

SPRINGWOOD FEDERATION NEWSLETTER



"Believing is Achieving"

September 2024

Message From Mrs Livingstone

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome to the new academic year. I hope you all had a fantastic Summer break and are looking forward to the new school year, I cannot believe Christmas is only a few months away!

I would like to extend my welcome to all of our new families who are starting in Early Years and to families who have joined us in other year groups too. New staff include Miss Hamson, who has joined the Teaching Team and Miss Scott who has joined the Teaching Assistant Team.

Springwood continues to strive for 95% and above attendance. 2023-24 saw the Infants achieve 96% and the Juniors 95.7%. Keep aiming high! Good attendance is important because:

- Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and absence below 95%
- Regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically
- Regular attenders find school routines, schoolwork and friendships easier to cope with
- Regular attenders find learning more satisfying
- Regular attenders are more successful in transferring between primary school, secondary school, and higher education, employment or training



Upcoming Diary Dates

16th September 2024



Inset Day

18th September 2024

Y1 Parent Event – History Topic- Toys

3rd October

Census Day & Non School Uniform



8th October 2024

Year 2 Parent Event Science – Growing and Changing

17th October 2024

Year 4 walk to Community Centre



24th October 2024

Yr3 & 4 Halloween Disco

25th October 2024

INSET DAY

The Diary dates are attached and wider curriculum experiences are currently being planned. Any changes/updates will be communicated to you.



THE HUB



Mrs Johnson will be based in the Hub three mornings a week. She will continue the work Mrs Sexton started on the 'Back to Basics' program and support families to achieve good attendance. If your child is absent, please contact the school offices before 9.30am to confirm the reason for their absence. Further guidance regarding Attendance and Punctuality will be emailed to you over the next few weeks.

Inset Days

Our **INSET Days** are:

Monday 16th September 2024
Friday 25th October 2024
Friday 29th November 2024
Monday 6th January 2025
Friday 27th June 2025



Thank you! **F O S S**

Please can I say an enormous thank you to Kate Brown and her FoSS Team (Friends of Springwood Schools) who organised a wonderful Summer Fair. They worked relentlessly to make it a success and have donated £1000 to buy books to support the children with their Reading and Writing Journeys across the schools.



Hampshire
County Council

Education Catering



HCC Education Catering will continue to provide school lunches for the infant children and junior children who are entitled to free school meals. If you are not entitled to free school meals, the meal costs £3.20 per day. Menus are on the website, displayed around the school and shared on our Facebook page.

Just to remind you that we ask you to support the Food Standards recommended by the government. Crisps, chocolate and nuts (due to allergies) are items that are politely requested to be discouraged from lunchboxes. It is important that children have access to a variety of different types of foods so that they are not eating the same thing every day. Please promote other items such as carrot sticks, different types of cheeses, oat bars, etc. If you would like any further advice around ideas for packed lunches, please book an appointment with your child's class teacher.

The office remains cashless, so all payments must be made via the Scopay online system. Please ensure school dinners are paid for in advance of your child ordering. As a supportive measure accounts will not be allowed to go over £6.40 in arrears. Dinners are provided by an external company, HCC Education Catering and therefore the school cannot carry the debt. If you are unsure how to access this system or have yet to register, please contact the school offices.

For any children moving up to Y3, you will need to re-register with a new unique link code as the schools have separate bank accounts which will be sent to you over the next few days. As the system is moving over, Year 3 parents please clear any debt by 13th September 2024. Don't forget that this system is also used to book parent teacher consultations and therefore it is important that you are registered to use this.

If you think your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please check the link below and update the school:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Three times a year, the school has Census Days:

Thursday 3rd October 2024

Thursday 16th January 2025

Thursday 15th May 2025

The census collects information like pupil's background details, special educational needs, free school meals eligibility, as well as educational history. It also helps determine core school funding, which pupils attract pupil premium, support for disadvantaged pupil, universal infant free school meals funding and free early year's entitlement allocations.

A large chunk of school funding for the year is based on how many children eat a bought school lunch on these census days. This funding goes directly to maintain resources and a good quality of education for your children. These really are important days for us.

The children are allowed to wear non-school uniform on that day and can choose from these menu options:

Red – Fish Fingers and Chips

Yellow – Pizza and chips

And a tasty dessert

Parent Consultations



Parent consultations will be face to face on November 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th from 3:15 to 5:45pm. These consultations must be booked through Scopay so please ensure you have registered. Scopay registration letters for Year R will be sent out next week and Year 3 letters were sent home with children on Monday.

As well as the above dates, the teachers will be making a phone call to those parents who have children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) on 16th October between 3:15-4:45pm.



School Achievements

We continue to be proud of our school results. Here are our achievements:

EYFS (Reception)	52% reached a Good Level of Development (GLD)
Year 1 Phonics	68% passed the check. Some children were disapplied from the check, this means that the percentage would be 79%.
Year 6 SATs	62%/64% (without disapplied) met ARE in reading, with 14% meeting Greater Depth 65% met ARE in writing, 2% meeting Greater Depth 58%/60% (without disapplied) met ARE in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, 23% meeting Greater Depth 58%/62% (without disapplied) in Maths, 8% meeting Greater Depth



Our EYFS and Year 6 results have made further gains from last year and Phonics continues to be at the National level.

To build on the schools' success, our School Improvement Priorities (SIP) are:

1. To Meet the Needs of all our Pupils

-To improve attainment in reading, writing, mathematics and the wider curriculum so that outcomes for Non SEND pupils at least meet the National Average at ARE and Greater Depth. Aspirational target over time will be for 100% of Non-SEND pupils to meet ARE.

