



Springmoor Grange School Newsletter Volume 34 – Friday 12th June

Sport Relief Challenge – Jill Scott

You may be aware from local and national media that Jill Scott, England Footballer, is currently taking part in a Sport Relief challenge which involves cycling and running from Wembley to The Stadium of Light. In fact, by the time you are reading this, she will hopefully have almost completed the outstanding challenge! Today saw Jill run along the road in front of Springmoor Grange School and it was great to take the children outside to cheer her on – it was a fabulous atmosphere and I am sure that Jill will have been spurred on for the final push to the finish line.

Wear Pink for Solan - Friday 19th June

Next month, we will be supporting a local charity, and one close to many hearts for Team SGS - The Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Trust. We are inviting all the children to come to school wearing something **pink!** This can be as much or as little as you like. We are asking for a £1 donation which will go straight to the charity. This is the first time we will have supported the charity in this way, please help us make this a successful fundraiser for them and it may become a regular event!



Spennymoor Gala Day - Saturday 4th July

Don't forget to pop the date in your diary for a Western themed parade with school. We need your help to come along to the parade in your best Western outfits, cowboy boots and hats and show Spennymoor what Team SGS are made of. Don't forget that anyone taking part in the parade can gain free access into Jubilee Park for the remainder of the Gala Day. Details of times and meeting places will be confirmed closer to the time.

SpringFest Summer Fair - Thursday 9th July 1 - 4pm



It's back, and it's going to be bigger and better! After the amazing success of Christmas at Springmoor, we have decided to make SpringFest not only a festival of wellbeing, but also a summer fair to raise a few funds for all the amazing things we do at school. SpringFest has always been one of the highlights of the school calendar and we would love for you to join us again this year. It's a perfect opportunity to invite all parents or other family members to come along and enjoy the afternoon with us in our school grounds. You can take part in a range of wellbeing activities (we'll have to persuade Mr Webb to get hit with wet sponges again this year!) but also have the chance to support local businesses on their stalls at the fair. We will of course have the ever-popular food vans and ice cream man to keep everyone fed and watered. If you, or anyone you know, would like to book a stall, please contact the school office. Stalls can be secured with a £10 donation to school fund. We can't wait to see what this year's fair brings!

SpringFest – Chocolate Donations

As we look forward to our Springfest in July, we are kindly asking for donations of chocolate items for our Chocolate Tombola. Last year, the tombola was a fantastic success and we are hoping to make this year's event even bigger and better! Any donation, large or small, would be greatly appreciated. All money raised will help provide the children with exciting opportunities and experiences for the children. Thank you for your continued support.

Weekly Class Charts Top Scorers

Reception	Logan A	Year 4	Halle M
Year 1	Erin W	Year 5	Chloe V
Year 2	Kieron F	Year 6	Rosie K
Year 3	Reece M		

Attendance and Punctuality

Overall statutory attendance for the week is 92.3% and the Year Group with the highest attendance is Year 2 with 97.7%. The winning classes this week was Falcon Class with 97.9% - well done!



The overall school attendance for the academic year is 93.5% for the whole school and 94.4% 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 97 late minutes and lost learning time.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 15 th June	Phototronics – Nursery Graduation Photos
Tuesday 16 th June	1:30pm – Nursery Sports Day <i>Reserve Date – Tuesday 23rd June</i>
Wednesday 17 th June	Y6 – Whitworth Park Transition Day
Wednesday 17 th June	1:30pm – Reception Sports Day <i>Reserve Date – Wednesday 24th June</i>
Thursday 18 th June	1:30pm – Y1/2 Sports Day <i>Reserve Date – Friday 26th June</i>
Thursday 18 th June	2:30pm – Kingfisher Class Assembly
Friday 19 th June	Wear Pink for Team Solan Day
Friday 19 th June	1:30pm – Y3/4 Sports Day <i>Reserve Date – Friday 3rd July</i>
Monday 22 nd June	1:30pm – Y5/6 Sports Day <i>Reserve Date – Wednesday 8th July</i>
Monday 22 nd June	1:45pm – Reception Father's Day Event
Tuesday 23 rd June	2:30pm – Oak Class Assembly
Thursday 25 th June	Outdoor Education Day
Sunday 28 th June – Wednesday 1 st July	Y6 Residential to Newby Wiske Hall
Monday 29 th June	2:30pm – Birch Class Assembly
Tuesday 30 th June	2pm – Y1 Parent/Carer Workshop
Wednesday 1 st July	2pm – Y2 Parent/Carer Workshop
Wednesday 1 st July	2:30pm – Kestrel Class Assembly
Thursday 2 nd July	2:30pm – Maple Class Assembly
Friday 3 rd July	10:15am and 2pm – Buttercup Stay and Play
Monday 6 th July	Reception – Visit to Seaham Marina
Monday 6 th July	2:30pm – Raven Class Assembly
Thursday 9 th July	SpringFest
Friday 10 th July	Years 3 and 4 – Visit to Jarrow Hall
Monday 13 th July	2:30pm – Owl Class Assembly 2:30pm – Elm Class Assembly
Tuesday 14 th July	2:30pm – Swallow Class Assembly
Wednesday 15 th July	Mock Junior parkrun 9am – KS1 9:30am – KS2
Wednesday 15 th July	1:45pm – Nursery Graduation
Thursday 16 th July	9am – Year 6 Celebration Assembly
Friday 17 th July	2pm – Year 6 Guard of Honour
Friday 17 th July	3pm Close for Summer
Summer Holiday	
Tuesday 1 st September	PD Day – School Closed
Wednesday 2 nd September	PD Day – School Closed
Thursday 3 rd September	Start of New School Year – Open to Children

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

GAMING TOP TIPS

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary; emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful; if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



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