

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER - 2007

Springfield School ***festive fair***

Thursday, 15th November 2007

6.30 - 8.30 pm

Children's Disco - Tickets 50p

Craft & Gift Stalls

Refreshments - Cake Stall

School Enterprise Stalls

Raffle & Tombola

**COME AND BUY ALL YOU
NEED FOR CHRISTMAS!!**

School News

Look out for the following Subject Challenge Days:

Science challenge	November 27 th 2007
ICT challenge	January 11 th 2008
Work Related learning challenge	January 22 nd & 25 th 2008
PSHE/ Citizenship challenge	February 1 st 2008
Literacy challenge	February 29 th 2008
Numeracy challenge	March 7 th 2008
Humanities challenge	April 18 th 2008
Music/ RE challenge	May 16 th 2008
Technology challenge	June 27 th 2008
MFL challenge	15 th July 2008
PE / Sports challenge	18 th July 2008

The aim of the challenge days is to give subject leaders an added opportunity to be innovative and present challenges / experiences in different ways, with the aim to engage and extend pupil's learning.

All challenge days are on a Friday, and assemblies will be used to bring the day to a conclusion and "showcase" work produced.

Examination Results

Assessment Qualification Association (AQA) Unit Award Scheme

The school has extended the range of units used, and subjects covered include English, Mathematics, Science, Life Skills, ICT, Food Technology, Geography and Art.

The following AQA Units have been awarded:

Year 7	11 students working on	8 units
Year 8	9 students working on	24 units
Year 9	7 students working on	31 units
Year 10	7 students working on	57 units
Year 11	8 students working on	21 units
Year 12	11 students working on	41 units
Year 13	10 students working on	61 units

Transition Challenge Award

17 students have completed modules towards this award

ASDAN Life Skills Award

3 students have achieved this award at Level 1

2 Students have completed 3 modules each

1 student has achieved 1 module

GCSE

5 Students have completed GCSE Textiles Technology – students achieved 1x C Grade, 3 x D Grades and 1x F Grade

5 students have completed the first year of GCSE Food Technology

4 students have completed the first year of GCSE Graphics Technology

Gateway / Duke of Edinburgh Award

8 students have achieved Bronze Level Gateway

12 students have worked towards Bronze Level Duke of Edinburgh Award

Sports Achievements

We continue to provide and excel in a range of sporting events, enabling pupils to have the opportunity to participate, enjoy and succeed in sporting activities.

Current achievements are:

- First place in the North West Athletics Championship
- Second overall in the North West Junior and Senior Swimming Galas
- Third place in the North West SLD Football Championship

A number of students compete in Special Olympic events and compete at county and national level.

Current school projects

1. To provide key stage 2 booster classes in basic skills areas.
2. Prepare for re-assessments for Basic Skills Quality Mark, Investors in People, Arts Mark, Effective Early Learning programme.
3. To plan, design and cost for an internal play room for use by Foundation and key stage 1 children.

Family Learning Workshops

Workshops this term have included Literacy, PECs and Music. Feedback from parents who have attended has been very positive and more workshops are planned for the new year.

New pupils

A warm welcome has been extended to the following new pupils and their families who joined Springfield this term:

Jack Dickens	Angelica Reeve	Katie Hillyard	Sally Chadwick
Lewis Hughes	Sophia Thompson	Amy Davies	Zoe Evans
Ashton Langdon	Mark Yoxall	Jack Goodings	Nicola Rawlinson

Parent Questionnaire Feedback

Many thanks for those who were able to complete and return their questionnaires, this information is valuable to us. The vast majority of responses were very positive and encouraging.

Findings:

The following issue came from the questionnaire:-

We distributed 103 questionnaires and 45 were completed and returned. Where parents made comments that may require further actions the following areas were highlighted:

- **Increase in home practice/work**

Our action:

Reminder to all class teachers to set appropriate and relevant home practice to reinforce learning.

