

# SPRINGWELL SKY

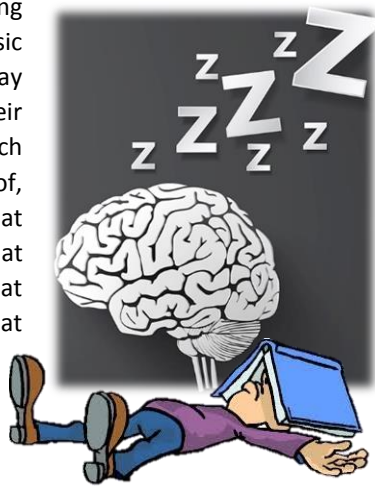
Where learning matters for everyone

## THE HEADLINE

Issue 21 – Easter 2018



Firstly, we would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience, understanding and support over the past few weeks in which we have been met with the challenges of adverse weather disrupting learning. With exams only weeks away for both year 6 and key stage 4, staff are keen to make up for lost learning time. We understand the challenge that sitting exams presents to our children and young people and our 'Opening Minds' weeks are focusing on strategies for managing anxiety and building up resilience and managing the challenges of both practising for and sitting exams. Year 11 art and music exams are already underway and they are using their 'Growth Mindset' approach really well. Sleep, or lack of, is another challenge that affects many pupils and at exam time, it is essential that our students find ways that work to help them to have a good night's sleep. It is for this reason that SLEEP is the theme of this Family Learning Day. Rachel



Musgrave, our Family Support Advisor and the pastoral team of Malcolm Baker (Pastoral Manager Special Academy), Chimene Ellis, (Pastoral Manager Alternative Academy) and Vikki Fieldhouse, (Attendance Officer), will be on hand to provide support on this. We would like to welcome our parents and carers from our dispersed Alternative Academy to the main site for this Family Learning Day and hope you can benefit from the visiting the range of services on offer. On this Family Learning Day, Year 11 pupils will receive their reports along with revision guides and tips on how to revise for exams, create a revision timetable and ways to relax.

We wish all pupils sitting exams in the summer term the best of luck and thank parents and carers for your support in helping them with revision, sleep and in getting up in plenty of time to get in to school and AA on time for their exams.

In spite of the snowy disruptions, there have been many highlights to the last term. We were uplifted by a live classical concert performed by professional musicians from 'Music in the Round', performing the story 'Stan and Mabel' to primary who were mesmerised by the experience. Our British Values focus this term has been on Tackling Homophobia and along with a range of creative lessons, Mrs. Penman, Assistant Principal and our 'Stonewall' lead, led a whole school assembly raising awareness on this important issue. Another aspect of British Values we explore at Springwell is through our student council. Each class democratically elected their new representatives for the term, who are now called, 'Voices of Change'. Led by Mrs. Britton, they have launched a new campaign to reduce the amount of plastic used at both Springwell Special and Alternative Academies and wish to raise awareness in the Barnsley community too. Please do visit their stall at Family Learning Day. The term began with an Ofsted Inspection for the Special Academy, which the inspectors described as a 'haven' and a 'calm and welcoming very special 'special' school' and retains its 'outstanding' judgement. This follows the inspection of the Alternative Academy in the autumn, where personal development, behaviour and welfare was



judged outstanding and the school judged 'good' overall. These positive outcomes are recognition of the excellent work that staff carry out across the organisation on a daily basis and is also as a result of the commitment, support and partnership working of you our parents and carers, underpinned by our excellent governing body.



Have a great Easter break and thank you for your continued support!





# in the press

Unconditional Positive Regard underpins the work we all do here at Springwell and we continue to believe in creating chances for all our brilliant learners. Authentic care, intimacy, warmth, banter and trust are our core values and it is with great pride that our approach and the work we do is receiving national recognition. Scan the QR code to read the article recently published in The Guardian.



## Understanding QR Codes

By now, you will all most probably be familiar with QR codes, however for those of you who may not, let me introduce you to them. The square codes that you notice throughout this newsletter are known as QR codes and can be scanned to get information. They can contain images, links to websites, school films and messages.

### How do QR codes work?

You can scan the QR code on a device, like a smartphone or tablet. The new updates on iPhone allow you to simply scan using the camera, however you may need to download a QR reader, like Qrafter, for free from the app store. The QR codes within this newsletter will direct you to further information or even videos that the pupils have produced.

1. Open the QR reader
2. Point it at the QR code
3. Scan it and the link will open. Easy!

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

at Springwell

As part of our Global Development work, we have enjoyed taking part in Fairtrade Fortnight.

This year we concentrated on Fairtrade products and where they come from. Some classes looked at the chocolate trade and some looked at the journey of bananas, whilst some used the price of fair trade products and the wages given to farmers to produce some great maths work.

A few years ago we managed to achieve the first level Fairtrade Award by ensuring that the sugar, tea and cocoa powder purchased in school is from fair trade sources.

