# Springwell Leeds

### Dear Parents / Carers,

# Welcome to this half term's newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well as we gear up for the exciting last half term of this school year! It's hard to believe how quickly time flies, but all of us at Springwell Leeds are determined to make every moment count and finish this year on a high. The last half term will, of course be a busy one and will include preparing your children for their transitions to their new classes towards the end of the year. As always, at this time of year, staff will be preparing to create a positive and enjoyable experience for your children and planning a range of exciting events and activities throughout the half term. The aim, as ever, is to make learning engaging and memorable, while also promoting teamwork, creativity, and personal development

To make the most of this, we want to emphasize the importance of attendance during this part of the year. Consistent attendance ensures that students remain engaged in their learning and make the most of every opportunity. We encourage you to support your child's attendance by booking appointments and family trips outside of school hours.

Moreover, we want to emphasize the importance of fostering positive relationships and building a strong sense of community within our school. We encourage parents to actively participate in school events and it has been great to see such good turnouts on the series of "Parent Pop-Ins" that have taken place of the last few weeks. There will be more of these to come, so what watch out for details of these on our website or on Twitter. There will also be an opportunity for all parents/carers to come into school and spend time speaking with the staff team supporting your child and looking at their work and progress. This is our summer term parent review day details of this will be with you shortly from the site that your child attends.

In some wider news, we are delighted to announce that the Wellspring Trust, of which we are a part, has been nominated for 3 awards, including Best Trust, at this year's National Multi Academy Trust Excellence Awards. Fingers crossed for good news to follow.

Wishing you a wonderful last half term!



Scott Jacques Executive Principal



# **North Site**

#### **Work Experience**

Springwell have recently begun partnership work with the SEND Careers Hub to enhance our careers development offer. We have been matched with Bam Nuttall Engineering Ltd, who are able to offer opportunities for some of our year 10 students to attend one of their sites, learn about the city's flood alleviation scheme, build some valuable employment skills and experience a formal interview. Eight students took part from Year 10.

On day one, five students attended their first day of work experience where they sat and listened to safety inductions and were able to walk round a working site. All students asked appropriate questions and engaged well with different members of the Bam Nuttall team.

Day two was spent with two young women who both were on an engineering apprenticeship. They showed them how to use engineering equipment to measure the height of defences and plot co-ordinates.

On day three, they all took part in a panel interview, one at a time with three employers from the company. All students prepared and asked at least two questions to the panel. They engaged well with active listening and turn talking throughout their interview.

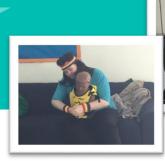
#### Exams

Over the past year students across all three sites have once again been working towards exam certificates on their chosen instruments supported by their Music teachers Ms Halkyard, Mr Smith and Mr Bell and guided by visiting tutors Tom Askin and Graham Sykes. Earlier this year the exam board 'Rock School' informed us that the breadth and quality of performances submitted by Springwell Leeds was unprecedented for an SEMH provision and we are continuing to buck the national trend as we have prepared and entered even more students for higher level grades in 2022/23. A number of students have now progressed to grades 2, 3 and 4 and Scott at our East site has recently been entered for his Grade 6 drumming qualification which is considered to be more challenging than the already tricky Music GCSE; if he is successful he will be awarded UCAS points which could be used as part of a university application in the years to come.

We always enjoy celebrating our students' success when they complete these qualifications, below are some recent photos taken at our North site when Associate Principal Mrs Ruggles presented Tyler, Jamie and Toby with their exam certificates.



# **East Site**





### **KS4 First Aid**

KS4 pupils at East took part in accredited First aid training, as part of ASDAN and wider lifeskills. The pupils had the chance to learn (and practice) many vital techniques that could save someone's life in an emergency situation.

### **Coronation Celebrations**

Primary Pod celebrated with a "coronation breakfast" prior to the big event. Thanks to all those involved in a lovely day.







#### **Experiential Learning**

Pupils from East have partaken in a variety of different learning experiences, including boxing, climbing and to local farms as part of the current Elements topic - food and farming - to learn where our food comes from and sustainability.

#### **Science at East**

In KS4 Open Awards Science students have been investigating the reactivity of different metals in acid, then testing for the explosive gas, Hydrogen.





19 full length novels have been read across East site this year!

#### **Exams**

This year sees the greatest number of entries, across the widest variety of subjects, for our year 11 pupils. Good luck to all those sitting exams!



# **South Site**

#### **Exams**

Across the country, children as young as 10 years old have been taking formal exams in a range of subjects. Here at Springwell South, we have been doing the same across years 6, 10 and 11.

Our Year 6 pupils completed their SATs exams across four days, with two exams on some of those days! This is a huge undertaking for those children, some of whom are not yet 11 years old. They tried their absolute best and managed this trying week with humour and determination, skilfully led by their class team.

In Key Stage 4, all of our Year 11 pupils and some of our Year 10s have begun their GCSE journey, completing a GCSE Maths paper and an equivalent Maths qualification. Again, they have conducted themselves amazingly well and we are really proud of their ambition for themselves. Good luck with the rest of your exams, KS4.

#### **Springwell South's New Additions**

This month South Primary took delivery of 10 chicken eggs as part of the living eggs initiative, this has given the children the chance to see first hand the process right from incubation to rearing. We were very lucky and all 10 eggs hatched, giving us some very lively little chicks. The children have taken great care of the chicks, ensuring that all their needs have been met. Having the chance to handle the chicks has also proven very popular, with students from all year groups coming to have the chance.







## **Hello!**

It is with great enthusiasm that we are introducing to you Miss Macfarlane, our new PE Teacher! She has worked with us since the site opened as a class teacher, and is delighted to finally be putting her PE training and experience to good use with the best students in the city. She is already looking at incorporating additional sports into PE such as athletics and gymnastics, and is part of a group looking at how we develop our academy-wide curriculum to meet the needs of our girls' cohort. We are thrilled to welcome her to this new role and I know students are looking forward to working with her to develop their skills.



