

Half Term 5

2025/26



Springwell Leeds Newsletter



Welcome to our newsletter

I hope that you enjoy reading about everything that has been going on over the last few weeks across our three sites. As I reflect on the past week, I want to express my immense pride in our students who took their Key Stage 2 SATs. For many of our young people, these assessments represent far more than just a test of academic knowledge; they are a testament to their resilience, bravery, and personal growth. The calm and focused atmosphere across our sites was a direct result of the hard work students have put into their learning and the unwavering support of our dedicated staff teams. Navigating formal assessments can be extremely challenging, yet our students rose to the occasion, demonstrating the positive attitudes toward learning that we together to cultivate every day.

Whatever the outcome, we are proud of them.

As we move forward, our focus shifts to our Year 11's as they enter the summer exam season. We understand that this can be a period of significant pressure. We want every Year 11 student to know that the entire Springwell Leeds community is behind you. Whether you are sitting GCSEs, Functional Skills, or vocational qualifications, remember that your worth is not defined by a grade. We celebrate the knowledge, skills, and character you have developed during your time with us.

To our parents and carers: thank you for your continued partnership. Your encouragement is vital in helping our students thrive and achieve. We remain committed to providing the targeted support to every student to ensure they can do their very best.

Well done to our KS2 stars, and the very best of luck to Year 11!

Enjoy the half term break.



Scott Jacques
Executive Principal



Post 16

As our Year 11 pupils approach their final stretch, we have been busy ensuring they feel confident and prepared for their upcoming post-16 transitions. Some of our students have had the opportunity to visit various post 16 provisions including Leeds City College, Wakefield College and Leeds College of Building. These visits are vital for demystifying the college experience, allowing pupils to navigate their future provision and visualise their daily routines before their September start dates.

Beyond the visits, our success lies in collaborative partnerships between the school and college as well as their SEND teams. We are working hand-in-hand to ensure that every student's unique needs are understood and that their Support Plans and EHCP details are shared meticulously to guarantee a seamless transition which pupils see as a manageable step allowing them to truly thrive from day one.

Easter Fair and Counsellor Visit

East Site hosted an Easter Fayre which was a huge success raising £550 for a local charity, Andy's Man Club - a group that raises awareness of mental health in men. Students baked, created, crafted, and sold Easter treats at the fayre. The fayre was attended by local council members David Jenkinson, and John Tudor, who comment that "it was immediately obvious that the school was brilliantly run with huge passion and compassion with a lovely sense of community". All involved had an EGGcellent time!





Duke of Edinburgh Award

Over the course of the year, ten students have been working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. They have already completed their skill and physical elements of the award and are now mastering orienteering including Ordnance survey maps and firing up Trangia stoves for a well-earned mid-walk sandwich! The resilience they students have shown has been truly impressive. Despite a few blisters and the unpredictable British weather, the group showed incredible spirit and camaraderie.

We are immensely proud of their progress as they prepare for the final qualifying trek later this term—keep up the fantastic work, explorers!

Dates for the Diary

Schools close
Friday 22nd May

Schools reopen
Monday 1st June

Parent Review Day
Thursday 25th June



ECO WARRIORS

Pupils at East have been working to think about sustainability - a key theme for the school moving forward. After the introduction of solar panels over the Easter holidays at East - pupils have continued the theme with the introduction of "Eco Warriors" in Orange pod - where pupils have been working to improve the environment via litter picking, design (and then installation / planting) of green spaces.

The team used a plan view map of the site to decide the best place for seed planting - including ideas from science as well as practical considerations.

They even created their own Eco Warrior alter egos!



Welcome, Lizzy, our new Speech and Language Therapist

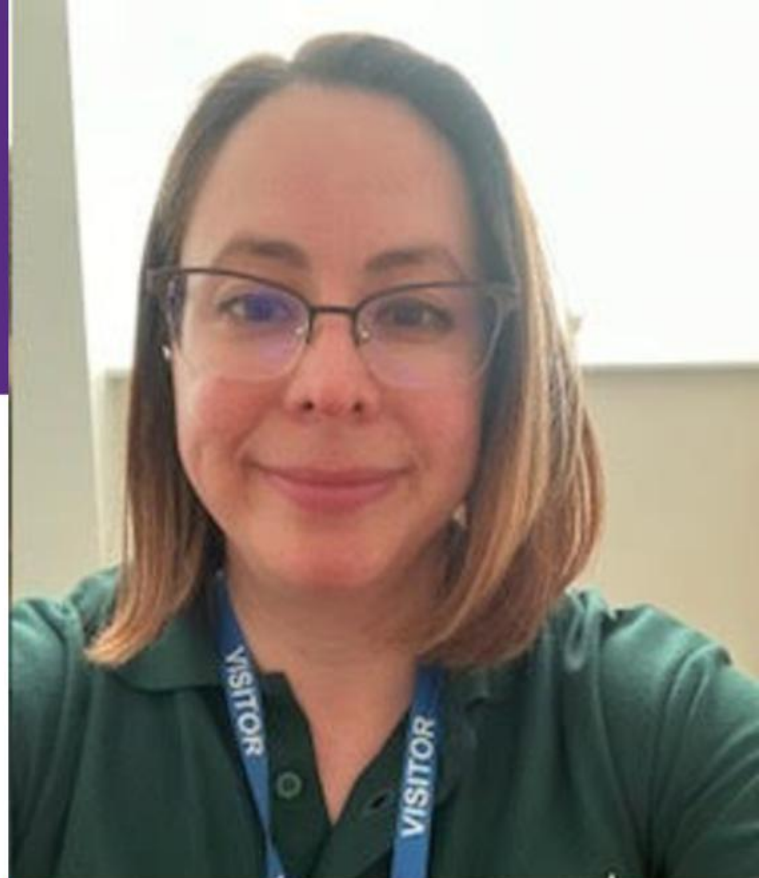
My name is Lizzy Robson and I am the newly appointed Regional Speech and Language Therapist for Wellspring Academy Trust working across Leeds and North Yorkshire including Springwell Leeds Academy.

During my working week, I visit lots of different sites across the trust. I love working with our children and young people on speech sounds, understanding vocabulary for access to the curriculum, building sentences, communicating ideas, understanding feelings and social relationships.

My work is varied and no two days are the same! I have lots of experience working in schools before I became a Speech and Language Therapist, which helps a lot in my job too.

My specialist area is DLD (Developmental Language Disorder). Not many people know that this is more common than Autism but very underdiagnosed so often young people do not get the right help at the right time. I am passionate about raising awareness of all communication differences and ensuring that all barriers to communication and achievement are removed for our children and young people.

I hope to meet some of you at some point along my journey!



For more details around our therapists, please contact your school SENCo



Attendance Matters



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