Our pupils were very keen to learn about Fairtrade. They enjoyed learning about the provenance of products and about the importance of keeping wages fair so that others in the world can access some of the things we sometimes take for granted such as a home, education and a reliable health system.



FAIRTRADE



# CIRCUSOLOGY

## Visits Key Stage 3

As a 'wow' way in to the Circus theme within our Elements curriculum, Key stage 3 had a visit from Alex and the Circusology team to teach us a number of skills. This included juggling, unicycling, plate spinning and balancing. Pupils have created some fantastic writing around circuses this half term and have been exploring the treatment of people who performed in Freak shows during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

This term **Primary 4** have been taking part in swimming lessons every Tuesday afternoon at Hoyland Leisure Centre. All the pupils are making great progress with their swimming, as well as having lots of fun in the pool. Please scan the QR code below to see them in action.



## MUSIC IN THE ROUND



This half term we were so excited and so lucky to welcome Music in the Round to Springwell. These amazing musicians performed the story of "Stan and Mabel and the Race for Space!". The piece was performed by presenter Polly Ives and musicians Ensemble 360. The concert was fantastic. It had everyone singing and dancing throughout the whole performance and if you haven't already done so, scan the QR code to check them out! Thank you Music in the Round!



## Stories from Other Cultures

In Primary, our current Elements topic is Stories from Other Cultures. As it was the celebration of the Chinese New Year at the start of term, Class 3 began by looking at the story behind the Chinese zodiac. Pupils read and discussed the legend before acting it out wearing masks to represent all the 13 animals, including the cat who didn't quite make it to the zodiac.

Following on from this, we studied the story of The Two Doves which is used as the inspiration for the famous 'Willow Pattern' plate design. Pupils produced a cartoon strip version of the story with twists of their own.

The last story to be studied is the Hindu fable of Rama and Sita. Pupils will produce a play script and act out the story in class.



## Superheroes in Key Stage 3

We all like Spiderman, Captain America and Wonder Woman, however, KS3 pupils were privileged to have a visit from a different kind of hero this term.

Years 7, 8 and 9 had a visit from real life heroes in February. Corporal Winter and his friend brought equipment and medals for pupils to look at. They told us all about their brave duties in Afghanistan, their jobs in this country and their experiences of saving people during conflicts. They were real role models for us all, inspirational and we are grateful for all they do



## Superheroes

Key Stage 3 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring super heroes and real life heroes. They have discussed and explored questions around what qualities and attributes can be attached to heroes. As mentioned, they looked at the brave work of our armed forces and emergency services, as well as thinking about who we have looked up to and admired throughout our lives. Year 9 held an awards ceremony for "Inspirational person of the Year" and wrote speeches to persuade people to vote for our chosen heroes.

## Safer Internet Day 2018

At Springwell, we do lots of work with the pupils to ensure they understand how to be responsible digital citizens. Pupils are constantly reminded about the many dangers that can be found online. Safer Internet Day 2018 was celebrated globally on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February with the slogan 'Create, connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you.'

The day offered the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. The pupils of Springwell are keen to share the message and recently received a 'thank you' from Childnet for sharing their powerful film that has now been viewed far and wide across the world. If you haven't seen the film, this can be watched by scanning the QR code above.



## 'Why we Flip our Lids!'

In the Christmas newsletter, we published an article explaining how sometimes our brains can become overwhelmed with feelings of fear, sadness or anger and when this happens, it can be really confusing. Since then our pupils have produced an outstanding film explaining, using the hand brain model, how sometimes we lose control of our emotions and when we do, what needs to be done to regain control. Please take a look at our film.



## from around our Learning Community

LET'S GO  
OUTSIDE AND  
LEARN

### SPRINGWELL@KIRK BALK HAVE AN ALLOTMENT

An exciting project has been launched down at Kirk Balk Alternative Academy. The students have made a great start and have managed to get it looking amazing already.

We are networking with local businesses in Barnsley, that are willing to provide us with resources to support our ongoing project. If you have access to Twitter and are interested in staying updated on our outdoor learning project give us a follow: @KirkbalkAA



Mark Robinson, RSE Co-ordinator at Spectrum Community Health CIC came in to Springwell@Netherwood this half term and gave the students a talk on sex and relationships. The students really enjoyed it and got some really constructive conversations going. They also got to look at a variety of different, and interesting, forms of contraception.



### Year 11 visit Barnsley College

Over the last two years year 11 have worked hard to increase their independence, life skills and social skills. This half term the pupils have had the opportunity to apply these skills in real life settings and situations. Every Tuesday, the year 11 students make their way independently to Barnsley college via public transport, participate in lessons in a college classroom, socialise in the college canteen and also make their own way home once they have finished. It has been fantastic to see the boys rise to the challenge and their confidence increase week by week. Their mature attitude and polite manners have also been commented on by a member of the public travelling on the bus who stated, "What a polite group of young men, it was lovely to see them offer their seats to the elderly". **Well done year 11, keep up the good work, you are a credit to Springwell.**





During the Spring Term **Primary** have been producing some fantastic work around the Ted Hughes novel *The Iron Man*. The children produced some excellent writing after exploring language features used in the book, as well as creating great art work. Scan the QR code to see a video of the children showing off their learning!



