



# SPRINGWELL SKY

Where learning matters for everyone

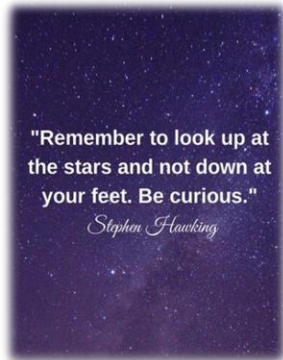
Issue 22 – Summer 2018



## THE HEADLINE

'Remember to look up at the stars, not down at your feet.' This quote from the late Stephen Hawking sums up the attitude at Springwell. Every day presents a new possibility and by taking small steps each day, over the years, our pupils can climb mountains. That is exactly what our young people in both academies have done who sat their GCSEs this summer and we are proud of their resilience in making it through this stressful time. They are now facing the next phase of their life journey, moving on to college or apprenticeships and we wish them all the best of luck. Thank you to our Needs Support Advisor Tracy Moxon-Waddell for weaving her magic in supporting the year 11s to secure their Post 16 placements. Congratulations also to those year 6 pupils who sat their Standard Assessment Tests in May. They all approached these challenging tests with maturity and focus and whatever the outcomes we are proud of their ability to regulate themselves during a challenging week. Thank you to Kate Reid and Dan Morris and the support staff for preparing them so well.

Highlights from the summer term include the annual Shakespeare Festival, 'Julius Caesar', which was a stunning performance, involving over 20 pupils from primary and key stage 3. Refugee Week was marked with a 'Refu-tea' morning, with a café in the heart space to raise funds for our local refugees - our charity focus for this year.



Pupils have further contributed to our local community through a range of projects on 'Community Day' ranging from singing at a Senior Citizens' home to baking for the homeless. Sports Day in both academies was a knockout – with smiles all round from staff and pupils alike. Finally, our Careers morning this year was bigger and better than ever, enabling pupils in key stages 3 and 4 the chance to meet different providers and think about planning for their positive futures.


Reflecting back over the year there are so many experiences to celebrate. It is important to applaud all the amazing staff across both academies who work with such commitment with our children and young people and Springwell is indebted to them for their outstanding work. Thank you to all of you parents and carers for joining the Springwell family and working in partnership with us to provide the best support and education for your children.


We hope that on the final Family Learning Day of the year, you can take the opportunity to share your thoughts about the school by completing the parental survey. We value your feedback and welcome any feedback to make Springwell an even better place to learn.




May I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this year and I wish you all a wonderful summer break. Fingers crossed this fine weather continues!



 @springwellLC

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## Sensory Interventions at Springwell

Our senses provide us with a means of understanding and interacting with the world around us.

Some people, like many of the pupils at Springwell, have difficulties processing the sensory input their brains receive. This can be a particular difficulty for pupils on the autistic spectrum, people with certain learning difficulties and for those who may have experienced the world in different ways. Sometimes this can look like challenging behaviour. However with carefully planned activities and a personalised sensory diet, people with sensory processing difficulties can learn to manage how they react to certain sensory stimulus. Addressing sensory issues could result in increased engagement with the curriculum and therefore improved learning experiences; along with greater opportunities for engagement in both school and non-school activities.

### Our Aims...

- ★ To support our young people to learn to recognise how their bodies respond to the sensory information they receive and equip them with strategies to help them to stay regulated, even when under stress.
- ★ To provide an adapted environment and personalised teaching programme that addresses individuals' sensory needs and requirements in order to impact positively on their health, wellbeing and ability to access further learning.

To help regulate their sensory systems, the young people at Springwell engage in a variety of activities, using the specialised equipment to either alert or calm their sensory system.



## *The Tragedy of* JULIUS CAESAR

Key stage 3 have had a busy term learning about Julius Caesar and the Romans. Pupils have been taking an active role in learning what it was like to be part of the Roman life, putting on Roman costumes, sampling Roman foods and creating fantastic Roman equipment. We started the topic with a visit from James Swallow Gaunt and his fencing group. The pupils got to experience what it would be like to be involved in a fencing match using the equipment and having matches against each other. The highlight of the term was pupils working with Claire from Open Minds to create the school production of William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. A big thank you to all the pupils, staff members, parents and carers who took part and came to watch the production.



## Parent Council

A Parent/Carer Council is a body of parent, 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 on the lookout for parents/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 our Parent Support Advisor, Vicky Fieldhouse. It would be great to see you!





## The Refugee Council visits Springwell

Pupils in KS3 have had a visit from the Refugee Council this term. Sarah and Ben came to talk to us about what it feels like to have to leave your country suddenly, travel with very little possessions and live with the knowledge you can never go back. This is what happened to Ben who had to flee the Republic of Congo after expressing the fact he did not agree with some of the President's decisions.

Ben arrived in England as a refugee and is in the process of seeking asylum rights. He knows he can never go back and see his family and friends again. Ben and Sarah explained to us that being an asylum seeker is difficult, stressful and painful. We were all very grateful they took the time to talk to us and gave us some insight into homelessness and survival, which are the two topics we are doing this term.



