



Springmoor Grange School Newsletter Volume 18 - Friday 31st January 2025

Another Busy Week

I can't believe it is the end of January already – the dark mornings and nights will now start to lighten over the coming weeks which always helps. The children have continued to work hard in lessons and are making good progress. We have managed to dodge the bad weather and children have enjoyed being outside for break and lunch – the parachute games ran by our Y5/6 Play Leaders has been a huge hit this week!

Lockdown Drill

I was so proud of the children on Wednesday when the whole school took part in our first Lockdown Drill. The children dealt with this sensibly and all followed instructions from staff. Completing drills like this ensures that everyone knows what they need to do in order to stay safe in certain situations. We'll shortly be completing another Fire Drill – we are all familiar with these but it is still an important exercise. Well done Team SGS!

SPRINGFEST 2025

A new name but the same fun! We would like to announce that this year's festival of wellbeing and pride will be held in school grounds on **Wednesday 25th June from 1 - 4 pm**. For those of you who are not familiar with OxFest (at Ox Close), each year the children and staff at school host a festival of wellbeing and pride where parents and carers are invited to school for the afternoon to join us for a picnic lunch, some lovely activities to take part in and the chance to come together as one big team and celebrate each and every one of us. In the past, we have asked if any parents/carers feel that they could run an activity for the children to take part in during the afternoon. This has often been linked to their jobs but could also be linked to a hobby too. If you feel you would be interested in providing the children with an activity, please leave a message for Mrs Woods via the school office. She will then be in contact with you again closer to the event. We will also be having some live music and food/refreshments provided too. There will also be the chance for school to fundraise with different events too so you might like to start saving some loose change for the stalls!



The intention is to make SpringFest 2025 something to remember in years to come ... The first one for our new school, setting the bar high for future events! We are really looking forward to sharing in this with you so get it in your diaries to save the date! As always, please pray for dry and sunny weather ... It's bound to be coming our way soon!

Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Reception	Joey S	Year 4	Ethan D
Year 1	Harry A	Year 5	Cheyenne P
Year 2	Luca H	Year 6	Amelia L
Year 3	Bobby B		

Uniform Update

We have noticed that a few of our children have returned from the Christmas break and have items of clothing, jewellery and beauty that are not acceptable in school. Please can you ensure children are following the guidelines below:

Jewellery - children can wear one stud in each ear but this must be removed for PE lessons. Children can also wear a watch; however, this must not be an electronic device.

Hair Styles - Children must have an appropriate hair style. Long hair is allowed but we have the right to ask for this to be tied up. Examples of inappropriate and unsuitable styles include use of tramlines, patterns shaved into the hair and brightly coloured hair.

Nails - must be kept hygienic, a safe length and not have nail polish on or acrylic nail extensions. This is for health and safety reasons. If children are not following this, parents will be informed and they will not be allowed to complete activities that are deemed unsafe such as PE until the nails have been removed.

Make Up - should not be worn by the children.

Traffic and Parking

Recently, we have had an increase in incidents and complaints about inconsiderate parking. Please can you ensure that you park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Please remember that you cannot park on the zig zag lines – this is an enforceable offence with fines and penalty points.

School Car Park

Please note that this can only be used by people who are in receipt of a Blue Badge or are using our Wraparound Care service. We have numerous people trying to use it this week and this is not allowed for safeguarding reasons. Please can you also ensure that you are travelling at a slow speed.

Attendance and Punctuality

Overall attendance for the week is 95.7% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 6 with 98.9%. The overall school attendance for the academic year is 94.91% for the whole school and 95.6% 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 167 late minutes.



Dates for the Diary

Monday 3 rd February	5pm – Y6 SATs Parent/Carer Information Evening
Wednesday 12 th , Thursday 13 th and Friday 14 th February	PM – Y3/4 visiting St Andrew's Church
Friday 21 st February	Y3/4 trip to Hancock Museum
Friday 21 st February	Close for Half Term
Monday 3 rd March	Open for the Spring Term 2
Monday 10 th , Tuesday 11 th , Wednesday 12 th and Thursday 13 th March	Parent/Carer Consultations
Thursday 20 th and Friday 21 st March	Y5 – Captain Chemistry Workshops
Friday 28 th March	Y6 – Captain Chemistry Workshops
Wednesday 2 nd April	Y4 – Whitworth Park Transition Event
Week commencing 7 th April	Easter Activity Week
Friday 11 th April	Close for Easter Break
Monday 28 th April	Open for the Summer Term

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.



2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.



3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.



4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.



5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions – and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improves their social interactions.



6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.



7 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Do what you can to help children develop problem-solving skills to assist in managing emotional challenges. Discuss potential solutions to emotional conflicts and encourage them to think critically about what they (and others) can do to process their feelings in a healthy way. This empowers children to handle emotions positively and build resilience.



8 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Establish an environment where children feel safe to display their emotions without judgement. Encourage open exchanges and reassure them that all feelings are valid. This supportive atmosphere promotes trust and encourages children to express themselves with confidence.



9 USE VISUAL AIDS

Take advantage of visual aids like emotion charts or mood meters to help children identify and express their feelings. Use these tools regularly in your interactions. They provide a visual representation of emotions, making it easier for children to communicate their emotional state.



10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Acknowledge and celebrate progress in emotional literacy, and praise children for expressing their emotions and handling them effectively. Positive reinforcement is a useful tool that will encourage continued growth and reinforces the importance of emotional literacy – encouraging young people to maintain the good habits and healthy behaviours that you've taught them.



Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillatt is Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, an organisation that supports schools in improving their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Look at what we have been up to in

OWL class.

In our PE lesson we have been putting together a sequence of dance moves with the theme of "The Spy". We thought about how a spy might move and the directions they travel. We put together two sequences of eight beats and then put these together. Next week we will continue with our dance.



We had fun in science this week. We have been investigating reflections using mirrors. We found out that as you increase the distance between two mirrors, the number of reflections increases.



In maths this week we have been developing our written methods of calculation. We have all been trying very hard with our multiplication tables. We have been putting our skills to the test on Times Table Rockstars.



As part of our work with Northern Gas, we created posters to help show how we could reduce pollution.



On Tuesdays we have our swimming lesson. We have been so impressed with the increased confidence of all of the children in Owl Class.