



SPRINGWELL SKY

Where learning matters for everyone

Issue 19 – Summer 2017



THE HEADLINE

As usual, at this time of year, it is customary to celebrate the fantastic year we have had at Springwell. There are so many great things going on it is hard to keep track. I'd like to thank the children for all their great contributions to the work we do here. They continue to both inspire me and fascinate me endlessly. The staff, as always, go the extra mile to make Springwell the special place we know it is. You, the parents and carers, also need to be thanked for your support in, what can sometimes be, very difficult times. We are all in it together and that is one of the reasons Springwell continues to be such a fantastic place.

The end of this academic year brings with it one significant change. Michael Sanderson, our chair of governors, is leaving us after many years of dedicated service. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Michael, as he has been such a dedicated advocate of Springwell since becoming a governor in 2005.



Michael is a well-known and highly regarded member of the Barnsley community. He has spent many years actively working to promote, support and champion Springwell and has been fundamental in establishing the culture, values and ethos that we hold so dear.



Michael, isn't totally retiring from his tireless community work. He will remain in other various capacities across Barnsley, including work as a director at the Wellspring Trust. His passion and commitment to the young people of Barnsley is too strong to see him 'retire' fully. Hopefully, the extra time he recoups from relinquishing his role here at Springwell can be spent relaxing and enjoying his family.

On behalf of the Springwell Learning Community I would like to thank Michael for everything he has done for us and with us. He will be missed.

Key dates for the diary – Autumn Term 2017

- Academies close for the summer break: **Friday 21st July**
- INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Monday 4th September**
- Academies open for Autumn Term: **Tuesday 5th September**
- INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Friday 8th September**
- Academies close for half term: **Friday 6th October**
- Both academies re-open: **Monday 6th November**
- INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Friday 17th November**
- Family Learning Day: **Monday 18th December**
- Academies close for Christmas: **Friday 22nd December**
- Academies open for Spring Term: **Monday 8th January**



Within our Learning Community we keep as up to date as we can with technology. Below is our Twitter feed for if you wish to follow us to see what we are 'tweeting' about...

@springwellLC

springwell@springwellacademies.co.uk

01226 291133

Understanding QR Codes

As you will be well aware we love to use technology in our learning. In this newsletter you will notice a number of these strange looking square codes. They are QR codes and can be scanned to get information.

How do QR codes work?

You can scan the QR code on a device, like a smartphone or tablet. You need to make sure you have 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 films 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.



At Springwell we talk a lot about our blog but you might be wondering, 'What is it?' Hopefully, this article will clear things up. A blog is essentially a website or an on-line space where the pupils of Springwell can access, display and share learning with an authentic audience. The purpose of the blog is to promote connective reading and writing, cooperative learning and responsible digital citizenship.

We use our blog to:

- Create an online community for our learners and their parents. Share students work and learning (providing a real authentic audience world-wide).
- Provide up to date information on what is happening in our school and AA.
- Receive feedback
- Provide opportunities for students to read (posts), write (posts and comments).



Scan the QR code to visit our blog.

As you can see the blog is an amazing tool that has huge potential to enhance children's learning (a blog is not a chat room). Parents and carers, teachers and in fact anybody else can comment. Why not tell them what you like about their work? You could ask questions or suggest ways that they might make their work better.

Blogs can be used to post links to activities and websites which relate to school. They help to get the students engaged and excited about their learning, and encourage them to think about school in new and interesting ways.

Why not
Visit
Our

BLOG

Please visit our blog on a regular basis to see all the latest work created by Springwell pupils. Please feel free to comment on the blog in an e-safe way. Our blogging rules can be found on the blog. All comments are moderated by school staff before they become public.

Springwell.primaryblogger.co.uk

Is it safe?

Yes. Blogs are very safe if they are managed carefully. EVERYTHING that people write on the blog is moderated before it appears. This means that a member of staff reads and checks things to decide if they are appropriate. We teach the students that they can only use their first names on the blog, and we do lots of work to ensure that they know how to use it responsibly and safely. No email addresses, phone numbers or other personal data is allowed on the blog.

If people do try to write unkind, thoughtless or inappropriate things, they will not appear. It is very easy to block people from using the blog. This means that they will never be able to access the blog again.

We are excited about how the blog helps us to raise standards and engage the pupils. Please have a look at the blogs and have a go at leaving a comment. If you have any questions, concerns or comments about the blog, please let us know.

Parent Council

A Parent/Carer Council is a body of parents, representing parents, run by parents with the support of the school. Parent/Carers Councils can provide an excellent forum for parents to come together, share ideas, and put forward their views to the head teacher and governing body of their school. They can break down barriers, perceived or actual, between the school and parents who are less involved in the school.