- **Improving the external play areas for Foundation/ KS 1 pupils**

Our action:

Significant improvements to the Foundation play and key stage 1 areas are now completed. We now have three very attractive external play areas.

- **Looking at ways how school/parent can better use the Virtual Learning Environment web site**

Our action:

The Leadership Team are looking at ways of improving and harnessing the potential of the VLE to aid parent – school information and reduce paperwork.

- **Increase the number of After School Clubs**

Our action:

We have commitment to maintain levels with a view to see how we can extend this provision.

- **Continuation with swimming and horse riding at key stage 2**

Our action:

We have already made arrangements for these activities to continue.

School website

We are increasingly using our website to communicate school information. Why not visit the site and make use of it? www.springfield.cheshire.sch.uk

Lower School News

- This half term has seen the completion of both the Foundation and KS1 playgrounds. The children now have a road track for cars and bikes, an outdoor covered area, a playhouse complete with veranda and of course the exciting new adventure play equipment with three slides, tunnels and ladder – very challenging!!
- We are continuing to offer horse riding to KS2 this year and the children are building the skills acquired from last year. It is proving very popular.

- A group of children had the opportunity to visit Chester Cathedral for the Music for Youth Primary Proms. It was a wonderful day – the building itself was awe-inspiring and the selection of musical activities was very exciting. It was a first visit for us as a school but one that we hope to continue in the years to come.
- Lower School is also in the early stages of forming a choir so watch this space!

All in all a very productive first half term for Lower School.

Pupils testing some of our new equipment – we think its been given the thumbs up !!

**Children in Need
Friday, 16th November**

The whole school are invited to our non-uniform day (£1 donation),
based on a 'Spotty' Theme - the more spots the better! ☺

- There will be a Party Picnic Lunch with special guest Pudsey Bear.
- Many fun activities throughout the day including car washing by the Sixth Form and a Quiz by Sue Bailey.
- The day will end with a full school assembly.

Any questions or concerns contact Catherine Wright, Learning Mentor or
Caroline Smith Upper Sixth

Class News

Foundation Class

It is hard to believe that all the children in Foundation Class have made such good progress in so short a time! The whole class get on very well together and are getting very good at waiting and sharing.

We have been developing our physical skills with some lovely soft play sessions on the big equipment with the addition of a parachute (great for making the slide slippier!), space blanket and the big physio balls. Karin is really pleased with everyone's progress in the pool and of course we have our beautiful new playground equipment to play on.

In the classroom we have enjoyed the story about Kipper and the cat stuck in the conker tree with toy animals and real leaves and conkers to touch. We have sung lots of counting rhymes and love to use the smart board to help us count too.

In between these activities we have managed to do some cooking, planting and exploring in the classroom and around school. I think we can safely say the children have found their way around now and know exactly where to find their favourite toys for that very important activity called play!

Class 1PF (*See photos*)

This half-term class 1PF have been busy doing lots of work on our Autumn Theme. We collected lots of leaves to touch and throw in the air as well as making an autumn display for our seasons' board.

Our most exciting news has been the completion of the playground and outdoor learning environment we share with Foundation Class and Class 1HR. We now have a brilliant climbing frame, tunnel and slides in one area, a roadway for cars to ride in and a quieter area too.

We have already been out to use the climbing and sliding equipment – and class staff all had a go too!

On the last day of the half-term we invited Lower School to join us for a Halloween party. Lots of children dressed up in costumes and we had a lovely spooky time. I told a scary tale called 'A Dark, Dark Tale' and passed around green and blue gunge for brave children to feel. Then we had a disco with spooky songs like 'Ghostbusters' and 'The Time Warp'! We had lots of fun.

This half-term we will be doing lots of work on celebrations, light and sound and Christmas.

Class 1HR

We have enjoyed our Literacy this half term reading 'Deer Zoo' and 'Smart Aunties'. We prepared a Smart Auntie party cake to take to Auntie Madge and chose other party foods using our PECs symbols. Everyone dressed up as an auntie and travelled on the 'bus' to the party. We have also learnt about letters 's' and 'a'. We practice writing on the SMART BOARD and then print out our work to display. We add pictures of things beginning with 's' and 'a' to our phonics book and have found objects and toys around the classroom.

