

Springfield Newsletter

Aim High and Achieve Excellence, Together



Springfield
Primary School

www.springfieldsch.org



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Springfield Primary School - Sunbury-on-Thames

19th March 2021
Term 2, Issue 11

A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

With all children now back in school for a second week, we have been very impressed with the successful transition pupils have made. In **Year 5 children** have been learning about **physical Geography**, as part of their **Allotment unit**, **Year 2** writing excellent newspaper articles and in **Year 1** working hard on **independent sentence construction**; well-done to all!



As the summer term is nearly upon us, we say some sad farewells to **Mrs Sheehan, our Family Support Worker and Mrs Hirschberg, Woodpecker Class Teaching Assistant**. Mrs Sheehan has been working at the school for 17 years, providing our families with invaluable support and is now moving into a position in the NHS. **Miss Potter will be replacing her role**, appointed as **Pastoral Leader**, continuing the support for families at times of most need. Mrs Hirschberg has been working with our children for nearly 7 years and in this time her care for them has been unfaltering, helping them to make excellent progress in their learning. Emily Buckley, a new member of staff will be replacing Mrs Hirschberg. We wish both members of staff the warmest wishes for their future endeavours.

Next week, Mrs Wilson and Miss Potter will be leading the **RSE workshops for parents (22nd March 4.00pm Years 1 and 2, 23rd March 4.00pm Years 3-4 and 25th March 4.00pm Years 5-6)**, providing information about the Relationships and Sex Education curriculum. These workshops will be virtual and we will send a link out via text in advance to parents.

READING workshop



On **Monday 22nd March**, Miss Birt is hosting a **KS2 Reading Workshop** for parents at **1.00pm** and again an entry code into the virtual meeting will be sent out. Information about supporting the development of reading at home will be shared in the session; all are welcome to attend.

To help support families in communicating with the **school, the office will now be open from 8.15am each day** (including phone lines) beginning next week.

Finishing the week in support of **Comic Relief, thank-you so much for your kind donations to this charity** which we know will go to many good causes both at home and internationally.



I wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs Caroline Gibbins
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Monday 22nd March

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

Virtual SRE parent meetings

Monday 22nd March – Years

1 and 2, 4.00pm

Tuesday 23rd March – Years

3 and 4, 4.00pm

Thursday 25th March –

Years 5 and 6, 4.00pm

Thursday 25th March

Parent Forum meeting, 9.30am

Thursday 1st April

Last day of term – school finishes between 12.50pm-1.30pm

Monday 19th April

Summer Term starts

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.

Reading at Springfield

PiXL Primary are offering free author podcasts for children to listen to at home. Podcasts are an engaging and fun way of inspiring children as well as developing pupils' reading and writing skills. This week's podcast is with Piers Tordy; the author of 'The Last Wild'.

Access the podcast here: <https://vimeo.com/524312078>



Maths at Springfield – Key Stage 1

In Year 1, the foundations for times tables are put in place, as children learn to count in 2s, 5s, and 10s.

At home, use visual prompts for number sequence, so they really understand what the numbers mean, and do not just learn by rote.

So, for instance, for 2s have pairs of socks lined up, and get them to count along the row in 2s, finding out how many individual socks there are together.

For 5s they could draw around their hands, cut out and line up, counting the fingers; 10s can be pairs of hands.

Using 2p, 5p, and 10p coins is another great way to make counting more real.

Awards

This week's **Lead Learners** were celebrated today, the focus being 'Showing enthusiasm in reading':

Sparrow	- Sadie	Stoat	- Isla
Nightingale	- Molly	Otter	- Archie
Woodpecker	- Leila	Buzzard	- Maddie
Mole	- Emily	Osprey	- Bethany
Bat	- Reiss	Eagle	- Sophie
		Falcon	- Jared

This week's **Super Citizens** were celebrated today, the focus being 'Demonstrating a healthy balanced diet':

Sparrow	- Jaime	Stoat	- Casey
Nightingale	- Ava	Otter	- Leah
Woodpecker	- Aleksander	Buzzard	- Santino
Mole	- Cade	Osprey	- Liam
Bat	- Poppy	Eagle	- Harry
		Falcon	- Tilly

