

# Welcome to our newsletter

I hope you will enjoy reading about everything that has been going on across our three sites over the last few weeks. I was proud and delighted to hear last week that Springwell Leeds has been awarded Health and Wellbeing Beacon School status following an external assessment. We are waiting for the full report and will share this with you when it arrives but we are able to share this wonderful outcome before then. Beacon Status recognises and celebrates our ongoing commitment to the health and wellbeing of our school community and the positive impact this has on our pupils' educational attainment and achievement. We have always strived towards supporting the development of the whole child. and this award recognises this.



As we head towards the Easter holiday, I would like to remind you that we are unable to authorise any holidays during term time for our pupils. By making sure your child attends school regularly, you are supporting their educational and social outcomes and helping us achieve the best for them.

Finally, a reminder that the last day of term is Thursday 28th March and that school reopens for all pupils on Monday 15th April. We look forward to welcoming everybody back then. Happy Easter!



*Scott Jacques*

Executive Principal





# North Site



## Careers

To enhance the career opportunities that we provide at Springwell Academy, a group of KS3 students engaged with workshops, hosted by PwC. It was great to have employees from the company visit our school on two occasions to get to know the pupils as well as discuss skill development and transferable skills to the workplace. This was done through interactive workshops which helped to meet the needs of the pupils and aided their understanding. Due to the success of the workshops, PwC invited the students to explore their main offices in Leeds City Centre. A tour of the office was provided which taught the pupils how to conduct themselves in a professional setting. Here, they also explored different career paths offered at the company and skills that compliment each position. The work experience finished with an interactive task which all pupils got involved with. It was great to see the confidence, social and communication skills that students left the experience with. As a trust, we hope to increase these opportunities for all our young people.

## World Book Day

How amazing do our staff look celebrating World Book Day! Sharing enthusiasm for reading and making our students smile today with our costumes.







# East Site

## Price Waterhouse Cooper Work Experience

Pupils from Green Pod had the opportunity to work with PriceWaterhouseCooper (a large multinational accounting company) - firstly in school and then with a trip to headquarters in Leeds city centre. They received the following fantastic feedback:

'Working with the students and staff at Springwell was a truly remarkable experience. The young people were engaged, inquisitive and extremely responsive to the sessions that we delivered. They showed the key qualities that PwC instill in their teams, and it was clear that they had taken this on board. Students really enjoyed asking questions, taking part in the activities and were incredibly respectful both whilst we were visiting Springwell and during their visit to our office in Leeds. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the students during this time, and it became my highlight of the week for the 3 weeks we attended. I really hope to see a few familiar faces applying for our school and college level opportunities in the coming years'



## Comic Relief

Orange Pod chose to host a comedy cafe for Red Nose Day. They shared hilarious jokes over a cup of juice, and a sweet treat. A delightful £75 was raised... Well done and thank you to all who donated!

## Number and Measure Examinations

A massive well done to all the pupils who sat their Number and Measure exam in January. For a number of pupils, this was the first time they had ever sat an exam which is an achievement in itself. Congratulations to Daniel, Analeigh, D'Veil, Chantelle and Donald who all passed Number and Measure Level 1, and Alfie who passed Number and Measure Level 2. A particular well done to Daniel who managed to achieve the highest score for Number and Measure Level 1 ever at Springwell Leeds East

## Leeds United Stadium Tour

Green 1 had an excellent time visiting the Leeds United Stadium!



## MEET OUR INTERVENTION TEAM

### Mrs Cooper

I started working at Springwell 4 years ago as a volunteer doing a placement for my college course. I applied for a job and became a TA. I took a massive interest in intervention work and admired watching Mrs Boci work. When an intervention job came up, I knew I had to go for it; having 3 children of my own who are living with Autism, I know how important 1-1 time out of class is and what a difference it can make. I make slime, make bracelets, bake, play Lego, build massive marble runs or just help pupils make a drink and provide a listening ear. I love my job!



### Miss Taylor

I am the Academic Intervention Teaching Assistant at Springwell Leeds South. I have worked here for nearly two years now, having previously worked in another SEN school within the trust. My new role this year is to provide students across the whole school age range with additional 1:1 support with Maths and English. I am passionate about working across the school and providing intensive support to those that need it.

### Mrs Boci

I joined Springwell in 2018, when we first opened. My main role is to implement interventions for the young people in our setting. These interventions are catered to the young people's individual needs such as Lego Therapy, Sensory Regulation, Thrive, Theraplay and some academic interventions. These interventions are key for our young people to help express their SEMH needs and it is in these interventions where I can stretch and challenge their sensory needs based on their window of tolerance. It gives the children opportunities to allow themselves to be children. I provide a fun, safe and stimulating environment to allow them to achieve their full potential and give them the skills and knowledge to be able to self regulate and communicate with others safely. This involves carefully planning activities based on their individual needs and knowing what works for them. It is my belief that every child has the right to feel safe and happy in themselves. I give them the opportunity to feel safe, secure and validated.

Next year, I look forward to implementing Family Thrive at Springwell South and I look forward to meeting and building relationships with the parents of our young people.



# Attendance



## HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE ATTENDANCE?

### What if my child is poorly?

We can accommodate children in school with sniffles and minor ailments, and we will try to keep them comfortable, for example giving extra fluids, space to rest or a slightly shorter day. We would ask that parents liaise with us, so we can work out what is best for them on the day. If your child is likely to become dysregulated due to pain or illness, we would welcome a conversation to help keep them settled and safe. Some children really struggle with the break in routine that illness can bring, so it is always worth seeing what we can do to keep this continuity in attendance going.

### What if my child is refusing to attend?

Call us as soon as possible, so we can offer a call with a key adult and/or offer flexible options such as a slightly later start or a meet and greet. Often children feel empowered to tackle any difficulties and barriers to attending if they can speak to staff in advance.

### What if my child missed their taxi?

Let us know straight away. It is the parents' responsibility to get their child into school, so if the taxi is missed, please bring them in or try to arrange a lift with a relative or friend. In rare circumstances, we might be able to support by collecting your child.

### What if my child has a doctor/dentist appointment?

Where possible, please try to book these after school or in the school holidays. We understand emergencies happen, and that it isn't always easy to get an appointment. Please bring your child to school before and after their appointment, to maximise their learning time and ensure they get their attendance marks.

Please remember, we welcome (and indeed expect) children to attend with minor ailments such as a runny nose or an ache or pain. If your child has been sick, give us a call to talk this through - depending on the cause, they may not need to stay home for 48 hours. If your child is unwell but feels able to 'give it a go' please call Reception...they can let the class team know, and we can get in touch if they can't manage the full day. Lots of our children struggle with the disruption to their routine that being away from school brings, so we would always encourage attending wherever possible. We can look to make short term adjustments to support them.

As the Easter holidays begin, please use this opportunity to book things like dentist appointments, so these don't impact on attendance next term.