

## Greetings from our Executive Principal

Dear Parents / carers

I can't start our Newsletter this month without a comment first on the weather that so disrupted us at the end of the month.

The "Beast from the East" delivered exactly what the Met Office had predicted and brought huge disruption to large parts of the UK.



I am sorry to say that this meant that I had to take the decision, along with hundreds of other school leaders up and down the country, to close the Academy for 3 days. This is never a decision that is made lightly and is based on a very careful risk assessment of the weather and the safety of travel conditions, access to the school site and the ability of staff to travel in, in enough numbers to provide safe and proper supervision.

In the case of last week, it was



clear after consulting with transport and my site teams that the risk of asking children and staff to travel was too great and hence we closed. I hope that making the decisions early for Thursday and Friday gave parents and carers as much clarity and warning as possible so that arrangements could be made on those days. Let us hope that that was the last of the winter weather and that there will be no further disruption.

We are over half way through the year now and very soon will be moving more of our students to our new homes. I know that Ann-Marie Walker the Principal of the new site in South Leeds has already been in contact with many of you about the arrangements for transfer and transition and that Sarah Storer at Burley Park and Paul Carney at Stonegate have also been working with students and parents in preparation for the closure of their respective sites.

Change and transitions can be a worrying time for children and for parents, so if you have any worries, questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please, please get in touch with staff at the site your child currently attends so that we can work with you to address those issues.

Finally – here is a link that may interest you as it very much reflects our approach to dealing with our children and young people. We refer to it as “Unconditional Positive Regard” and the link is to an article in the Guardian about our Springwell Academy in Barnsley and explains what Unconditional Positive Regard is and why it is the approach we believe works best.

[Springwellacademyleeds.org/latest-news/guardian-newspaper/](https://www.springwellacademyleeds.org/latest-news/guardian-newspaper/)



Kind regards,  
*Scott Jacques*  
Executive Principal

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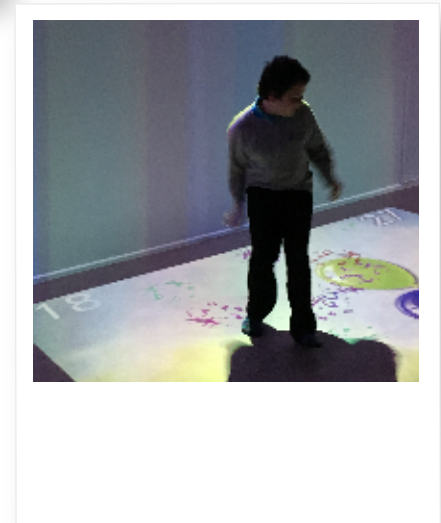
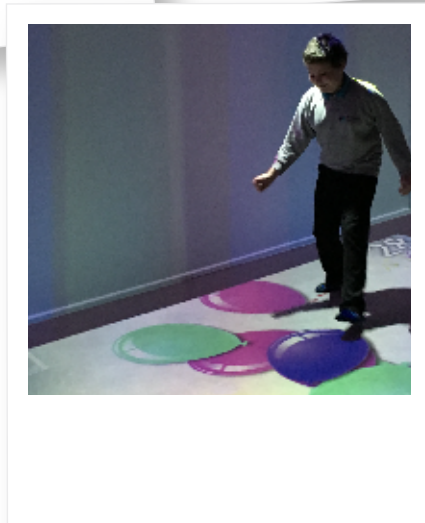
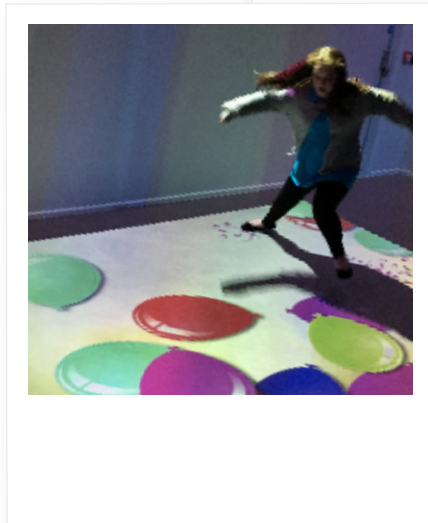
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# Oakwood News



Clyde class have been very busy! We have made a giant sarcophagus as part of topic on the Egyptians, we had a visit from the Safer schools officers to help us learn about Internet Safety. Luckily there was also some time to relax!