## Refu-Tea raises £140 for the Refugee Council

On Wednesday 20th June parents, carers, pupils and staff got together at Springwell for a Refu-Tea event. They all shared a cup of tea and a piece of cake or a bun in exchange of a donation for our chosen charity: The Refugee Council.

We are very proud to announce that the sum of £140 was raised. Thank you all for your immense generosity!

Special thanks go to all bakers, makers, organisers and helpers without whom we would not have managed. Special thanks as well to Emma, Kiera and Connor who helped from start to finish.



## The "Voice of Change" pupils get things going!

What a year it has been so far! First we rebranded ourselves the "Voice of Change" as we wanted to make a positive difference to how we feel at school and in the community. We took on some very big jobs this year. We wanted to improve dinners, have more equipment for play times, have better access to water and campaign to reduce the use of plastic in school and outside school. In addition, we tried to raise money for our chosen charity this year: The Refugee Council.

As a result of the very hard work all classes did, all class representatives did and all parties involved undertook, we can now say that dinners have improved, we are enjoying new indoor and outdoor equipment, our water fountains are being fitted with better and more accessible spouts, we are reducing our plastic use in school and in the community and we have raised more than £150 so far for our charity.

We would like to thank all the council representatives and all classes for making this possible. Thank you to Miss Watts for listening to us and helping to make things happen and a very big thank you to all parents and carers for helping us raise funds for our charity.



Scan the QR code to view how Voice of change are making the school and world a better place



# Well done!

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, Michael Staley and Tracy Moxon-Waddell were privileged to be invited to Barnsley College to watch one of our ex-students, Shaun Dunbar, collect an award for his exceptional progress. Shaun was also awarded with the 'Overall Student of the Year' across the music, media and performing arts departments. Shaun has produced an incredible video about Alzheimer's which was based on his own experience. The video was absolutely stunning and will be used by Barnsley Hospital when training new staff. We are all incredibly proud of what Shaun has achieved and we look forward to seeing where his journey will lead. Well done Shaun.



This term we have seen a number of our students return to a mainstream education. Pupils continue to work incredibly hard with staff across all of our Alternative Academy settings to overcome previous barriers to learning and develop strategies to support any anxieties they may have about returning to a mainstream education.

you got this!

We wish Oliver, Alfie and Tyler all the best for the future and look forward to hearing about their ongoing progress! Don't they look smart!



## Introducing Meg, our Therapy Dog!

AAAHHHH!

During the summer term, the pupils and staff have been enjoying special visits from Meg, our therapy dog. Everyone has loved spending some calming time with the lovely black and white cocker spaniel and her owner Eileen. The pupils have learnt lots about what Meg likes and what her favourite doggy treats are. We have even been teaching Meg some little tricks. Each class has had specific time to spend with Meg and other pupils have used the opportunity to visit at times when they have felt particularly stressed and anxious. This has really supported them in regulating themselves and returning to classroom learning. We can't wait to see more of Meg, just look at how cute she is!!



We had a fantastic time celebrating the Royal wedding! The whole of Primary came together for a special wedding breakfast to celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. Thank you to everyone who sent in food and party items.

All of the staff were so proud of how the pupils managed their behaviour at this exciting event, even though it was a change to our normal routine. Well done everyone!





# Magic Moments

from around our Learning Community

Last half term, Springwell at Forest had an unexpected visitor!

It left footprints outside the classroom and laid lots of eggs in the classroom. We weren't sure what the creature was until the eggs hatched... It was a DINOSAUR! We then had to research about that dinosaur and even design our own hybrid version. The class were that absorbed in the topic, that they produced fantastic stories about a dinosaur visiting Springwell.

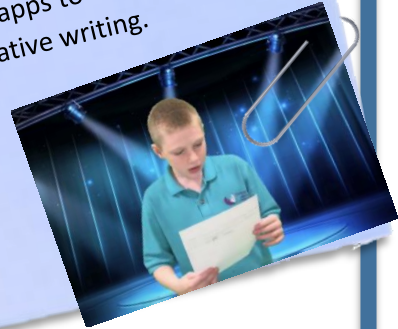


## iPads in the classroom

Technology continues to be used widely across Springwell to engage, motivate and inspire our learners. The innovative use of technology not only allows our learners to be creative but also helps to teach how to be responsible digital citizens by being respectful and staying safe online. Primary 4 have been using a range of iPad apps to enhance their learning and help with creative writing.



Scan the QR code to see examples of the fantastic work that has been going on.



## Aztecs in DT

Primary and Springwell@Forest pupils have been hard at work in Design Technology. They have been learning about Aztec masks and wood art. They have been busy creating their own designs.



Mrs Beech, Ms McMahon and Miss Beevers successfully completed their Level 2 Diploma in Complimentary Therapies at White Rose College recently. The course involved Swedish massage, Aromatherapy, Zone Therapy and Reflexology. The skills learned are now used in school as a behaviour regulation with anxious students. Students especially enjoy arm and Indian head massage, which calms, relaxes and helps them to re-engage in learning.



