

# Springfield Newsletter

Aim High and Achieve Excellence, Together



Springfield  
Primary School

[www.springfieldsch.org](http://www.springfieldsch.org)

 @springfieldglf

29th May 2020  
Term 3, Issue 7

## A note from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

The weather has been glorious this week and allowed for the near completion of the allotment. With summer just beginning, the children will start to use the allotment as part of the Springfield curriculum. We were hoping to hold a grand opening, but will have to postpone this until we are permitted to hold such events. Until then we will update parents via email on how the children are making the most of this fantastic new resource.



In regards to the school reopening, parents have raised some excellent questions and I would like to share these with you, since they may touch on some further queries that you have.

### 1. Do children have to wear the Springfield PE kit or will sporting clothing be acceptable?

Children must only come to school in items which are part of the Springfield PE kit. No other sporting clothing is permitted. To help with this, we will have a free lost property stand at the front of the school each day for parents to take any items that would be helpful to have. Moreover, Sanco have now reopened their online shop and are taking orders should you wish to purchase any items.

### 2. Can my child wear a face mask in school?

PHE and the DfE recommend that no face masks are worn in school because of the risks they pose to increasing the spread of infection. Children may find the independent fitting of masks challenging and teachers will not be able to help them with this, due to the risks that this would carry for both. Equally other children may touch other pupils' masks and they may not be effectively disposed of. For these reasons, we ask parents to think very carefully before sending pupils in with face masks.

### 3. Can my child bring a bag into school?

Children can bring a bag into school with their school belongings (lunchbox and water bottle). We will provide pupils with pencil cases, so that they do not have to share resources.

### 4. Will childcare provision continue into the summer holiday break?

We are currently intending to close childcare provision on 22nd July. For parents for whom require childcare over this period, the school will share information about local summer camps and club providers to help in this.

### 5. What education will my child receive while they are in school?

During the first week, lessons will be focused on children getting to know a potentially new classroom and new teachers, whilst becoming reacquainted with children within their own year group. We will also be teaching PSHE lessons, which have been structured on ensuring that all children feel happy and confident to be back in school. Following the success of these lessons, we will then move to a timetable of lessons that the children are more familiar with.

**6. Will my child be able to change their reading book?**

Recommendations have informed us that children will not be able to take new reading books or return previous reading books to school. We will inform you as soon as it is safe for this to happen again. In the meantime, please take advantage of the online reading tools that have been recommended in previous newsletters.

**7. How will my child's current class teacher be made aware of the progress they are making when they are not due to be in their class?**

All teachers will complete assessment sheets at the end of each lesson which will be passed back to the class teachers to inform them of the progress they have made. Children will complete work in their books and on worksheets which will be kept in a tray within the classroom.

**8. Can my child bring in the home learning they have completed?**

Absolutely, all staff are looking forward to seeing the work the children have produced and this learning will be celebrated in class. All leaders have been keeping teachers informed of the work that has been shown in the virtual meetings. We have been thrilled to see how hard the children have been working at home.

**9. Will my child still get an end of year report?**

Yes they will, all teachers have been working hard writing reports and these will be with you before we break up for the summer holidays.

**10. Will I be able to come into reception if I have a query or need to pass on information to the school?**

Senior leaders and the Pastoral Team will be out at the start and end of each school day to answer any questions and for you to pass on information. We are not permitted to have parents on site for meetings and this includes sharing information with the school office due to the risks this would pose, but will still use all other modes of communication.

The reopening of school poses many legitimate questions and I hope you feel you have received sufficient information to understand what school will look like from next week.

Whilst the school has remained open since the beginning of the lockdown, it has looked very different and I can say from all members of the Springfield Team, we are very much looking forward to seeing the children return from next week and those for whom are not returning, they remain very much in our thoughts, as we eagerly anticipate seeing them in the weekly video check-ins.

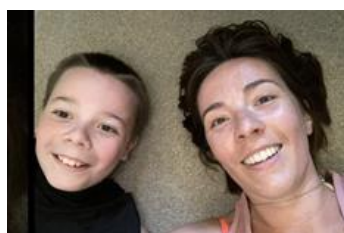
I wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs Caroline Gibbins  
Headteacher

## Celebrating Home Learning



Elisha created a fantastic spider web.



Finley and his Mum completed Mr Cain and Mr Baker's workout.



Laila from Nursery working on her art project.

## News from the Pastoral Team

### Managing change

As we start to move out of lockdown, our children will be having to get used to another new version of "normal." Some children will approach this with relief and excitement, others with fear and worry. It is therefore really important that we encourage them to talk about how they are feeling and reassure them that this is completely normal.

Some strategies that may help you to support your child could include:

- A daily diary or journal for them to draw or write their feelings.
- Creating a positives jar. With this you would use a clean jar or container and each day your child can write one positive event onto a piece of paper and add it to the jar. This could be a big event such as riding their bike without stabilizers to a FaceTime call with a family member. These positive messages can be used to reflect on during tricky days.
- Setting aside a regular time each day to talk to your child about how they are feeling, answer any questions they may have and alleviate any fears.
- Make sure your child is getting enough sleep and where possible follow a routine.

The reality is that there is no "normal" anymore as the experience of lockdown will have been different for all of us, depending on our personal and family situation, impact on jobs and finances, health and living conditions. As a school we are committed to helping all of our children and their families navigate the new circumstances, which may or may not include a return to school. Our Pastoral Team are here to support you and our Family Support Worker, Mrs Sheehan, is able to help some families who may need referrals to food banks and other forms of support. Please do contact us via the school office.

St Saviour's church on Vicarage Road offer free surplus food on Mondays and Thursdays between 10am and 11am. This is open to all members of the local community.

<https://www.stsaviourssunbury.org.uk/foodbank>

### Looking after yourselves

Whilst our newsletter items have focused on Pastoral Support for our children, we do not forget our amazing parents and families who we know have been experiencing challenging times. It is so important that in addition to caring for your children, you also care for yourselves. Undoubtedly this is a challenge given current circumstances and restrictions, however here are a few ideas that have been shared with us:

- Make sure you are getting enough sleep as this will give you more energy (and patience) to care for your children.
- Try to take some time each day for yourself - this could be a cup of tea in peace whilst the children watch a television programme, getting out for a walk or form of exercise alone (childcare permitting), meeting up with a friend (observing social distancing guidelines), or anything that gives you a few minutes of personal space.
- Take advantage of mental health and mindfulness sites and apps - many of which are offering free resources at the moment. Local company Point3 Wellbeing are offering free 20 minute, "Mindful Monday" sessions via Zoom - registration required via their website: <https://point3wellbeing.com/mindful-monday/>
- Phone a friend or family member if you are having a tricky day.
- If social media and the news are affecting your mental health, try switching off your phone or deleting or pausing apps. Think about updating your social media connections to remove any pages, "friends" or links that can make you feel negative.
- Try to eat healthily as much as possible and ensure you are including plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables in your diet. If your body feels good, your mind-set will be more positive.

Thank you to our wonderful Springfield Community for all your support for our children during these unprecedented times.

The Pastoral Team