

# Welcome to our newsletter

## Dear Parents and Carers,

As another school year draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on the year gone by and the journey we've shared together at Springwell Leeds. As usual, it's been a year of remarkable growth for our students, filled with challenges and triumphs along the way.

I'm particularly proud of the positive attitude and resilience our students displayed during exams and SATs this term. Yet again we have had more pupils entering more exams than ever before and I expect that will mean we will have more students leaving us with more and better qualifications than ever before. Whether facing KS4 exams or SATs, they approached them with a commendable spirit of determination and focus. This dedication reflects the hard work put in by both students and staff throughout the year.

Beyond academics, we've witnessed fantastic progress in social development and communication skills. From the teamwork displayed in our sports and games - including those against other schools and sites, to the confidence showcased in our music performances, our students continue to blossom in all aspects of their lives.



As we head into summer break, I encourage you to celebrate your child's achievements, big and small. Their journey is unique, and their progress deserves recognition. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another fantastic year of learning, fun and growth.

Wishing you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer.



*Scott Jacques*

Executive Principal

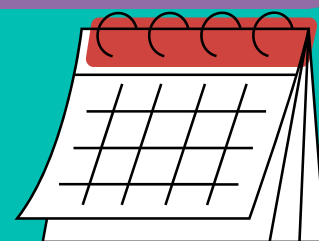
### Key Dates

School closes Friday 19th July

Parent Review Day Tuesday 3rd September

School opens Wednesday 4th September

<https://springwellacademyleeds.org/school-calendar/>



Please visit

<https://healthyholidays.leeds.gov.uk/>  
for all Healthy Holidays activities  
across the city.



# North Site



## Supporting Transition and Change Through Relational Practice (and lots of fun!).

Relational practice is at the core of everything we do at Springwell, and it is even more essential at times of change when anxieties are at their highest. Springwell Leeds North celebrated new class transition through a week of exciting and interactive experiences skilfully co-ordinated by Laura Murphy. The key focus during transition was building positive memories together and forging personal connections. Whole-school nurturing approaches are central to Springwell's ethos ensuring that young people are supported to:

- Build confidence.
- Develop social communication skills.
- Improve self-esteem.
- Take 'ownership'.
- Develop age-appropriate behaviour.

Staff and students were lucky enough to experience a range of new activities led by visitors to our Academy including The Beat Goes On drumming, freestyle football, indoor go karting, a climbing wall, furry and feathers friends from The Purple Pig Farm and inflatable Wipeout, alongside interactive sessions provided by our fabulously skilled staff in house. Transition is a team effort at one of the most challenging parts of the school year. It requires nurture, skill, patience and acceptance, and when it is done right, strong, nurturing relationships are formed with long-lasting impact well into the new school year.

## Activities Week

Pupils enjoyed an action packed activities week to make some great memories with their new classmates and staff teams. As well as the exciting events in school, each class went on a trip. These included Lazer Zone, Mission Out and Clip 'N Climb.

Activities week is a great way to mark the start of some new classes and help the pupils at North to end the year with some challenging and fun opportunities to develop social skills, resilience and try something new!

Thanks to Mrs Murphy for all of her hard work in planning such a fun week of activities!



# East Site

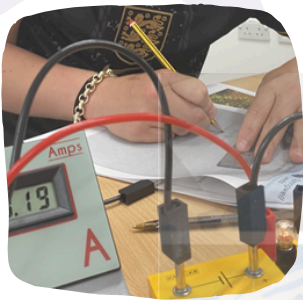


## Primary Olympics

Congratulations to all involved in the LUFC / Orange pod Olympics! Pupils had a great time competing and then celebrating success with Kopcat!

## General Election

Pupils learnt about their local MP, how an election works and had a go at voting themselves



## Exams and Accreditation

KS4 pupils have sat GCSE exams this half term, and we wish them all the best for the future. Staff and pupils have also worked hard on portfolio based accreditation (Arts Award, Open Awards in Science) this half term.

## Transition

Our refugee bears arrived from an unknown sender. Spruce and Willow class named their bears and made passports and birth certificates for them. The children then made homes for their bears to stay in. Both classes then came together and had a teddy bears picnic with all their bears ready to take them home to care for them.



## Achievements

Mayors funding has allowed us to apply for a licence, provide helmet/gloves and complete CBT training for some of our children, making them road legal. Thanks to SSPOs for this initiative! Both Jayden and D'Veil passed their accreditation and have their CBT licences!

## Who is our MP?

- Our constituency is: East Leeds

(Note, not all pupils live in East Leeds - you can research other constituencies / Leeds MPs)

- The current MP for East Leeds is **Richard Burgon**. He is a Labour MP



# WELL DONE!

# South Site

## Springwell South Visits

Students from KS4 visited Headingley Stadium to meet some of the Rhinos players and watch the training session alongside over 400 other students from across the city.

Springwell Leeds South KS4 team remain undefeated after a 4-0 success against Joseph Norton Academy. In true sporting spirit both teams demonstrated their ability to support their peers and were exceptional sportsmen on the day.

## HENRY Programme

We are excited to announce that Springwell South is partnering with the Health & Wellbeing Service to deliver the Henry Programme. This free programme is designed to help families develop healthier lifestyles that suit their needs.

Programme Details:

- Who: Parents and carers of primary age children (5-12 years)
- When: Starting from 24th September
- Venue: Springwell South
- Time: Every Tuesday from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
- Duration: 8 sessions

To learn more about the course or to enrol, please contact Bhupinder Riyat at 07921 807742 or visit the: [www.schoolwellbeing.co.uk/pages/henry-5-12-parent-s-page](http://www.schoolwellbeing.co.uk/pages/henry-5-12-parent-s-page).

We look forward to supporting you and your family on your journey to a healthier lifestyle!

## Meet Pepsi and Kanye

This term, we have been joined by two new furry friends - our school guinea pigs, Pepsi and Kanye. They have taken up residence in Orange pod, and children have enjoyed learning about their eating habits, their likes and dislikes and how to look after them. They enjoy cuddles daily from children across school, and the Key Stage 4 pupils have been excellent role models in showing the younger children how to handle them carefully.



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

# Anti-Racist Award



We are thrilled to announce that Springwell Leeds Academy has been awarded the BRONZE Anti-Racist Award by Leeds Beckett University's Centre for Race, Education & Decoloniality (CRED) This recognition places us among a very few SEMH special schools in the country to be acknowledged for our dedication to combating racism and fostering an anti-racist environment. We are incredibly grateful to our pupils, staff, parents, and the wider community for their unwavering support.

The Bronze Award signifies a significant milestone on our path towards eliminating racism. We remain committed to ongoing improvement, continuously refining our school policies, procedures, curriculum, and partnerships.

The Anti-Racist Awards program focuses on and evaluates the school in seven key areas to drive school improvement in the fight against racism:

- Governance
- Leadership & Management
- School Environment
- Professional Development for Staff
- The "Hidden Curriculum" (e.g., policies, ethos)
- Curriculum Content & Teaching Methods
- Partnerships with Parents & Communities

These awards play a vital role in promoting racial equality within schools, fostering a safe and inclusive space for all members of our diverse community, including BAME staff, students, parents, carers, and the wider community.

Huge congratulations go to Mr Khan for leading on this and for all the team who contributed to this wonderful achievement.