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

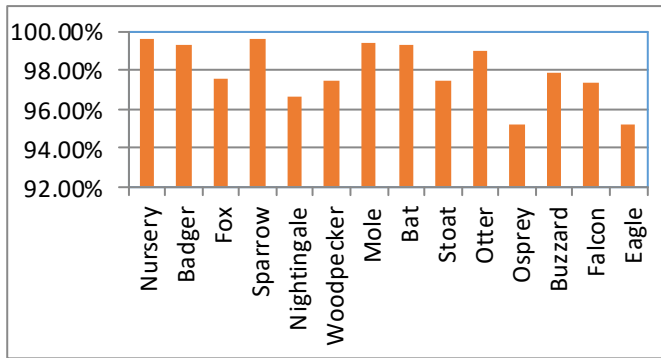
Badger Class:		Fox Class:	
King	- Aiham	King	- Cole
Queen	- Ivy	Queen	- Isabelle

Our **Nursery Kings & Queens** are:

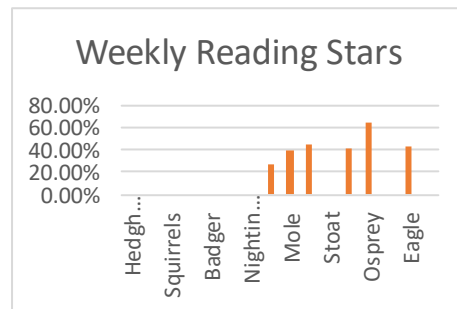
Hedgehog – Noah and Lilly Squirrels – Kayden and Eve Owls- Yuugesh and Sherlyse

TT Rockstars – Buzzard class are winners this week. Our top 3 TT Rockstars with the most improved in accuracy are Harry C (Y5), Noah S (Y3) and Jack S (Y3).

Numbots – Woodpecker class are at the top of this week's leader board. Our top 3 Numbots Stars with the most correct answers are Charlotte F (Y1), Leah M (Y2) and Emily S (Y2). Leah M (Y2) achieved her Steel level and Emily S (Y2) her Tin level. Well done!



Attendance – Winners of the attendance cup for last week are EYFS & KS1: Sparrow – 99.6 %
KS2: Bat – 99.3%



Reading Stars – Osprey class are the winners with 64.29%

Pastoral and Support for Families

Mental Health continues to be a major focus both in the media and in schools, particularly due to the impact of the pandemic. Now, more than ever, it is important that we support our children to talk about how they are feeling. Springfield is taking part in the "Compassionate Schools" programme, which helps schools to reflect on and develop their pastoral provision for staff and pupils, and as part of this staff have participated in a session on "Active Listening" from which we would like to share some strategies and insights with the wider school community.

What is Active Listening?

It is a way of listening which helps the speaker to feel fully confident and understood by the listener and therefore encourages openness, honesty and improves mental health.

Strategies for Active Listening:

- Give the speaker your full attention - stop what you are doing, put away phones, turn off the television, and remove any distractions.
- Make eye contact.
- Get onto your child's level.
- Try not to interrupt.
- Ask questions beginning with, "how, what, who, when, where, why", rather than closed questions that only require a "yes" or "no" answer.
- Use active prompts such as "Tell me more....", "That sounds interesting", "So what you are saying is....."
- Reflect or repeat back what they are saying or feeling to ensure you understand.
- Rather than try to offer immediate reassurance or dismiss concerns encourage them to consider options - for example instead of saying, "Don't worry, you will be fine", say "You sound worried, how can I help?"

By using Active Listening strategies and techniques we can really encourage children (and other adults) to open up about their feelings, which in turn leads to more engaged conversations and improved mental health.

If you have any concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing, please contact the Pastoral Team via the school office.

Mentally Healthy Schools

Mentally Healthy Schools is a free website backed by Anna Freud and The National Centre for Children and Families. Around one in ten primary aged children between the ages of 5 and 10 years old have an identifiable mental health need - that is around 3 per class. Among this, boys are twice as likely as girls to have a mental health problem. Early Intervention is vital in giving your child the best start in life. If a child at risk does not receive early support, they could go on to develop a mental health condition.

The website offers a variety of resources approved by mental health experts to best support your child's needs.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/>