

Friday 17th December 2021

Springside School Weekly Newsletter



Head Teachers' Message:

A huge thankyou to all of our families for being super supportive this term.

This time last year we were hopeful, we could revert back to some of our previously used systems and encourage the learners across School to support one another through the festive period, promoting internal inclusion. Whilst we have postponed a few of the events, I would like to thank the staff teams for trying their absolute best to ensure the learners continue to engage in creative and inspiring lessons, have fun within their Phases and celebrate Christmas with us albeit on a smaller scale.

As a direct result of the Government announcement and the risks associated with the omicron variant, upon our return we will continue to;

- * Remain working in our bubbles
- * Continue to wear masks when with learners and when working closely with another staff member
- * Continue to use the playgrounds at different times
- * Continue to have assigned specialist rooms for specific bubbles
- * Continue to have pop up staffrooms and assigned toilets
- * Continue to encourage the use of a one-way system when entering and leaving School
- * Continue to access the small dining room at different times
- * Several learners will be encouraged to eat within their classrooms

Please continue to use the covid@springside.rochdale.sch.uk email address to advise us of any positive cases. This email will be monitored closely.

We are looking forward to welcoming the learners back on Wednesday 5th January. Thank you to those parents who have already given us permission for the swabbing team to test your child.

We are so pleased to be able to share some of our successes in the form of a brief summary from the recent school improvement pre Ofsted monitoring visit, see page 4 for details.

Take care everyone

Melody and the team at Springside

Head Teachers' Awards

Well done!

Experiential: Raphael

Exploratory: Ollie and Millie

Investigative: Amelia

Mental Health and Wellbeing Award: Ayaan S

Stars of the Term



Butterflies - Riah and All of Butterflies

Wallabies - Daa'il

Ducklings - Layla

Zebras - Kai

Rhinos - Numaan

Elephants - Derley

Meerkats - Tayyab

Monkeys - Mahmood

Penguins - Mary and Bella

Dinosaurs - Qirat

Giraffes - Yu Fan

Tigers - David

Certificates have been sent home via email to celebrate with your child.



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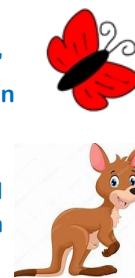
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Springside School Weekly Newsletter Page 2

Experiential Phase

Unfortunately, the wonderful Wallabies' magical rainbow journey ended midweek at the colour 'orange' as the festive fun put a stop to proceedings. If parents could possibly muster the energy to participate in 'blue' coloured activities over the Christmas holiday, then it would be greatly appreciated!! We have had lots of fun making cards, sharing Christmas cracker jokes, eating chocolates, painting calendars and joining in with some of our favourite Christmas carols / songs; accompanied with some brilliant bell shaking. Richard did his best impression of Neil Buchanan (Art Attack TV Programme.....a great watch for creative ideas!!) and spent half an hour on his hands and knees trying to create the form of a huge Christmas tree on the classroom floor using electrical tape (special thanks to Paul the caretaker....I owe you one!!). However, several learners were more interested in the sensory / tactile qualities of the tape so the planned decoration of the 'tree' using different coloured shiny shapes was curtailed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank colleagues in making this testing period of life at Springside as pleasant and joyous as possible "When the going gets tough.....the tough certainly know how to get going!! One final mention goes to Louise who has helped in supporting the Experiential phase so admirably....."You will be greatly missed.....Good Luck in your new post"!!



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Love and best wishes to all,

Team Experiential xxx

Exploratory Phase

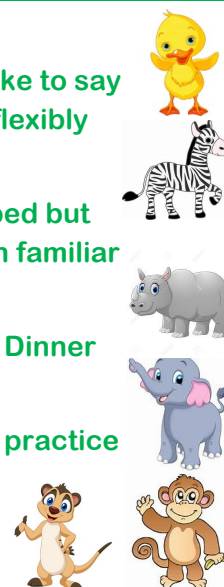
We have come to the end of what has been another tricky term. Firstly I would like to say a big thank you to learners' families and to the Exploratory staff for working so flexibly to support and put our learners first.

In current circumstances there has been less inclusive festivities than we'd hoped but in many ways this has helped learners to keep calm and enjoy festive learning in familiar ways and most importantly in the safest ways.

Exploratory learners coped well with the changes on Wednesday for Christmas Dinner day - learners enjoyed exploring the crackers!

All classes have had a Christmas party this week to celebrate Christmas and to practice their social skills linking to our play & leisure curriculum.

Have a lovely Christmas break with your loved ones and we will see you again in January 2022!



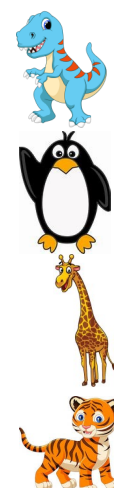
Investigative Phase

Investigative phase have danced all the way to the holidays with parties, Christmas jumpers and some wonderful food this week!

As my last message to you all I wanted to personally thank the parents of Springside for the support and kindness many of you have shown. From our phone calls in lockdown, to the chats by the buses you are a group of amazing and inspiring parents whose children have genuinely made my day, every day.

Have a great holiday, and for those celebrating, Merry Christmas.

Louise



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Springside School Weekly Newsletter Page 3



Rights Respecting School News

Last week the learners and staff all enjoyed dressing up for Christmas jumper day to raise money and awareness of the charity 'Save the Children'. So far we have raised over £60 using our online donation platform. The link to donate will remain open until the New Year if anybody is still wanting to donate. The learners all had a fantastic day taking part in fun filled festive jumper activities with their class teams.

The Rights Respecting Steering group would like to say a special thankyou and goodbye to Louise who is sadly leaving Springside today. Louise has always been an excellent duty bearer and helped our learners in school access lots of their rights as the Penguin's teacher and Investigative phase lead. We will miss you and wish you the best of luck in your new job helping other children across the community with additional needs – we know you will be amazing!

Finally, the steering group would like to wish you all a lovely festive break, a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Have a lovely end of term break

Kirstie and the Rights Respecting Steering group



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We are so pleased to be able to share some of our successes in the form of a brief summary from the school improvement pre Ofsted monitoring visit, conducted in October. Governors are proud of the school's achievement.

- Springside has come on a four-year journey since its last inspection, in which time the Headteacher and her leaders have significantly improved the school.
- The Headteacher has a clear and coherent view of the curriculum and has spent four years developing and implementing the phase-specific model.
- The Self Evaluation is thorough and honest, and it is immediately apparent how the curriculum has been based on self-evaluation.
- The main drivers for improvement have been (a) strong leadership; (b) the development of a new curriculum; and (c) a palpable sense of collaboration and shared responsibility.
- Leadership is strong and effective and the Headteacher and her senior leaders have a clear vision and direction for the school.
- The curriculum is effective and appropriate, and provides opportunity for all learners to learn in the way which is most appropriate for them and their needs.
- Members of staff work as a team, the processes for dissemination of information are strong, and there is a clear and transparent system of shared responsibility which is shared by all.
- Springside has coped well with the pandemic, strategically and operationally, and communication and contact with families is stronger as a result.