We are looking for parent/carers who are interested in coming along to make a difference. Your views are important to us and the more parents/carers that we have involved the better. If you want to share your ideas please contact Rachel Musgrave on 07702897563. It would be great to see you!



HAMLET

This year pupils have studied Hamlet for our Shakespeare text. Not only have pupils studied the text in English and Elements but some pupils performed it for our annual Shakespeare Festival. Pupils from KS3 rehearsed for seven weeks with Claire from the Open Minds theatre company and Miss Kirkbride. The performance was on Friday 9th June. Pupils worked extremely hard and were extremely brave. The hard work paid off as the performance was excellent, our best yet! The pupils did themselves proud with some pupils standing in at the last minute. The Year Seven pupils are also performing some their scenes at Celebration Day too. A massive well done to everyone involved!



Scan the QR code to view our Springwell Shakespeare Festival movie trailer.



Springwell General Election 2017

JUNE

2017

Pupils at Springwell learned about British democracy and the voting system when we held our own Springwell General Election. Eight parties stood for election, including the Harry Potter Party, the Science Party, the Springwell Democrats, the Double Dab party and the winners the 'Try to Make it Better for All' party. The common themes across all the parties were to stamp out bullying, treat everyone equally, have more fun lessons and more activities at break times. Over 95% of pupils turned out to vote at our Springwell polling station, a much higher percentage than the turn out of the public for the general election! Our first parliament sitting was held on Wednesday 21st June when governor Christine Parkes joined us to hear all the parties have their say about what we need to do to improve the school. We look forward to our Springwell parliament contributing to our school improvement policy to make Springwell an even better place for pupils to learn!



Scan the QR code to view our Springwell General Election results.



Roji from Nepal visits Barnsley

In Key Stage 3, the topic this term has been based on our link with a school in Nepal called Jeevan Jyoti. Our enterprise projects will be aimed at raising funds to support the school.

On Friday 19th May Mrs Britton joined a group of teachers and staff from Links2Nepal at Darton College. Roji is a Nepalese teacher from Jeevan Jyoti. She had just arrived on her first visit to England. Roji observed a few lessons and talked at length about education in Nepal, how it differs from ours but also about the similarities between the two countries.

Roji is going to stay in touch with our school and will send us some letters, photos and objects from Nepal. We are all looking forward to sending some letters back and raising funds to support the excellent work already in place at Jeevan Jyoti.



Scan the QR code to view our Lincs2Nepal fundraising appeal



Nepal- An immersive experience

Pupils in Key Stage 3 were up for a treat when Lisa, from Lincs2Nepal, came to do the immersive Nepal experience with them. From leopards lurking in the woods to muddy tracks and raging rivers, pupils experienced the extreme walk to school the Nepalese children have to face every day for the right to education.

Lisa showed us some personal footage of her own walk to school experience. She also prepared some sound effects and some props to make it real for us.

Thank you Lisa, we are now more aware of how children access education in different parts of the world!

Springwell@highfields

It's not only the Special Academy who have been learning about Nepal, the Alternative Academies have been doing lots of work on the topic as well. The pupils at Highfields have been learning about the various roles that charities do. They have helped to raise awareness of education in the poorest of countries and developed an understanding around how charities will help to empower people to improve their lives.

The pupils have looked at different aspects of Nepal from traditional food to religion, creating Hindu masks and finally, watching video clips of children of a similar age travelling precariously to school.





Save the Children

On Friday 16th June it was Den Day, which linked nicely with the funding raising for Lincs2nepal. Den Day is all about raising money for children in deprived countries. The money goes towards vital things like food and water, healthcare, protection and education.

And to make sure they have a safe place to shelter at night. Den Day gave the pupils of Springwell an opportunity to build their ideal dens. They were also able to talk about the importance of shelter and that some children don't have that basic need.

Both adults and children had a fantastic morning!



DEN DAY



Weston Park Cancer Charity



A massive well done to Cameron, who managed to raise a huge **£635.72** for Weston Park Cancer Charity by completing a 5km sponsored swim. Well done Cameron, we are all very proud!

thank you!

Year 8 - Lincs2Nepal Mount Everest Cycle Challenge:

Year 8 have shown fantastic resilience, team work and empathy this half term in their attempt to raise money for the very worthy charity Lincs2Nepal. Nepal is one of the poorest countries on Earth and Lincs2Nepal is helping and supporting healthier living in many ways. Their main focus is to provide safe, clean drinking water to families in remote villages throughout Nepal, who, without this help, have no other option than to drink contaminated water, they help children from all different castes go to school and support people through difficult times. This is only possible with money so Year 8 have made it their mission to fund raise as much as they could. With fantastic results.

