# Springwell Leeds

Dear Parents / Carers,

September 2019 | Issue 9

## Welcome to another edition of the Springwell Leeds Newsletter!

Please be aware that the telephone options have now changed when you contact Springwell Academy.

- Option 1 North site
- Option 2 East Site
- Option 3 South Site
- Option 4 Executive Principal's Personal Assistant

The phone number remains the same 0113 4870555.

This change has been made as we no longer have the site at Oakwood.

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2019-20, looking back over all the wonderful things that have been happening across Springwell Leeds Academy in September.

We have had a really busy and exciting start to the year and are delighted to have welcomed staff and children from our Primary site onto the main Academy sites. After a bit of a rocky start with transport which was beyond our control, the children have on the whole settled in well and staff on all sites are pleased with how they are doing. You can see more about how they are getting along on page 2.

I am pleased to report that at the start of the year, our whole school attendance is up compared to last year for September. I know you understand the importance of

attending school every day and I hope that you will continue to support your child by making sure that their attendance is excellent.

Springwell Leeds has been in the news quite a bit over the last month including an appearance on Look North last week. I was so very proud of the students and staff who were involved and delighted that the piece was so positive about the school.

For all the latest news and links to those reports from last month, please visit the school website:

www.springwellacademyleeds.org

I hope you you enjoy the rest of this newsletter!

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Kind regards,

Scott Jacques
Executive Principal

### Primary

In Tyne class at East we have been learning about "No Bot". A story about a robot that loses his bottom! Alex made a super model figure of him. Well done Alex!

Throughout the week the children have been watching a clip about "Rosa Parks" which they then discussed their opinions. In the Thames class at South, they have done hot seating based on the students being an 'evacuee' as part of our topic. We were also very lucky that Lucas brought in some WW1 memorabilia for us to look at. This was his granddad's and is very precious.

In PE we have done team activities and games based around teamwork and resilience.

We have also done some gardening work to help clear our the garden and make a nice space.



The Primary pod at North have been writing letters to send to their friends at the South and East sites. What a lovely way to keep in touch!



Primary children and staff who have moved from Oakwood have all settled happily into their new surroundings at Springwell North site. The transition was something we had planned for and worked hard to ensure that we all felt prepared for it and supported in the move so it seems to have paid off!

We are all becoming much more familiar with our school expectations and routines which help us to keep safe, feel secure and learn and play together. Our weekly class timetables are very busy with lot of exciting learning taking place such as Maths, English, Art, Social skills games and lots more. We enjoy achieving our daily Dojo points and also choosing our Golden Time activities which might be Outdoor Play, Messy play and Dobble which is a big favourite!

Our weekly Friday morning assembly is a lovely time where we all come together to celebrate and share the achievements of everyone. It is a pleasure to hear the positive feedback from parents and carers who love seeing and receiving the certificates that their children have brought home. This week we have a new certificate to award for Staff Member of The Week chosen by the children!

#### North Site









Orange 1 at North have been piloting 'pop in and play' sessions which is where we invite parents into school on Friday mornings to come into class and interact with their child and play games. This interaction with their child can help them with their personal and social development in school and help build on their relationships with their parents and carers doing something fun in school! We have had two stay and play sessions so far and we have had a good turnout. The children have had positive reactions to seeing their parents in class and all have enjoyed playing a variety of games including parachute games, card games, board games and also games that the children have invented during the week!

This year at the North site we have ten of our KS4 students engaged in a work experience programme. We are working with the YES project, a youth enterprise scheme who support young people with engaging in the world of work. Our students' placements include plastering, animal care, catering, nursery care, retail and mechanics. Students attend their placements one or two days a week for the full academic year.

Al Osta, the project coordinator offers intensive mentoring support for each individual pupil to ensure the placement is in line with their interests. He ensures students are prepared and can travel to work independently and support students to positively engage in their placements and with their employers. Students also gain accredited qualifications in work related learning to help prepare them for the next step in their education or training. Our students have shown fantastic levels of maturity in their placements so far and it has been fantastic to see them reflect and consider their future career ambitions.

#### East Site-

### Springwell's Anthology of Short Stories

Students at East are excited about the upcoming launch of our very own Springwell Anthology of short stories.

Students' work will appear in a published collection of writing resulting from their work with Russ Litten (our 'First Story' writer), East's 'Creative Writing Week' and their work in English throughout the year. Twenty students contributed to the anthology, which includes prose, autobiographical writing and even a screenplay.

Much of the writing is humorous, but there are some serious contributions of a very different kind. These emphasise the difficult journey some of our students have travelled to arrive in a place where they can finally feel that they are succeeding, hence the anthology's title 'Many Roads to a Happy Ending'.

Look out for your copy in October!

Springwell East students visited "The Leeds Discovery Centre".

Our students learnt about how the unique centre helps us preserve and protect over one million intriguing objects and treasures from dress and textile, social history, natural science, geology, archaeology and world cultures collections.

From toucans to telephones, meteorites and mummies, there was something for everyone to be excited about!!









#### South Site

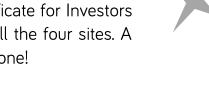








Last Friday some of our children visited the Civic Hall for a Health and Wellbeing Celebration. Whilst at the celebration we were awarded a Certificate for Investors in Pupils. This is for all the four sites. A big well done to everyone!





Please come along to Springwell South Site's Fundraising Autumn Fair where there will be refreshments, cakes, raffles and games!

The fair will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 10am-12pm and has a 50p admission.

Our South site managed to raise an impressive £39.45 at our recent Jeans for Genes day! Our Macmillan coffee morning also went fantasically at our South site, raising £69.79.

A massive thank you to everyone who took part.

## Cinema trip

Our wonderful Green 1 and 3 pupils at South had a magical 'wow in' to their new Elements topic on Romans and Volcanoes...they went to the cinema! They watched the latest Horrible Histories movie, finding out all about Boudica and her army, and giving a real sense of context to their upcoming topic. The students made us very proud and behaved impeccably well, showing the cinema goers of Leeds what Springwell Academy is all about. Well done, boys, and thank you to the class teams for giving our children this fantastic learning day out.



#### Looking Through the Lens - Behaviour Workshop Event



#### #TranslatingBehaviour #LookingThroughTheLens #AnAfternoonOfInspiration

Over 90 Wellspring Academy Trust colleagues attended the Positive Regard Looking Through The Lens event on Friday 5th July. Attendees had the opportunity to attend two specialist workshops of their choice which covered a wide range of Behavioural and SEN topics.

A huge thank you to Jacob Lawton from Springwell Leeds Academy who brought the idea forward from the Behaviour Network Group. We were delighted to be given the challenge and opportunity to turn this idea into such a successful event. We have been extremely overwhelmed with positive feedback following the afternoon and hope that this is something we can share and develop for next year!

We would also like to thank our 12 workshop facilitators for showcasing their real expertise and experience, with like minded professionals. You were all great!

Here are just a handful of positive comments from the afternoon:

'Excellent event! It was great to network and learn from others who share the same interests'

'Thank you! I have learnt so much that I can use again to better my practice'

'I really enjoyed the chance to meet colleagues from other Wellspring schools and engage in academic research'

'A well organised event - designed to improve young people!'

'Fantastic afternoon! Well organised, fun and informative'



