks to everyone who contributed and took part in the Children In Need fundraising. Well done to Kate's class at Wood Green for organising a challenge for some staff and the school council. It was amazing to see teacher Kate Bristow and pupil Ella May Mitchell get 'gunged' on Friday – they were very good sports! We raised a total of £692.38 across both sites and with Madley Brook which is brilliant.





School Improvement Plan [SIP]

This year we have four areas on our SIP, these can be seen in the table below with an overview of areas we are looking at. These will be worked on during the year by teachers, TAs and our Learning and Teaching Teams alongside the Senior Leadership Team.

As you can see, one of the areas is to develop support for parents / carers. We are setting up a working group that includes parents / carers so that we can have direct feedback and input into areas for improvement, so please do consider whether you could be part of this group. More information will follow.

Please do let Emma know if you or someone you know has knowledge that will support any of the four areas or knows good links / resources. Parents / carers will receive some surveys during the year regarding support and training that you would like.

 <p>Communication Matters</p>		 <p>Parent / Carer Support</p>	
<p>To develop more consistent use of Total Communication across the School enabling pupils and staff to communicate more effectively and consistently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive Interaction • Signing • TaSSeLs • SCERTs • PECs • Communicate in Print • Switches • Low tech resources 	<p>To provide clear guidelines and curriculum on personal safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online safety • Road safety • Safety in the community • Healthy Relationships • Safe independence 	<p>To provide parents / carers with information, strategies and resources to support their children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum information, strategies and resources on school website • Links to other websites • Parent / carer workshops • Links with therapists • FoSS Networking 	<p>To develop knowledge and practice linked to outdoor learning at different Key Stages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest School sessions and approach • Sensory gardens • Community visits • Learning outside • D of E activities • Structured playtimes and resources

Friends of Springfield School [FoSS]

Parents, staff and governors are automatically included as a Friend of Springfield School. A Friend of Springfield School is also anyone who supports the school either on a voluntary basis or by fundraising / offering financial support.

The Friends Committee is 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.

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

New and current parents please get in touch if you would like to join the committee or help in any way. Also check out the Friends of Springfield School Facebook Page.

The Friends of Springfield School Sponsored Walk and Wheel at the Cotswold Wildlife Park.

It was fantastic to see so many families at the walk and wheel and yet again we managed to have good weather. Many thanks to the Cotswold Wildlife Park for all of their support and to Claire and Mark for putting out the signs and symbols. We have so far raised **£1,427** which is brilliant.

Running For Springfield

A huge thank you to TA Arezu Roxburgh and pupil Albie's Mum Sophie and their two friends who ran the Oxford Half Marathon on Sunday 7th October, raising an amazing **£820** via the just giving page.

Smarties

Thank you so much for being very generous with filling the Smarties tubes with money. The current total is a brilliant **£384.47**.

Governors

The Governors have met three times since the start of the school year and have been busy -

- continuing discussions on joining The Gallery Trust
- monitoring the budget and Pupil Premium Grant
- reviewing the annual safeguarding audit
- reviewing policies
- monitoring pupil attendance and
- monitoring pupil progress.

We have welcomed a new Co-Opted Governor Ric Mellis.

At our December meeting we will be saying goodbye to Wendy Goddard who has been a Governor for 8 years. Wendy has fully supported the school and she will be missed by us all. Thank you Wendy.

School Closure Information for Parents

In the event of adverse weather conditions please note the following details:

The whole School will be closed for the following reasons:-

- The roads become impassable (or unsafe to use) for any reason
- The Transport operators decide not to send out their buses/taxis
- An appreciable number of staff are unable to travel to work

Specific Springfield sites may be closed for the following reasons:-

- An appreciable number of staff are unable to travel to their school site
- The heating system fails at a particular school site
- The site is unsafe due to heavy snow or other circumstances

Parents and carers are asked to listen to Radio Oxford (on 95.2 VHF/FM) or JACK FM (on 106.8 VHF/FM) or Heart FM (on 102.6 VHF/FM) who broadcast lists of school closures from 7 a.m.

You can also look at the Radio websites and the county website - www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

We will also put information on our School website as early as possible – www.springfield.oxon.sch.uk

The radio stations only announce school closures for the day however in severe conditions their websites may state if a school is closed for more than one day.

Safety is the key factor when making a decision about opening the School and this involves safety on the roads, at the site and how many staff can get to work.

If severe weather continues over several days then after the first day we will consider whether we can open for a shortened day or only open one of the sites and may not be able to be open for all pupils.

Any changes to usual opening procedures will be based on how safe it is.

On these occasions it is easiest to also contact parents through 'parentmail'. Please ensure you let the office know if your email address has changed. If you have not yet signed up for 'parentmail' then please consider doing this. You can email the office on office.7012@springfield.oxon.sch.uk and state your wish to sign up for 'parentmail'.



Dates for your diary

- ★ **Week beginning 26th Nov**
 - Year 11 Annual Review meetings**

- ★ **Tuesday 11th December**
 - Parents' Evening for Nicola Dullaghan's class**

- ★ **Wednesday 12th December**
 - Christmas Performance for all classes**
1.00pm Parents / Carers' coffee and mince pies with Governors and Friends of Springfield School
Performance starts at 1.30pm. at the Bronze Barrow Primary site.

- ★ **Thursday 13th December**
 - Parents' Evening [not Nicola Dullaghan's class or Year 11s]**

- ★ **Monday 17th December**
 - Christmas Lunch at Wood Green**
- ★ **Wednesday 19th December**
 - Christmas Lunch at Bronze Barrow**

- ★ **Friday 21st December**
 - Finish for Christmas WG 1.00pm and BB 1.15pm**

- ★ **Mon 7th and Tues 8th January 2019**
 - INSET Training Days. School CLOSED to all pupils**
- ★ **Wednesday 9th January 2019**
 - Spring Term starts for pupils**

Springfield Term and Holiday dates for 2018 – 2019

Inset Staff Training Days – School closed for pupils on both sites

Tuesday 4th September 2018

Wednesday 5th September 2018

Monday 29th October 2018

Monday 7th January 2019

Tuesday 8th January 2019

Autumn Term 2018	
1 st Half of Term	<u>Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th September Staff Training Days</u> Thursday 6 th September to Friday 19 th October
Autumn 2018 Half Term Break	Monday 22 nd October to Friday 26 th October
2 nd Half of Term	<u>Monday 29th October Staff Training Day</u> Tuesday 30 th October to Friday 21 st December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 24 th December to Friday 4 th January
Spring Term 2019	
1 st Half of Term	<u>Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th January Staff Training Days</u> Wednesday 9 th January to Friday 15 th February
Spring 2019 Half Term Break	Monday 18 th February to Friday 22 nd February
2 nd Half of Term	Monday 25 th February to Friday 5 th April
Easter Holiday	Monday 8 th April to Monday 22 nd April
Summer Term 2019	
1 st Half of Term	Tuesday 23 rd April to Friday 24 th May Monday 6 th May – May Day Bank Holiday – school closed
Summer 2019 Half Term Break	Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May
2 nd Half of Term	Monday 3 rd June to Wednesday 24 th July