The students decided they would attempt to cycle the equivalent distance from the ground to the summit of Mount Everest each over the course of one week. The students took full responsibility for the event planning. The logistics team organised the bike to be placed in the class, the time table of who was cycle and all other logistical matters. The fundraising team did a commendable job of producing posters advertising our challenge, creating a sponsor sheet and have managed to get a huge amount of people to help support and sponsor. The calculator team were responsible for ensuring each member of the class did enough minutes and miles to ensure they would reach the summit. The class worked together exceptional well, took on each challenge together and helped to keep each other motivated. Grand total raised was an amazing £117, well done.



COMMUNITY DAY

Community Day is now a popular annual event in the Springwell calendar and it gives us all an opportunity to give something back to the community and have fun at the same time. This year we spread ourselves far and wide around Barnsley and volunteered in places including Darfield Church, Barnsley Food Bank, The Salvation Army, Oakwell Football Stadium, Ashby Court Care Home, Hemsworth Rugby Club and that's just to name a few. It was a great day, the sun was shining and it was brilliant to get so many positive comments about our hard work.



GCSE Art and Design



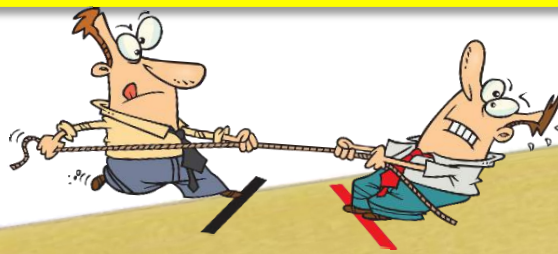
The quality of the art work produced this year by our students is something that they are all very proud of. We have a wonderfully creative variety of ideas, showing a range of techniques and materials. Each exhibition reflects the personal ideas and interests of the pupils. The GCSE exhibition is on display at Springwell and can also be viewed on the blog. Please feel free to come and view the results.

Year 10 have had a basic introduction of the techniques we need to apply in GCSE Art. We have studied 3 topic areas. Self-image, Disguise and Reflections. In each project the pupils present a personal response. We have also completed several drawing challenges. I would love to see my students to keep a sketchbook of drawings over the summer!



Key stage 3 have been looking at 3 areas of Art this year. Drawing, colour and 3 dimensional work. We have produced a variety of creative drawings using different materials such as graphite and melted wax. We have used colour to express emotion and are at present making 3 dimensional structures from card, wire, clay and fabric.

SPORTS



Sports Day

Pupils and staff participated in their annual sports day on Thursday 29th of June.

The morning consisted of traditional athletics events. All pupils that participated received a medal on the day and the top scorer for each event will receive a trophy in our awards assembly.

Throughout the afternoon the whole school participated in a fun circuit consisting of tug of war, sponge the teacher, inflatable assault course, penalty shootout with Toby Tyke and last man standing. Pupils then cheered on staff during the staff races and finished off the day with ice lollies and a whole school photo.



SPRINGWELL SPORTS DAY 2017



Yorkshire SEND 7 aside football tournament

With help from Vision for Education Springwell Learning Community hosted a 7 aside football tournament. Seven other specialist settings entered a team and competed on the day. Pupils from Springwell Learning community represented the school to the highest standard working together as a team, following rules, playing with excellent sportsmanship and setting an exemplary example. Well done to all involved!

The final between Springwell Leeds and Robert Ogden will be held at Leeds Beckett University.

Schools involved:

- Springwell Learning Community
- Abby School
- Springwell Leeds
- Holgate Meadows
- Holly House School
- Wingfield Academy
- St Wilfrid's Academy



JORVIK VIKING CENTRE

Primary visited Jorvik Centre and 'The Dig' in York. We found out about Viking life 1000 years ago in Jorvik Viking Centre. We heard sagas from Viking story tellers and learned about battle tactics at 'The Dig'. We had a great day!

We sailed across the North Sea from Scandinavia to Britain. We carried goods to trade and weapons to fight with. The rowing was hard work and we were terrified our longship would be lost when we met a huge storm. We arrived safely in Britain to a Viking greeting song. It was a relief to land safely.



Easter Concert



The Easter concert was a success, some saying it was our best yet. We were so proud to show off the talent and hard work of our pupils and also to have such willing participants. 26 Pupils in all volunteered to take part. Well done, everyone!!!

We are so sorry to see our talented Y11 musicians leave us this year, although they did go out with a bang!! As well as putting on a stunning performance for their Rock School exam they also rocked Barnsley Football Ground when they performed at the annual SEN information day. Members of the public made up the audience and some even danced. We look forward to the band (Zodiac) playing again for a last time on Celebration Day. Well done lads!!



Scan the QR code to view our Easter Concert.