Everyone has settled well into their new class, have made new friends, are working hard and are now looking forward to Christmas!!

Class 2AB

Class has had a busy half term. We all had to get to know each other and for *Mimi* in particular it was a big change. We also would like to welcome a new pupil to the class, *Katy Hillyard*. Everyone has done very well and has settled down into the new class routines. Each Tuesday and Wednesday we have Preferred Learning groups so I only see most of the class on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

We have been doing lots of work about Autumn – painting with Autumn colours, singing songs and looking at animals such as squirrels and hedgehogs. We are going to continue using different colours of Autumn leaves to make repeating patterns, which is the area (as well as number skills) of Numeracy we are concentrating on this half term.

We have looked at habitats in Science, concentrating on the Sea. Once again we have used songs and art work to make the work more enjoyable. This term in science we are looking at – or should I say listening to – Sound. I'm sure we will have great fun with this one!

Please remember to send us News on Mondays – the children love to hear what everyone has done and it is a great exercise in memory and speaking and listening.

Class 2LM

Last half-term was very busy. We focused on 'Autumn' as our theme for Literacy, doing some lovely collage and print work to link with the stories.

Mrs Ling led a fantastic assembly about Harvest where the class performed a reggae style rap and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

In Science some of the pupils have been focusing on sound and have made some simple instruments.

We have also been exploring healthy eating in PHSE and everyone had fun exploring and handling realistic rubber food! Each pupil also took time to practise brushing their teeth and much fun was had with a large set of plastic teeth!

We all send Jessica Witter our love and best wishes as she has been in hospital this term. We all miss her and are looking forward to seeing her in class again soon.

Class 2JD

Please see separate sheet...

Class 3RP

Please see separate sheets

Class 3GD (See photos)

A super start to the new school year here in 3GD. We have all been working hard and having fun too.

In Literacy we have enjoyed an ICT sensory story around the smartboard about Sheldon Snail who goes to the beach. The huge African snails were very interesting!

In Science we have been exploring the sensory aspects of the planets through music, light and dark. We have enjoyed using the multi-sensory light room as well.

In Humanities we have loved exploring the colours, smells, tastes and art of India and we all looked wonderful when we dressed up in traditional costume.

We all really enjoy our weekly music sessions with Mrs Moss, our new music teacher, in the chalet and have even experimented with playing a violin.

We are looking forward to this half term and of course Christmas. Best Wishes from 3GD

Class 4CT / AS (See photos)

Class 4CT are a dab hand at making sandwiches now – both healthy with salad in and not so healthy ones without (see pictures).

We have also joined forces with Mrs Turner in her Enterprise activities and will be trying to sell you lovely pots of flowers grown by our own fair hands in the future. We are also keeping the grounds and pots outside school planted up.

The class have all embarked on some kind of paper qualification – either Entry Levels, Transition Challenge work or AQA Units and are all hard at work.

Last term everyone enjoyed exploring ‘water’ poems which included writing their own short poems and focusing on the different sounds that can be made in water. Some of the pupils have achieved an English AQA Unit for this work.

In Geography we have been exploring volcanoes – using an apple and honey to explore lava and magma – and in RE WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT Buddhism and dressing up as Buddhist monks.

Some pupils have made excellent progress with their English, Maths and Science Entry Level work and others have been working hard towards their Transition Challenge folder. – A busy half term!

Class 4JT

We have worked hard this half-term, working on Independent Living Skills for their Transition Challenge, also Entry Level English / Maths, and some of the group are doing Entry Level Science as well as a group busy with GCSE Textile work.

In I.T. we have each made our own Power Point presentation and in Design Technology we have designed our own letter headed paper and envelopes.

We had a very successful plant sale which gives us the money to go out to places of our choice.