-To improve attainment in reading, writing, mathematics and the wider curriculum so that outcomes for targeted SEND pupils meet Age Related Expectations. Aspirational target over time will be for 100% of SEND pupils who do not have Cognition and Learning as a Primary Area of Need to meet ARE.

-All children make strong progress from their individual starting points

2. To Ensure there is Effective Leadership of Core and Foundation Subjects and Governance

3. To Empower our Parents and Grow the Springwood Community

To continue supporting our SIP priorities, please come and join in some of the sessions alongside your child. Dates and times are on the attached Dates for your Diary.



Home Learning

Our children will be bringing their first 'home learning' sheet and home learning book home with them on Friday 13th September. Home learning will continue to be focused on supporting children in **consolidating and embedding previously taught skills** so they develop the confidence and stamina to apply these independently across a range of subjects. One side of the sheet will illustrate the learning to practise and complete. This includes a creative family project with a submission date. There is also a suggested timetable illustrating how to support your child in completing their learning. On the reverse, there is a curriculum overview for this half term to keep you abreast of the broader learning experiences.

Our curriculum is also accessible on the website.

Mobile Phones



If your child is walking to and from school alone and requires a mobile phone, they can give it to a staff member outside the junior school office and also collect it there at the end of the school day. They will be stored in the school office. The school will not accept liability for loss or damage to any mobile phone. **Ideally, children should not need their mobile and I would encourage them to keep it safely at home during the school day. This also applies for smart watches.**



Fruit & Snacks



Infant school children are provided with a free piece of fruit every day. Junior school children can bring in their own piece of fruit from home to eat at break time.

Celebration Assembly

Celebration assemblies will recommence every Friday from 13th September, between 9-9:30am and will be every other week for Infants and Juniors. The focus for the assemblies will be on the School's Value – Trying Your Best and Being Proud. If your child has been nominated you will receive a text invite to celebrate their achievements. Parental invites to the event will start after half term once the children have re-established all the routines.

Uniform



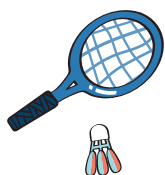
I want the children to look smart in their school uniform. **For safety reasons and due to our outdoor curriculum, please can I respectfully remind you that children should only wear stud earrings; children will be asked to remove hoop/drop earrings.** School Uniform is available to purchase online through Stitch Design www.stitchdesign.co.uk. Further information is available on our website and an updated uniform price list is attached.

Our **preloved uniform** stocks have been replenished and are available in **Springwood's Hub. Mrs Johnson will be based in there three mornings a week.**



PE days & kit reminders

On Friday 6th September, children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 will bring home a complete school PE kit which I request they wear to school with trainers or plimsolls on the days they have PE (see table below)



Year 1 – Wednesday and Thursday

Year 2 – Monday and Friday

Year 3 – Monday and Friday

Year 4 – Tuesday and Thursday

Year 5 – Monday and Thursday

Year 6 – Wednesday and Friday



They will wear this PE kit throughout the day and home again preventing them from needing to change in front of others. This will also enable children to wear PE kits which are washed more frequently than we are able to do in school.

Younger children in EYFS only will change in classes so will need trainers or plimsolls in school (EYFS to bring in PE shoes in the Summer term).

Please also be advised these are PE kits the school have bought for all children across the Federation. **If your child has grown out of their current kit, please return it, let your child's class teacher know and then they will source a new one.** There are some **preloved trainers** available in the school offices.



Active8 Minds®
Sport & childcare specialists

Breakfast club & after school club

Active8 continue to provide breakfast and afterschool club. Please contact them directly to make any bookings via www.active8minds.co.uk. If you are dropping your child at breakfast club at 7:45am, please be aware that the office is not open. If you have medicine to provide to the school, please give it to Active8 who will ensure it is passed to a member of the admin team.



School tours & applications



I am delighted to announce our EYFS and Y3 school tours for the next academic year (2024-25). If you have friends or family looking to start in EYFS or Year 3 in September 2025, please let them know that I am keen to show them around our wonderful schools. Prospective parents must book an appointment through the admin office. The dates for tours are on:

Tuesdays 9:30–10:30am

Thursdays 3:30–4:30pm

Applications for admission to Year R can be made online from 1st November 2024 and the deadline is **15th January 2025.**

Applications for admission to Year 3 can be made online from 1st November 2024 and the deadline is **15th January 2025.**

Applications for admission to Year 7 will open on Monday 11th September and the Year 6 parents will receive an email with a letter attached shortly. **Closing date is 31st October 2024.**

Be sure to get your applications in on time to avoid disappointment.

Admin Office Opening Hours

**The school offices are open between
8:30–12:15pm and 12:45–3:30pm.**

Please note the office is **closed between 12:15–12:45pm but if you leave a message on the answerphone, the team will respond at their earliest opportunity.**



Water Bottles

Last year we stopped providing water bottles to the children. In order to help keep the germs away, I am requesting that you provide a named water bottle for your child which they can take home every day to be washed, or by the end of the week. It will be your child's responsibility to look after it, so please do not send them in with anything too expensive.

Medical and contact information

Please keep the school fully informed of any medical/dietary conditions/changes and also ensure your child's asthma inhaler/Insulin/Epipen etc is in school and in date. Furthermore, please keep the school up-to-date if you change home address, telephone number or email. If you have changed address you will need to provide proof to the office via email before your child's records can be updated. You will need to ensure that there are three named contacts available at any time your child is present in school. One of these contacts should be for someone living outside of the home address e.g. grandparent. It is imperative that we are able to contact an adult to collect the child should they develop symptoms and to safeguard all children.



Califlower Cards



I am excited to confirm that the children will be producing some fantastic artwork that can be ordered as Christmas cards and other gifts through Cauliflower cards. This will be coming home on 27th September and orders will need to be placed online and the artwork returned to school by Friday 4th October.