

Dear Parents / Carers,

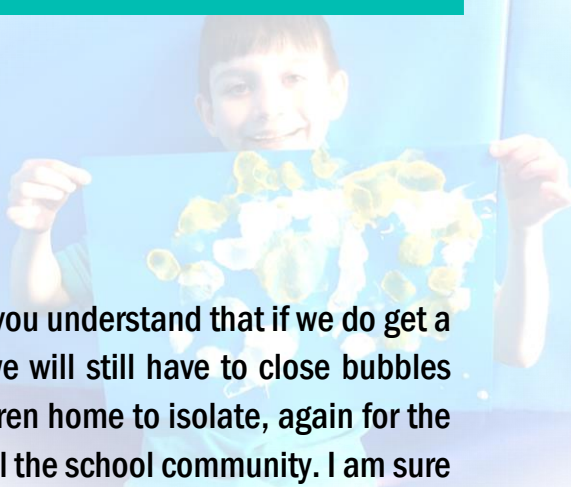
Welcome to this half term's newsletter

I hope that you will enjoy reading about everything that has been going on across our sites this half term.

Over the last few weeks we have been continuing our journey out of the pandemic in all aspects of life including school. I am sure that you are all relieved that some of the restrictions on everyday living that have been in place are now, slowly and carefully being lifted. At school, we continue to follow the Government guidance carefully with a full COVID risk assessment in place and bubbles operating within our schools. We continue to encourage children to wash their hands regularly and maintain social distance where they can. We have not returned to large meetings of children such as assemblies yet and look forward to being able to do that again, hopefully in the near future.

Although we are coming out of this pandemic gradually, we are not there yet. I ask that you continue to support your children to take regular Lateral Flow Tests, as our staff do, to ensure the safety of the whole school community.

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I ask also that you understand that if we do get a positive test, we will still have to close bubbles and send children home to isolate, again for the protection of all the school community. I am sure you find this as frustrating as we do, but understand why we have to do it. We really appreciate your help and patience in this matter.

As we head towards the end of another school year, we will be in touch soon to share with you arrangements for pupils in Year 11 as we move towards their date for leaving Springwell. Staff teams have been working hard to ensure that all necessary assessments are made and submitted and that each and every pupil leaving us has a clear plan for next year. If you have a child in Y11 and are not yet clear about their plans for next year, please do not hesitate to get in touch with staff on the site they attend.

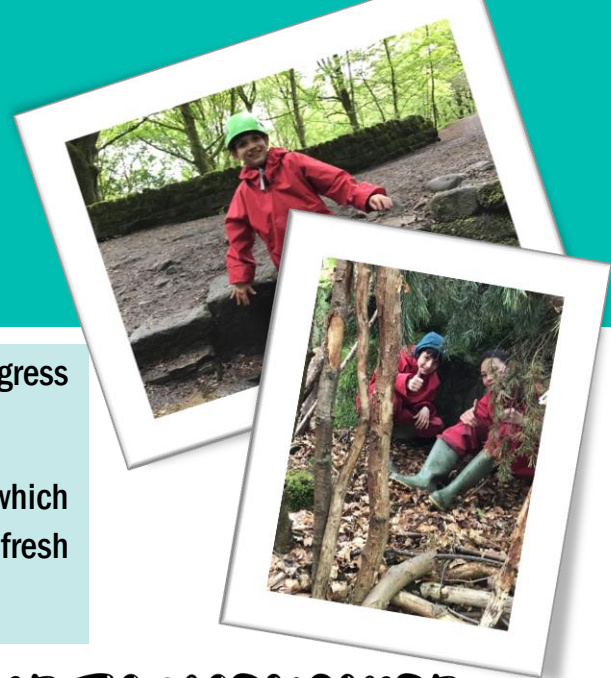
Enjoy the rest of the newsletter



Scott Jacques
Executive Principal



Primary



Orange 2 class from our North site have been building on the progress of the last few weeks and developing their orienteering skills.

Today they went to Otley Chevin to do some stream scrambling which involved teamwork, following instructions, facing new challenges, fresh air and of course, lots of fun!