# 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, Cannon Hall, The Salvation Army, Oakwell Football Stadium, The Grove Care Home and that's just to name a few. It was a great day and it was brilliant to get so many positive comments about our hard work.



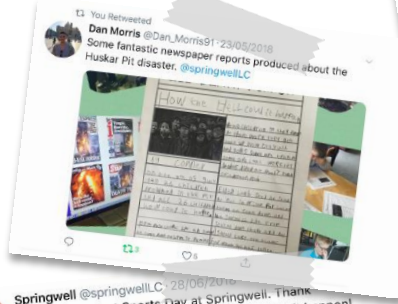


# SocialMedia

These are some of our top tweets from the last term.

If you've not already done so, please follow us to keep up to date with everything that's happening at Springwell

@springwellLC





# SPRINGWELL SPORTS DAY 2018

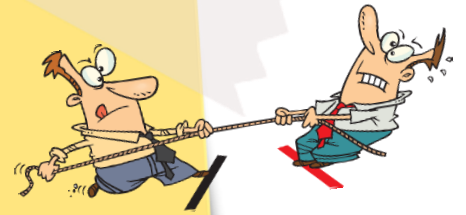


## Sports Day

Pupils and staff participated in their annual sports day on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 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, inflatable assault course, penalty shootout with Toby Tyke. Pupils then cheered on staff during the staff races and finished off the day with a slush to cool down! Thank you Miss Dunwell and Mr Byford for all your hard work in organising the day.



## FENCING WITH ALAN SHERIFF

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of April we had former fencing Paralympian Alan Sheriff attend Springwell to deliver a few coaching sessions to both Special and Alternative Academy pupils. Both groups of children loved the sessions which included basic skills and movements that Alan used during his time in the Paralympics.



## FOOTBALL

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of April Springwell took 8 members of the of the football team to an away day at Abbey School in Rotherham, the whole team played out of their skins; winning one, drawing one and losing one. Man of the match on the day was awarded to Jacob Pardoe for his excellent display of goalkeeping.

In addition, Springwell Alternative Academy and Special school both entered teams in a football tournament at Keepmoat stadium in Doncaster on the Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of March. Both teams represented Springwell with exemplary behaviour and sportsmanship throughout the full day. Well done to all involved.





## Spring Concert 2018

The Spring concert was yet again a huge success. We were so proud to show off the talent and hard work of our pupils and also to have such willing participants. 30 Pupils in all volunteered to take part. Well done, everyone!!!



Scan the QR code to view our Spring Concert.

## Chocolatiers in the making at Dearne AA!

Year 9, 10 and 11 students had an amazing opportunity to work with chocolate. Designing, planning and creating their very own products.

Miss Carl who delivered the sessions showed learners how to create various yummy products using various chocolate moulds and an array of ingredients to add texture and flavour to their products. Students learnt about the process of chocolate from "bean to bar" and the importance of farming the cacao before it is then formed into the yummy, delicious, creamy chocolates you see on the supermarket shelves today.



Miss Carl also brought in various cocoa pods that were grown on the island of St. Lucia and the raw ingredients for students to see and learn about the process. Students even thought of their own chocolate company and product names and they were all very creative and tempting!

Students were engrossed by using various techniques as shown by Miss Carl to make bars, lollies and hand-piped buttons incorporating various flavours and textures using creative eye-catching ingredients. The fun part was to package their final products before then showcasing them to the rest of the group.



On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Springwell held its third **Careers Morning**. 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, including Barnsley College and Brathay for pupils to chat to and get advice from.

The army were there and put the pupils through their paces with some drills. 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 for pupils to start thinking about their futures and for them to aim high. A massive thank you to Christine Britton and Tracey Moxen-Waddell for helping to organise the event and to all of the further education providers and the army who came.





## Victorian Working Children

Our Elements topic in Primary last half term was Victorian Working Children. Part of the work focused on child miners. Barnsley pits employed lots of young people and in July 1838 there was a tragic accident at the Huskar Pit in Silkstone that claimed the lives of 27 children. All 4 primary classes visited Silkstone Church to view the monument and see the beautiful commemorative stained glass window; both landmarks remember the tragedy and the sad loss of life.

Additionally, pupils researched other highly dangerous jobs that children from poor Victorian families did. These included chimney sweeps, watercress sellers, mud larks, powder monkeys and mule scavengers in cotton mills.

We also visited the National Coalmining Museum in Wakefield where the children experienced first-hand, the conditions faced by child miners.



## Key dates for the diary – Autumn Term 2018

Academies close for the summer break: **Friday 20th July**

INSET Day – Academies closed to pupils: **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

Academies open for Autumn Term: **Tuesday 4th September**

Academies close for half term: **Friday 26th October**

Both academies re-open: **Monday 5th November**

Family Learning Day: **Monday 17th December**

Academies close for Christmas: **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

Academies open for Spring Term: **Monday 7th January**

Let's  
HAVE A GREAT  
SUMMER