

# Springfield Newsletter

Aim High and Achieve Excellence, Together



Springfield  
Primary School

www.springfieldsch.org



@springfieldglf



Springfield Primary School - Sunbury-on-Thames

12<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
Term 2, Issue 10

## A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to **welcome all children back to school** this week. They have made an excellent transition, enjoying time once more with their friends, class teachers and teaching assistants. Pupils have thrown themselves whole-heartedly into their learning, with some impressive **autobiographical writing in Year 1, science in Year 4 and R.E storyboards in Year 5**; well-done to all children!

**Thank-you to parents for attending parents' evenings** this week. We hope that time to talk with class teachers about how we can support children through this period of transition, investing in their mental well-being alongside accelerating their learning, was both informative and reassuring.

With non-essential shops remaining closed, alongside additional financial pressures, we are incredibly grateful for parents' investment in **school uniform**, at such a time. Our children wear their uniform with real pride. Thank-you to all who donated items of clothing for the uniform stand. We will continue to have a **stand at the front of the school each month**, for free items to take, as required. If families are in need of support in purchasing new items, please do speak in confidence with either Mrs Sheehan or myself.

On Monday, **15th March at 1.00pm**, we are holding a **virtual workshop for parents of children in EYFS and KS1 on supporting reading development at home**.

After what has been such a significant week in how we begin to move forward, I do now wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs Caroline Gibbins  
Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

**Nursery Parents Evening (revised dates) –**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March**, 4.00-7.00pm

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**, 3.45-6.05pm

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Virtual EYFS and KS1 Reading Workshop for parents 1.00pm (link will be sent out shortly before the start time)

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Virtual KS2 Reading Workshop for parents 1.00pm (link will be sent out shortly before the start time)

**Virtual SRE parent meetings**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Years 1 and 2, 4.00pm

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – Years 3 and 4, 4.00pm

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March** – Years 5 and 6, 4.00pm

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Parent Forum meeting, 9.30am

**School Dinners**

If your child is in school and is having school dinner, please ensure these are booked in advance on-line via SCOpay by no later than Friday of the preceding week.

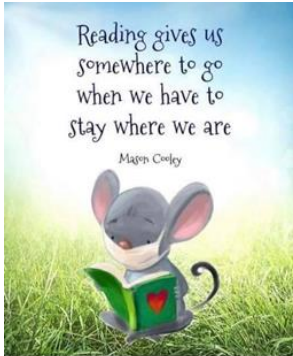
Please see the new menus on SCOpay for the next three weeks commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## Reading at Springfield

Over the next two weeks, Miss Birt will be hosting two parent workshops focusing on supporting your child to read at home. Please look out for the links, which will be sent to you via text.

- EYFS and KS1 - Monday 15th March, 1.00pm
- KS2 - Monday 22nd March, 1.00pm

These workshops are a great chance to get ideas with supporting early readers, inspiring reluctant readers and challenging confident readers. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Maths at Springfield – Key Stage 2

We rely on times tables constantly in everyday life. If your child has to work out how much storage they have left on their iPad, how many trading card packets they can buy with their pocket money or how many biscuits each person gets when a packet is being shared out, they will use their times tables. Remind them of all the everyday ways they can put their skills to use – for example, if you go to a football match or the cinema, ask your child to count the number of seats along a row and then the number of rows and then multiply them to work out how many people are in the venue.

Knowing times tables makes learning easier in secondary school and beyond. Good multiplication skills are a great help when starting to learn algebra, as well as chemistry, physics, biology and computing, all of which depend heavily on maths knowledge.

## General Information

**School Dinners** – If your child is having school dinners, please ensure you have booked these in advance. The new menus for the next three weeks has been uploaded to Scopay from week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March. We cannot guarantee that the caterer will be able to provide a meal if you have not done so.

**GLF Teacher Training Programme** – Please find attached a flyer with information about the GLF Teacher Training Programme. Please do share this with anyone you know who may be interested.

**Spelthorne in Bloom Competition** – Attached to this newsletter is information about the Spelthorne in Bloom poster competition together with full details on how to enter, should your child wish to take part.

**Community Food Bank** – St Saviours have extended a 'Big Thank You' to the Springfield community for their donations and support for the local community.