WELCOME TO YORKSHIRE

Tuesday 27th April saw the first of many cross site 'WOW in' launch days. KS1 – 3 pupils from Springwell East, North and South sites had a wonderful day igniting our topic 'Welcome to Yorkshire' This was achieved through enhancement of the environment, dressing up, Yorkshire food tasting, welly wanging, a cross site quiz and our very own PE Tour De Yorkshire. Even our KS4 pupils could not resist the topic and Miss Walton's class at East site gained the top spot in the Yorkshire quiz across the three sites. What a fabulous achievement!



As our parents will know by now, reading is a huge part of the curriculum at Springwell - and good reading habits start early! We use reciprocal reading strategies at all of our sites, and we practise these skills with our youngest to our oldest children, right across the curriculum. You can practise this at home by asking your child to predict what they are going to read, to clarify any tricky words, to summarise what they have read, and to think of questions they want to know about the text they are reading. In our primary pod, we have created comfy, inspiring reading spaces to encourage reading and talking about books - take a look at this fabulous effort by Miss Buckingham and Blue 1!

Dens Galore

This week, our primary children have had a week long den building experience. Chris so much enjoyed his last visit to school, that he booked in for a whole week with us! We were very lucky to have received a funding bid to support this recreational activity, and this time the whole school has had chance to participate. Children focused on team work and problem solving throughout the experience, and we saw some epic super-structures being made throughout the week!



Josie, one of our school dogs loves to be read to and is also a very good book rest too

North Site

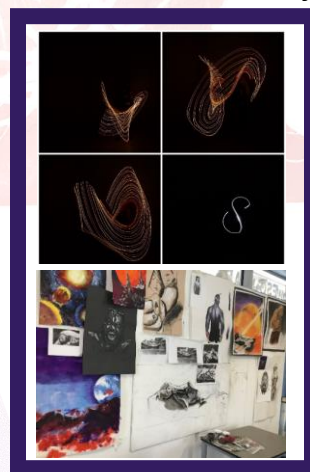


Art Work

Another successful Art Workshop with Miriam Laville who worked creatively with our students to produce stunning pieces of art.

The students used a printing press to produce some transfer prints, created from natural forms such as leaves and twigs. They rolled ink on to a flat perspex plate with a print roller, placed the leaves etc on top and put it through the printing press. A great process to learn from as the results were so effective and a really positive experience.

We also have a Golden Ticket shop where students can exchange the Golden Tickets they have earned and accrued to buy the item of their choice. The tickets are awarded for above and beyond spontaneous achievements including kindness, extra effort in class and being polite and friendly to visitors. The shop is very popular with our students who suggest stock they would like to buy and then they help to price up the items and restock the shop.



Question of the Day

In our Yellow Pod we have a Question Of The Day where students and staff attempt to get the correct answer and win a small prize for taking part and answering correctly. This activity has become an enjoyable and integral part of the day and has become quite competitive between some individuals! We encourage students to research the answer and sometimes work as a team in order to help each other and research the answer so that every student can get the answer.

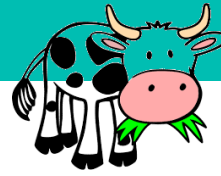


Ms Chapman and Shannon from our North site donated the lovely planters they have worked hard on to Opal LS16, a charity supporting older people in LS16 to lead happy, healthy, informed, independent lives. What a kind gesture and we are sure they will be appreciated!

Act of kindness



East Site



Our Visit from the Purple Pig Company

East site had a visit from The Purple Pig Company where the children were able to learn about different farm animals, ask questions and pet them! Thank you to Rachel who kindly brought her animals in!



Dress as a digit

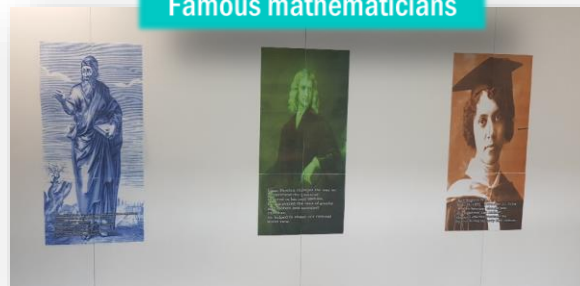
1 2 3 4 Number Day 2021



Staff and pupils at Springwell East participated in Number day 2021 which was held on 7th May, to raise funds for the NSPCC. Each pod and class were decorated with a number theme and pupils and staff across the school “dressed as a digit”. Pupils and staff were really creative and got into the swing of the numeracy theme. Whole school bingo started the day off, and classes competed active maths challenges in the sports hall through the day as well as a host of in class activities. Certificates and prizes were presented to pupils recognising engagement – including: Bailey (for overall engagement), Jon (Bingo champion) and Yellow 1 (Quiz champions). Well done to all involved!



