

Springfield Primary School

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Autumn Update

Dear parent/carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a number of things that have recently happened at school and will be happening in the future. As always your support is greatly appreciated. I would like to thank you for the support that you have shown over this first term, as we near the Christmas break.

School Website and Twitter feed.

Our new school website is live and can be found at the following address:

www.springfieldprimary.org.uk

Please visit our website to keep up to date with school policies and the latest communications from our school. School Meal menus, letters, term dates, KS2 results, curriculums and Parents evenings can all be found on the website. We also have a Twitter feed that will complement our text message service. You can follow us **@SpringfPrimary** to keep in touch with all that is going on at Springfield.

Remembrance Day and the Poppy Appeal.

We were overwhelmed by the support that parents and students showed in memory and support of families that have and will be affected by war. The whole school observed a minutes silence, wore their poppies with pride and a representative from each class laid a handmade wreath at the foot of our Drumhead memorial. Sultan in 6MM beautifully read a very well-crafted poem as part of the service. We are waiting to see how much money our school raised for the appeal, and will let you know as soon as the Royal British Legion have been in touch.

Anti-bullying and Children in Need appeal.

Children have been talking with their teachers about how to recognise, avoid and stop bullying behaviour. It was great to see the array of odd socks on show as we raised awareness of how 'everyone is different, but everyone is equal'. Bullying is something that we feel very strongly about and will continue to work with you to ensure that any such behaviour is rare and dealt with swiftly and effectively.

We raised a fantastic £803 FOR Children in Need by holding a non-uniform day and a copper, silver and gold Pudsey challenge. Thank you for your support. We are very proud to have contributed to the £50million plus total that has been raised this year.

School Uniform and PE Kit.

Please ensure that you have looked at the School Uniform policy on our website. A link can be found in the 'Parents' section. Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform to and from school. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring we have improved the situation regarding footwear over this half term.

When we return after Christmas, all teaching staff have been asked to speak with parents as necessary to make sure that the correct, clean, PE kit is being worn for all PE lessons. This will apply to all students. If a child cannot participate due to injury, they should be asked to act as a coach or an official and therefore they should still bring and wear PE kit. It is important that all students have access to high quality PE lessons on a weekly basis and that they experience a number of roles, not just as a performer.

Attendance and Penalty Notices issued.

Our attendance as a school is slowly improving. Our target for every pupil is 100%. Over the next few weeks I will be meeting with parents whose children have already had 10 or more unauthorised days off, so that we can work together to improve their attendance. I will be working with the Local Authority to specifically target those parents who are not meeting our expectations and their legal obligations as parents to ensure their child attends school, as opposed to parents and pupils who have genuine reasons for absence.

The Local Authority has recently issued 37 Penalty notices to parents for unauthorised absence in term time. Each penalty notice is £60 per parent, per child.

The message here is a very simple one. Please ensure your child attends school during term time and do not take them out of school unless it is absolutely unavoidable. We will continue to assess each request on an individual basis. Please do not assume that it will be granted. My job is to protect your child's right to their education.

Collection of children at the end of the school day and after school clubs.

Please ensure you are at school to collect your child at 3.15pm when the school gates open. We must have your permission and full details in advance if someone else is coming to collect your child.

If your child is attending a club it is automatically assumed they will be collected by a parent/carer. If this is not the case parents must inform school of the arrangements they wish for their child. As with the end of the day, late collection procedures will be followed 10 minutes after the end of the club.

If a child is not collected at the end of a session we will follow our school procedures. If we cannot contact parents successfully, Social Services may be contacted. Please refer to our website for full detailed procedures.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and continued support. I hope you are as excited as we are about the future of our school. There is still much work to do. I look forward to sharing our next steps with you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rob Grover