## Home Learning

Well done to Ruby (Y3) for her art project drawing of Cat Woman and to Lincoln (Y2) for his poster all about 'Long Ago Pirates'. Year 2 children who were in during the school closure, created some amazing lighthouses on the last day before full school reopening.



## Awards

This week's **Lead Learners** were celebrated today, the focus being 'Showing independence in their work':

Sparrow	- Jayden	Stoat	- Rayyan
Nightingale	- Oliver	Otter	- Madison
Woodpecker	- Poppy	Buzzard	- Waseem
Mole	- Leo	Osprey	- Ellie
Bat	- Akansh	Eagle	- Nya
		Falcon	- Jordan

This week's **Super Citizens** were celebrated today, the focus being 'Making healthy choices':

Sparrow	- Maadhav	Stoat	- Ruby B.
Nightingale	- Photizo	Otter	- Sid
Woodpecker	- Tiger-Lily	Buzzard	- Skye
Mole	- Riley	Osprey	- Ava
Bat	- Reiss	Eagle	- Daniyal
		Falcon	- Jared

Our **Reception Kings and Queens** for this week are:

Badger Class:	Fox Class:
King - Neil	King - Zachary
Queen - Isabella	Queen - India

Our **Nursery Kings & Queens** are:

Hedgehog – Arthur and Isabel    Squirrels – Jaxson and Freya    Owls- Aker and Ellie-Rose

**TT Rockstars** – Falcon class are winners this week. Our top 3 TT Rockstars with the most improved in accuracy are Navraj (Y3), Sophie (Y6) and Albie (Y5).

**Numbots** – Moler class are at the top of this week's leader board. Our top 3 Numbots Stars with the most correct answers are IreOluwa (Y2), Sam (Y2) and Leah (Y2). Luke (Y2) also achieved his Kevlar level and Neel (Y1) his Tin and Brass levels. Well done!

# Pastoral and Support for Families

## Talking to your child about secrets

Recently we have had conversations with a number of children about secrets and/or telling adults about situations that have happened which have worried them - mainly in the context of friendship issues and disagreements on social media. Many children seem to view, "telling" as a negative thing; they worry about being called a "snitch," worry that by telling they will get themselves and/or others into trouble, and that the negative outcome of seeking support is far greater than inevitable worry of keeping the secret.

As a school community it is essential that we talk to our children about secrets and that they understand that some secrets should never be kept. This is vital to ensuring their own mental health and wellbeing but may also have a huge impact on the personal safety of both themselves and others.

## Teaching children about "Safe" and "Unsafe" secrets

As soon as children are old enough, teach them about safe and unsafe secrets. A safe secret is something that will eventually be revealed, whereas an unsafe secret is something that might make them feel frightened, worried or scared.

Common examples of safe secrets are:

- Surprise parties.
- Gifts that will be kept secret until they are opened.
- In the appropriate context of a game - e.g. wink murder in which children do not reveal the identity of the murderer to enable the detective to guess their identity.
- Simple secrets between friends (e.g. regarding an upcoming playdate) which they do not want others to feel left out, do not exclude or encourage gossip about others and do not compromise their safety.

Common examples of unsafe secrets are:

- Any kind of physical behaviour or touch which makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Any kind of language or behaviour which makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Games that might put someone in danger or be hurtful.
- Behaviour on social media intended to exclude, target or spread unkind gossip.

Whilst we understand that children can be reluctant to seek help and support, particularly if by doing so they believe they will get their friends into trouble, it is important that they understand the impact the worry this can cause may have on them and that by keeping secrets, the eventual outcome can in fact be much worse.

Reading books and watching films with your child can be a great way to discuss secrets with your child. Which of the characters was keeping a secret? Was this a good idea? What was the outcome? Was anyone hurt by the secret being kept?

If you have any concerns or worries about situations which may be worrying your child, please do speak to a member of school staff or contact the Pastoral Team via the school office.

## Useful Resources:

NSPCC Resources for talking to children about the underwear rule: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

NSPCC resources to support discussions with your children about keeping safe online: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Childline UK resources to support online safety: <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

Information and advice to support children's mental health: <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Thinkuknow resources to support keeping children safe: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>