Famous mathematicians



MUSIC EXAM SUCCESS

I am very proud of the music grade examination success of our students at Springwell East. The Debut Piano exam has been passed by Jevell, D'vell and Freddie. The Let's Rock Drums exam has been passed by Harrison, Hayden and Scott. Scott has also passed the next grade up from Let's Rock Drums, which is Debut Drums. Ronan has passed the Debut drums exam. There are other students who will also be shortly sitting the exams. Amazing work!



South Site

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning has taken off at Springwell South. Across all years and pods young people have found the joys that the outdoor world brings. Our primary children have built tarp dens in the school and Miss Razaq has introduced them to toasted marshmallows! Green Pod have been planting flowers and learning bike maintenance. Yellow Pod have been jetting off to Barnsley to explore the woodland around Silkstone, which has allowed firebuilding and den building to take place. Also a natural fire on site cooking sausages on sticks. There have now been 38 Bronze sectional certificates achieved for the Duke of Edinburgh award at South and all of these students will have an opportunity to go on a day expedition by the summer to turn these into full awards. These will be the first full awards achieved by Springwell students. Something we are all very proud of them for. I, for one, am enjoying seeing the curriculum grow and look forward to what next academic year will bring.

Number Day



Number Day was a huge success across all of our sites, really putting Maths as a central part of the school calendar, as well as raising much-needed funds for the NSPCC. Thank you to our Maths leads for their hard work in organising a fun and challenging day for all, including maths treasure hunts, beat the teacher and guess the number competitions.



Here at South, we have invested in some virtual reality headsets - which have been a hit with staff and students alike! Intervention sessions led by our Music specialist teacher, Miss Halkyard, the headsets have quickly become a real favourite, allowing our students a glimpse into another world.

Happy Eid!

With a number of colleagues across school celebrating Eid this term, it was only fitting that we celebrate with an Eid Party in Orange zone. Miss Akudi brought in intricate, beautifully crafted sweet treats from her family celebrations, to share with staff and children, and the whole zone came together to eat, drink and be merry. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn more about other cultures, and to join in the celebration of the festival of Eid and the breaking of the fast. Several staff and students undertook a voluntary fast in advance, to show empathy and solidarity towards with Muslim staff and students who fasted throughout Ramadan.

Trinity Centre Status



TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

★ Trinity Champion Centre 2021-2022

A message from our Head of Arts, Adam Bell

We are delighted to announce that, following an application process, Springwell Academy Leeds has been awarded Trinity Champion School status for 2021-22.

Champion Centres are recognised by Trinity for their successful delivery of Trinity College qualifications either as a result of strong exam results, an exciting programme of performance events, impact on learners or innovation in the performing arts.

Springwell has been recognised for the outstanding delivery of the Arts Award qualification across all three sites as well as the extended opportunities offered to students to engage in Arts activities. As part of the process we outlined our current offer as well as our plans to develop what we do across all Arts subjects over the next 2 years.

As a Champion Centre we will be asked to share our practice across the Trinity College community to support other schools with the intention of inspiring others to broaden their Arts offers. In return, Trinity College offer support to celebrate our achievements, profile our success and promote the work we do.

Added to the school's award of Artsmark Silver status in 2020, this underlines the ,incredible commitment shown towards the Arts at all of our sites. We are already well under way with plans for more exciting opportunities in the next academic year which we will look forward to sharing with you in future news updates.



Parent Governor Opportunity



We are seeking another parent to join our board of Governors along with Jim Whurr. There is a commitment of attending 6 meetings a year which are held at each of our sites in turn from 4:30 – 6:00pm. If you are interested in this important role, please contact Lauren Harper on 0113 4870555 (option 4) or email us at office@springwellacademyleeds.org