### Primary 1's Dinosaur Encounter!

On Monday 5th of March, Primary 1 arrived at school to find enormous dinosaur footprints in their classroom. They followed the trail to the sand and water trays where they were amazed to find two dinosaur eggs and 3 dinosaur fossils. The children became dinosaur explorers for the day and engaged in lots of research, art and literacy work around the discovery. They thought about what kind of dinosaurs had visited our classroom in the night and predicted what creatures would hatch out of the eggs. The pupils worked extremely hard and showed excellent team working skills throughout the day. They nurtured the eggs, ensuring that the classroom noise levels didn't disrupt them and created dinosaur pic collages, questions and creative art all around this topic.



**Aim for 100% attendance for a better future**  
There are 190 days in a school year which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.

190 DAYS 100% Very best chance of success	183 DAYS 96% Off to a flying start	179 DAYS 94% Less chance of success	175 DAYS 92% Harder to make progress	More than 18 days absence less than 90% Progress severely prevented
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Give your child a better future - aim for 100% school attendance

Springwell Learning Community  
Springwell Special Academy | Springwell Alternative Academy

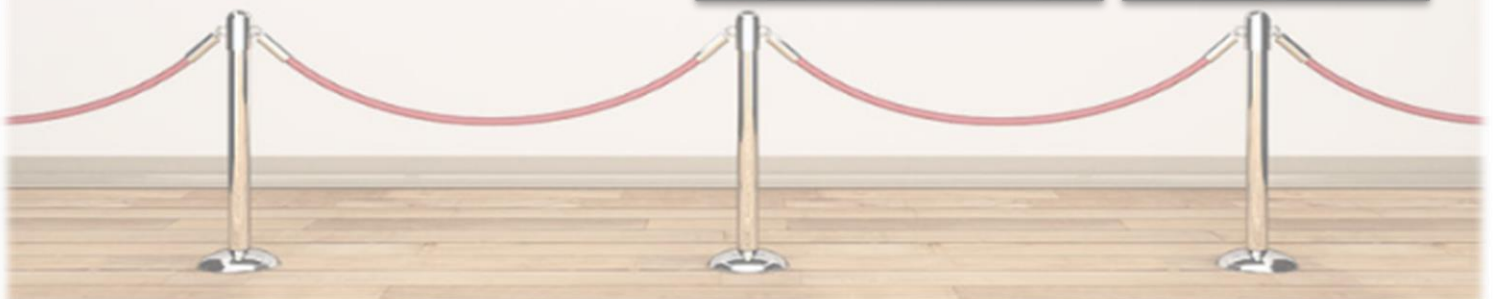
WELLSPRING  
ACADEMY 2021

### ART AND DESIGN

Wow! Check out some of our art work! Key stage 3 Art and design have been trying out experimental methods of painting, whilst Key Stage 4 have been looking at Identity and how we can manipulate our image.

They have produced some fabulous pieces inspired by the work of Picasso

Year 11 are completing work for their final exhibitions and they promise to be Inspirational!



## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Our Year 10 Special and Alternative Academy students have been working extremely hard in Design Technology over recent weeks on their Tool Box projects for their Technical Award Qualification.

The students have had to learn about complex new industrial manufacturing and engineering skills such as Mig Welding. This combined with producing a laminated timber box with finger joints has given them a great challenge that they have embraced with great vigour and enthusiasm.

We are extremely pleased with the standard of work and hope the students may put some of the new skills they have learned into practice in the future.'



## MOBILE PHONES



A real focus for us as a Learning Community has been to ensure the very best climate for learning so that students are fully prepared for lessons and any distraction is eliminated. To support this, at the start of the last academic year we made the decision to ban the use of mobile phones within school because of the negative effect on student learning and that mobile phones should be 'off and away' at all times. Unfortunately, mobile phones continue to cause problems.

Students have been informed that after Easter mobile phones will be handed in to the class teacher at the start of the school day, locked away and returned at the end of the day. Should students wish to contact parents with any concerns, the school phone can be used. We would also ask that should you have a message for your child to contact the main reception and your child will be informed.

We would ask that you further discuss this with your child and thank you for your support.

## Key dates for the diary – Summer Term 2018

Academies open for Summer Term: **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April**  
INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April**  
Academies closed for May Bank Holiday: **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May**  
Year 6 SATS week: **W/C Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May**  
Academies close for half term: **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May**  
Academies re-open: **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June**  
Special Academy Sports Day: **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June**  
INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July**  
Family Learning Day: **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**  
Academies close for the summer holidays: **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