On Friday 30th June Springwell held its second careers morning. As part of our careers topic in PSHE pupils from KS3 and 4 and some pupils from our Alternative Academies visited different stalls, took part in activities and chatted to professionals about their futures. There were lots of different further education and apprenticeship providers (Barnsley College, Brathay, aspire Igen etc.) there for pupils to chat to and get advice from.



The army were there and put the pupils through their paces with some drill. The pupils loved it and it was great to see pupils from the Alternative Academies and school working together and showing great team work. It was a very successful morning. It is so important pupils to start thinking about their futures and for them to aim high. A massive thank you to Tracey Moxen Waddell for helping to organise the event and to all of the further education providers and the army who came.



WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK

For Autism Awareness Week in April this year, Olivia Walton, a Year 5 pupil, took part in a sponsored junior park run. Such was her enthusiasm at school, a team of staff also took part in the adult run. Olivia, her parents and the staff team are to be congratulated for their efforts to support a charity so central to Springwell's values.



Keep Calm and Keep Your Cool week



Our Opening Minds theme last half term was 'Keep Calm and Keep Your Cool'. With so many pupils sitting exams, it is essential that they can learn strategies to manage their anxiety. Stress and anxiety affect a large number of children and young people and often when we see a child in distress, the real reason is that they feel anxious but just don't know how to express this. One of our big focus areas this year has been for staff to work with pupils to help them identify when they are getting stressed, anxious or angry and for staff to help pupils to find strategies to help them to calm down and stay calm. Some strategies that work are relaxation, breathing exercises, physical exercise, playing an instrument, making playdough, squeezing cushions, talking to someone, having a good laugh. We will continue to explore ways to help our pupils manage their anxiety and parents are welcome to contact us for ideas for what might help at home.



Magic Moments

from around our Learning Community

To celebrate the start of Ramadan, KS2 held a fundraising event that ran over the course of a week. Charity is an important part of Ramadan, as many Muslims give money to the poor and suffering. Each class created their own fundraising idea. Primary 2 sold homemade Lava Lamps, Primary 3 sold Ice-creams and Primary 4 decided to tattoo their class mates with Henna. Whilst fundraising, they also learnt about why Muslims take part in Ramadan and how difficult it is too fast during the summer months.



Throughout the summer term, all the pupils in Class 3 have been swimming on Friday mornings. They go every other week and in small groups to ensure individualised teaching from Mrs Rhodes at her swim school 'Aqua Kids'. All the children have received awards for their achievements over the past few weeks. As well as learning a vital life skill the pupils have a great time in the water!



Primary have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Space Race. They all worked really hard to produce a film explaining the journey that Apollo 11 went on before landing on the moon in 1969. You can see the film by scanning the QR code. You can imagine the excitement of the pupils when they realised that their hard work had been seen by British astronaut, Tim Peake. He even tweeted the school!



The moon landing explained by Primary 4.



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.



Give your child a better future - aim for 100% school attendance
Springwell Learning Community
Springwell Special Academy Springwell Alternative Academy WELLSPRING

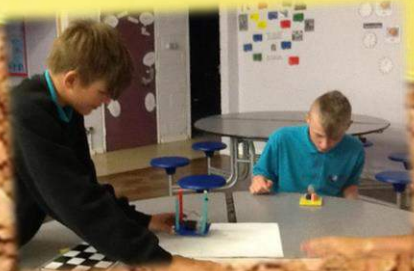
ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

At Springwell, we continue to strive for excellent attendance and celebrate those who attend regularly. We would like to congratulate Jack Wollerton and Corey Rowe from primary 2 who both achieved 100% attendance this year. Jack chose a mountain bike, whilst Corey opted for an iPad mini for his prize. Well done boys, great effort!



Kendray KS3

This term in Key Stage 3 at Kendray, our curriculum has focused on developing our resilience. It has been important as there have been many changes with staff and pupils at Kendray and we felt we needed to recognise that we can overcome the hurdles and work towards our goals. We have used the Forest School and Duke of Edinburgh activities to challenge ourselves to overcome both physical and emotional barriers. We then have transferred these skills into the classroom environment. I am extremely proud that many of us have managed to recognise when we have been resilient within learning and social situations and some of us are now willing to share this with others during our reflection time.



The **Springwell@Kirk Balk** class of 2017 is coming to an end and it is year to reflect on. It has been a fantastic year and many students have made outstanding progress. The group have been a pleasure to work with and their attitude has been amazing. The students have completed up to 9 qualifications in 1 year which shows the levels of dedication. All the year 11s have positive destinations and we wish them all the best and I am looking forward to another year with the year 10's. As staff we want to thank the students for making this academic year especially special. Thank you class of 2017 and good luck in the future.



Let's
HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER