

Springwood Heath Primary School

'Success through Caring and Learning'

Friday 8th September



Introduction

It has been an excellent first week returning to school for all of the children and we are all incredibly impressed with how well they have all settled into their new classes and routines. We have been blessed with some late summer weather (finally!) and have enjoyed playing out in the sunshine.

This week, I have reintroduced whole school assemblies three times per week which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. We will begin each week with an assembly based upon a news article from around the world, then we will hold a singing assembly on Wednesdays before our celebration assembly on Friday in which the children will receive merit and headteacher awards. If you ask your child what was unique about the baby giraffe born in America this summer, I am sure they would be thrilled to tell you!

This is truly an amazing school and there is so many positives to be proud of but there will also be a lot of positive changes made this term and during the year ahead and I look forward to sharing these with you as we go.

Once again, thank you for welcoming me to Springwood Heath and do continue to stop and chat on the gate in the mornings so that I can get to know you all!

Mrs Costello
Headteacher



Curriculum changes

We have used our two INSET days this week to train the staff in a new approach to curriculum. The first main change is the introduction of the 'CUSP' curriculum for the five key foundation subjects – History, Geography, Science, Art and DT. CUSP is a fantastic curriculum which enabled teachers to really think about the knowledge and content that they are delivering to the children. CUSP is guided by evidence-led curriculum structures, such as retrieval, spaced retrieval practice and interleaving and this has led to exceptional outcomes for pupils. We look forward to refining this curriculum as we work through the year.



The second main change is to our English curriculum. The children will now be having two English lessons per day instead of one. There will be one 60-minute writing lesson – Ready Steady Write and one 40-minute reading lesson – Steps to Read. The children will be exploring some fantastic texts in these lessons and we are looking forward to seeing the rapid progress that they make this term and beyond.

Attendance



Attendance at Springwood Heath is currently below the national average and it is one of my priorities this year to improve this. Despite the curriculum changes we are making, if children are not attending school regularly they will not make the progress they are capable of. We should be aiming for 100% attendance wherever possible. Our new attendance policy will be shared later in the term but do please try to get your child in to school, on time, every day.

Meet the Teacher

Our 'Meet the Teacher' session will take place on Wednesday 20th September at 3.30pm. This session will work slightly differently this year. Please go to your child's class where the teacher will hold a short presentation about the class and the year ahead with some key information. Then there will be an opportunity to ask any important questions you may have. If you have several children in school, do not worry, simply hop from one class to the next and the class teacher can catch you up with anything you may have missed.



Pupil Premium Eligibility

Many of our children are entitled to a funding premium called 'Pupil Premium.' This provides additional funding to school to support with the delivery of interventions and the purchase of resources to ensure children reach their full potential. **We have particularly low numbers of registered pupil premium in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as parents may assume due to free school meals, they are already registered as pupil premium.**

All children who currently qualify for free school meals based on their family circumstances are entitled to pupil premium. This applies if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7400 or less)
- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

Even if you are unsure, please complete this form to check eligibility. Every registration counts! <https://liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meals/application-form/>



Attendance

Reception	98.5%
Year 1	96.3%
Year 2	95.1%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	92.2%
Year 6	87.5%
Whole school	93.51%



Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Wednesday 20 th September	Meet the Teacher 3.30-5.00 Classrooms
Monday 25 th September	Y6 Bikeability Week
Tuesday 26 th September	Flu Immunizations
Friday 27 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 6 th November	School reopens for Autumn 2
Wednesday 8 th November	Y6 Class Assembly – Y6 Parents invited 9am
Wednesday 15 th November	Y5 Class Assembly – Y5 Parents invited 9am
Wednesday 22 nd November	Y4 Class Assembly – Y4 Parents invited 9am
Tuesday 21 st and Wednesday 22 nd November	Parents evening
Wednesday 22 nd November	School Photograph Day – Individual and sibling groups
Monday 27 th November	Assessment Week
Monday 11 th December	PTA Santa Grotto Day
Wednesday 13 th December 2pm and Thursday 14 th December 9.30am	Y1+2 Nativity (2 tickets per family will be provided for one performance)
Thursday 14 th December 2pm	Reception Nativity (2 tickets per family)
Tuesday 19 th December	PTA Christmas Pantomime Day
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 22 nd December	School closes for Christmas 1.30pm