During the term we have been making assorted sandwiches each week and the last week of term we made our own lunch – sandwiches, toasted sandwiches, chips, salad followed by strawberry flan, peach flan and ice cream – a feast – to which we invited our class governor. Our very best wishes to Daniel Carson who has been ill since the start of our new term – we hope to see him very soon.

Sixth Form

Hello everybody. Well another half term over and less than 2 months to Christmas. Get shopping!

There has been some really good work taking place in the Sixth Form this term. Our team are all looking forward to an exciting new term:-

Chris Burkinshaw, Carole Moran, Lin Bigger, Susan Morris, Karin Stringer, Mo Jones, Caroline Smith, Julie Lunt, Val Charlesworth, Kim Wilson, Mark O'Donnell and Lisa Hodkison.

You have all received individual timetables and further copies can be obtained by contacting school. Email us anytime: lowersixthform@googlemail.com
uppersixth@googlemail.com

Parents' evening was excellent and it was good to meet you all.

In class we have been doing lots of different things working towards both Entry Level Awards and Gateway Award.

- 'Stranger Danger' and 'Safety in the Community' has been a good topic as it has helped the group become aware of both personal and social safety.
- Some really good college placements and courses are being undertaken at both Barrowmore in Chester and Reasheath College in Nantwich.
- The two GCSE groups are working hard towards their coursework in both Food Technology at Sir William Stanier High School and Graphics at Malbank High School, hopefully we will get some good results next summer.
- Everyone did really well and completed the units on personal hygiene and care and hair washing with varying degrees of independence which has really boosted confidence.
- The enterprise groups have been working with money and how it is handled in everyday life. They have explored the use of cheques, credit cards, ATM's and good old fashioned cash.
- Our School radio project has been taking off with several pupils working on a Friday to produce an audio newsletter with music, chat and news. Our radio station, ASE FM, has been asked to compare the nights' events at the bonfire night in Crewe Park on Monday 5th November 2007. Do come along and join in.
- Internal and External work experience placements are in full swing with some pupils working at Crewe Alexander football Club helping with the maintenance of the ground and pitch.

All very Exciting!

P.E. *(and other news)*

Hi, I'm Miss Wilson and I joined Springfield in September to teach P.E to the upper school and also teach in the Sixth Form.

P.E with 3RP, 4CT and 4JT is going really well! 3RP have been participating in basketball and 4CT and 4JT have been doing football – all the pupils are a pleasure to teach!

The Lower Sixth are currently working towards the Service Unit of the Duke of Edinburgh / Gateway Award and for this they are providing a service to Crewe Alex by cleaning the seats. They are all working extremely hard and fully deserve their drink and biscuits at the end!



The Lower Sixth are also working extremely hard at Reaseheath College every Wednesday morning. They are currently studying horticulture and have been planting seeds, cutting hedges and raking and brushing up all the leaves!



On Friday mornings all the Sixth Form go swimming which is great fun and the students are really progressing well in the water, there are some excellent swimmers amongst them! So finally, it was lovely to meet some of you at parents evening and thank you to your children for making it such a fantastic start for me at Springfield School!

Next term I am looking forward to continuing with the tremendous work that the students started this term, and we have also got a football tournament on 30th October which the students have been training really hard for! Good luck everyone!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday, 30 th October 2007	School re-opens for the second half of the Autumn term.
	NW football competition
Wednesday, 31 st October	After School Club 3
Thursday, 1 st November	GCSE Textiles group visit to Abakan Textile Factory
Tuesday, 6 th November	Parent Workshop on Music led by Alison Moss
Wednesday, 7 th November	After School Club 4
Thursday, 8 th November	Friends of Springfield Meeting - 7.30pm in the Large Chalet
Wednesday, 14 th November	After School Club 5
Thursday, 15 th November	Annual Festive Fair Evening - Further details to follow
Friday, 16 th November	Children in Need Day
	Music Festival at Macclesfield for Class 3RP
Wednesday, 21 st November	After School Club 6
Friday, 23 rd November	School Photographs