Wharfe are already enjoying our new theme 'What would life be like in a different World?' To support us with our learning we are studying the text 'Where the Wild Things are.' We are developing characters and setting to help extend our writing. Wharfe class are very lucky to have Miss Walker with us from Leeds Beckett University. Miss Walker is currently on a teaching placement and is proving to be an excellent addition to our team. The pictures are from Miss Walkers first English lesson here at Springwell Leeds Primary Academy.



# Burley Park News



I am happy to report that after the success of our Christmas Concert music continues to thrive here at Burley Park. Students are regularly given the opportunity to perform in front of their peers in assembly. Blue group, after their music lesson set up in the hall, to surprise the Principal, Mrs Storer with a rendition of Happy Birthday. We all sang along too.

The students of purple group for their **Prince's Trust Enterprise Project** have offered a lunch service to staff on a Friday. So far we all have had a good 'feed' with dishes such as Tuna bake, baked potatoes with various fillings and roasted tomato soup. Yum!



Last term the students participated in the Dream Machines group reading competition. The students had to read for at least 15 minutes to win a puzzle piece. The first group that completed the picture won. Red group were announced the winners on the last day of term and this term they will be given the opportunity to decide on their prize.



## The Blended Curriculum - Immersive Spaces

Green group went to town to create an Egyptian tomb from a store cupboard for the unit The Egyptians.



The use of the class Dojo has been very successful this year and rewards have been put into place to recognise the students' progress. The school council wanted the school to re-introduce a lunch time reward for students who socialise appropriately. This half term the pupils will be given a Burley Park Student Bank Card. They will be able to 'bank' their lunch time Dojo points which can then be redeemed for a variety of rewards.

Our P.E teacher, Jon Lloyd, a former world champion kick boxer takes every opportunity for students to increase their levels of fitness with this 'Rocky' challenge.

Once again our students have been given the marvellous opportunity to work with a former Olympic gymnastics coach. Fantastic progress is being made by all our students with some performing superb front flips and back flips already.



# Stonegate News



## Principal's Welcome

Hello and welcome to the February's newsletter. As always, there have been lots of positives to share with you from our Stonegate Site and below are just a couple of our highlights.

## Transition

This Springwell Academy Leeds South Site is fast approaching completion. We are very excited to be moving in to our second new building and will be working closely with students over the coming weeks to ensure they are prepared. As ever, if you have any specific concerns or questions please get in touch on 0113 4687980



Congratulations to our 'Harbour' class who have been nominated for a **Golden Owl** award for the film they made in partnership with Interplay: School Trip.

We have been nominated for creative use of sound and music and it is the second year running Springwell Leeds have been nominated. The Awards Ceremony is on March 27th at 7pm and I hope to be writing to you in April with news of our success!

## Artist of the Term



Congratulations to this Spring's Artist of the Term. Beth has produced an impressive range of 'water' and 'fantasy' themed art work which is proudly on display in our conference room. All her work is drawn free handed and she has used an impressive range of techniques to design these fantastically vivid pieces. Exceptional work Beth!

# Leeds East News



Welcome to the second edition of the Leeds East newsletter. I am so proud of all of our accomplishments over the last half term. Students and staff have all moved in and settled into the new exciting building. We are developing a caring and considerate culture that is calm and purposeful and many of the visitors that have been to see us have commented on how calm the school feels day to day. Students are achieving remarkable things, I have seen and been part of some excellent drama performances from our KS2 students, and we have a number of students in KS3 and KS4 that have achieved level 1 and 2 functional skills qualifications in Maths and English. We have a huge number of students who have started the Jamie Oliver food qualification and we are starting to develop our own KS4 students into the sports leaders of tomorrow. If we can achieve all of this in just one half term I cannot wait to see what we do over the next few years.

