



## Springmoor Grange School Newsletter Volume 9 - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### Children in Need – Food Bank Donations

THANK YOU! We have been overwhelmed once again to receive so many food donations from families. Your amazing generosity is very much appreciated and the donations have all been delivered to St Paul's Food Bank, where they were gratefully received. They will make a huge difference to local families who need a little bit of support at the current time.



### Road Safety Update

We are delighted to inform you that a School Crossing Patrol has been appointed for Springmoor Grange. The final checks and induction training are being completed so we are hoping they can start soon. When we have further information, we will let you know.

### Neville Close Gate – Top of Field

We wanted to pre-warn you that we may need to close this gate when the weather becomes cold and the paths icy due to health and safety reasons. A decision will be made by 7:30am and an email sent out via Arbor to give you time to use one of the other gates. If you do not hear from us, then the gate will be open as normal. Thank you in advance for your understanding about this – we just want to ensure everyone is safe.

### What is happening in Nursery?



In Nursery this half term, we have been learning about Autumn and went on a walk to look for signs of Autumn. We will be learning about celebrations and have talked about Diwali and Bonfire night last week. As part of those celebrations we made lots of different firework and bonfire pictures. We are continuing to learn a new poem on a weekly basis and will share these on Seesaw. In Nursery, we are always working to challenge ourselves and this term we are challenging ourselves to become more independent when putting on our coats. Our Physical Development will continue to be supported through our amazing PE lessons with Mrs Walker each week as well as through all of the work we do both inside and outside of Nursery. We will also be learning about Christmas later in the term and talking about how we celebrate at home. We have a special Nativity coming up and we have started to learn the songs we will be singing for you all. We will also have a Christmas Craft session for parents to come into school to work with their child – details will be sent home shortly.

### Exploring Light and Dark in Reception

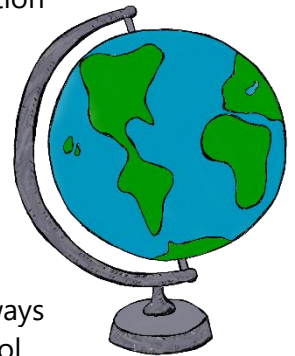
This half term in Reception, we will be following the theme of light and dark. We will be exploring the natural world by observing seasonal changes as we move from Autumn into Winter. There are also many different festivals at this time of year which celebrate light, and children will discover how these are observed across countries and cultures. There are also plenty of opportunities to express their creativity, with Christmas crafts and our Christmas performance to look forward to!

### What is happening in Y1/2?

This half term, our theme is 'Healthy Me'. We will be learning about how to fuel our bodies healthily and why it is important to clean surfaces and hands before cooking. We will do some food tasting and use this to help us to create a healthy, balanced meal. In Geography, we are exploring the 4 countries of the UK and their capital cities. We will also look at human and physical landmarks in each of the countries, including some from our own region. As we are fast approaching Christmas, KS1 are busy preparing for our 'Boogie Woogie Nativity'. The children can't wait to share their hard work with you! If you have any questions regarding costumes, please don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

### Festive Fun and Fantastic Learning: Year 3/4's Exciting Half Term Ahead!

This half term, Year 3/4 are taking part in a range of exciting activities! In Religious Education (RE), we're exploring the question, *How and why do Christians celebrate Advent?*, learning about the traditions and significance of this special season. Our Geography lessons focus on local fieldwork, where we will investigate the safest route to the swimming pool, identify potential hazards and create our own risk assessments. In French, we are expanding our vocabulary by learning classroom commands, places in town, and festive Christmas words. In Design and Technology (DT), we will explore electrical and battery-powered devices as we plan, design, and make our own torches. Science lessons will see us studying food and the human body, including different food groups, packaging, and ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle. To wrap it all up, we're getting ready for our Christmas Carol performance, rehearsing our songs for the festive season.



### What is happening in Y5/6?

This half term, Years 5 and 6 will be looking at the topic of South America and the Rainforest, learning all about the resources and products of, as well as the threats to, the Amazon rainforest. In Science, Year 6 will be looking at circuits and their components, whilst Year 5 will focus on the changes that living things go through as they move through the life cycle. We look forward to preparing for our Christmas production in Music and to investigating how electrical circuits are used as part of games in DT, before we design and make our own. Our RE topic will draw together the themes of Christmas and the different traditions celebrated in our families.

### Friends of Springmoor Grange – Non-Uniform Day – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

The Friends of Springmoor Grange have been busy planning their next fundraising event. On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, the children can attend school wearing their own clothes. For this non-uniform day, our Friends of Springmoor Grange ask that each child donates an item of chocolate to be added to Christmas hampers which will then be raffled at each phase Christmas event. Chocolate donations can be brought into school on the 6<sup>th</sup> and given to Class teachers. It is sure to be a choctastic Christmas! Thank you for your ongoing support.

### Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers



<b>Reception</b>	Poppy D	<b>Year 4</b>	Kaeson D
<b>Year 1</b>	Khloe F	<b>Year 5</b>	Florence W
<b>Year 2</b>	Lola M	<b>Year 6</b>	Katie C
<b>Year 3</b>	Anna W		



## Attendance and Punctuality

Overall attendance for the week is 95% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 2 with 97.6%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 95.2% for the whole school and 96% for children in Reception to Year 6.

The Primary starts at 8:30am, with the gates opening from 8:20am. Please ensure that your child is at school on time so that they do not miss out on any learning. This week, we have had 375 late minutes.

## Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 and 6 Parkrun Event
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Transition Event – Whitworth Park Academy
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Closed – PD Day</b>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Nursery Christmas Crafts
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 visiting Santa at Spennymoor Town Hall
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas Crafts
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5/6 visiting St Andrew's Church
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am and 2pm – Reception Christmas Performance
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am and 5pm Y3/4 Christmas Performance
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am and 2pm Nursery Christmas Performance
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am and 4:30pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am and 5pm Year 5/6 Christmas Performance
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch and Party Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	3pm Close for Christmas Break
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>	
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>	<b>Children back to school</b>

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

### 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

### 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

### 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

### 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

### 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

### 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

### 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

### 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

### 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

### 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

### Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at:

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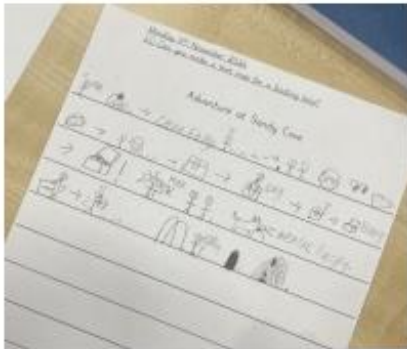
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# Swallow

In English we have been introduced to our new text 'Adventure at Sandy Cove'. We designed a text map. We have also used freeze frames in drama to re tell the story.



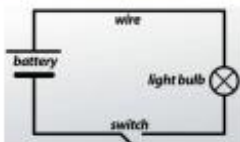
In PE we have been swimming and started our new topic 'basketball'.



In DT, we have been making electrical circuits using a battery, wires and a bulb.



In science we have been looking at the different food groups and predicting how much sugar is in different drinks.



Sugar content in 500ml bottle of Fanta

Product volume	100 ml	500 ml
Energy (kJ)	146	730
Sugar	10.6g	53.0g
Fat	0.0g	0.0g

How much sugar would there be in this 300ml bottle of orange?

How many sugar cubes would this be?