## DJ School

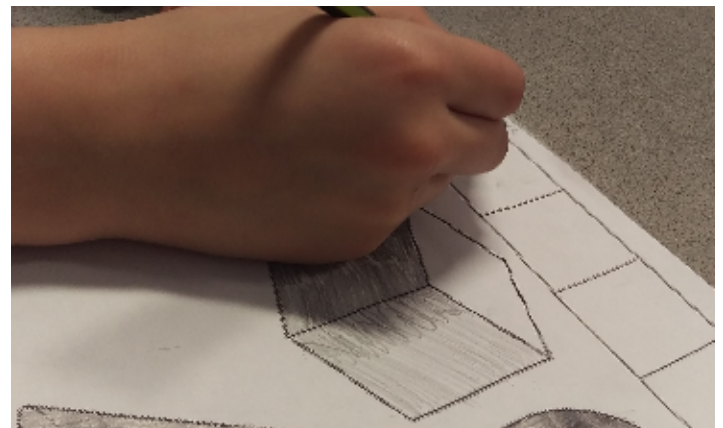
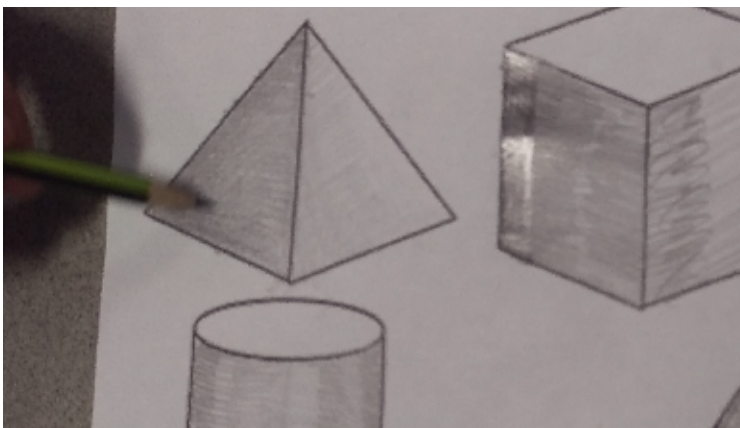


We have a 2 classes of students attending DJ school and they are all working on a BTEC qualification in music production. This is an exciting opportunity to work in collaboration with Leeds Art Forms. We are looking forward to hosting our First Leeds East Gig and celebrating all the talent we have on our amazing school.

## Dates for the Diary

Student Review Day 16th April

Appointment letter will be sent out next week.



## You said We did

As part of the last parent survey (We did this on the last review day) you said that you would like us to offer more opportunities for you to meet with the leadership team and discuss issues in person.

Leeds East Head Principal surgeries will take place every Monday evening from 2:30 – 5:00. No appointment is necessary for this, if you cannot make it in person please contact the main school number and book in a phone conversation.

# Springwell Arts

These paintings by Jordon Hewson (Y9) Kody Kennedy (Y10) Stem from the elements work on the book Machine Gunners this month. We have created WW2 mixed media canvases inspired by the artist David Lozeau.



Bailey Duffy (Y8) is working on his rhythm skills on the new drum kit with Mr Horne at our East site.



Students are working on their ensemble and rehearsal skills with Glockenspiels in music enrichment at Oakwood led by Mrs Baker



Year 6/7s at the East have been making Animal Shapes as their first project in resistant materials. The focus has been to introduce them to basic hand tools and some machinery such as sand paper, files, heгна saw and the pillar drill. They did extremely well and enjoyed it.



The day Omari tried to recreate a Ray Harryhausen monster in art at the East...

