

# NEWSLETTER - WHITSUN 2008

## SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just to inform you that we will be working towards gaining the Investors in Careers mark over the next academic year.

### What is it?

- Investor in Careers is based on the Investor in People model and
- The Award is structured around four key elements relating to the management of Careers Education Guidance:
  - Commitment
  - Organisation
  - Delivery
  - Evaluation

### Why are we doing it?

We feel we are becoming increasingly strong in investing in our student's careers and therefore should be recognised for the work and preparation for life during and after Springfield. The award will also:

- support inspection self-evaluation
- support 14-19 education and skills implementation plan
- support the Every Child Matters agenda
- support 'student voice'
- support the wider curriculum

We will hopefully gain the Certificate of Commitment over the summer half term and work towards the full award over the next twelve months. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Lisa Hodgkison

## New pupils to school

A warm welcome has been extended to **Benjamin Thomas** who has joined Foundation class.

## School website

We are in the process of updating our website. Why not visit the site and make use of it?  
[www.springfield.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.springfield.cheshire.sch.uk)

## Parent Evening

The next parent evening is planned for the **Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form classes only on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008**. Individual appointment times will be sent to parents by class teachers.

## Advice and support on pupil behaviour issues

Working with colleagues from the CAMS Behaviour Team, we are able to offer individual 'drop-in' sessions for parents / carers to come and discuss issues relating to their child's behaviour or sleep patterns. The next session is planned for **11<sup>th</sup> June from 11:00 to 1:00pm**. If you would like further information or an appointment, please contact Mark Swaine on 01270 582446.

## The introduction of subject Challenge Days

This year we have introduced subject challenge days with the aim to give opportunity, to be innovative and present challenges / experiences in different ways to engage and extend pupil's learning. All challenge days are on a Friday, using the assembly to bring the day to a conclusion and "showcase" work produced. The days are organised by subject leader's and have been engaging and innovative, we look forward to the remainder of the days.

The subject programme is as follows:

|                                 |  |           |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Science challenge               | November 30 <sup>th</sup> 2007                 | Completed |
| ICT challenge                   | January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2008                  | Completed |
| Work Related learning challenge | January 22/25 <sup>th</sup> 2008               | Completed |
| Literacy challenge              | February 29 <sup>th</sup> 2008                 | Completed |
| Humanities challenge            | April 18 <sup>th</sup> 2008                    | Completed |
| PSHE/ Citizenship challenge     | April 25 <sup>th</sup> 2008                    | Completed |
| Music/ RE challenge             | May 16 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2008 |           |
| Numeracy challenge              | June 27 <sup>th</sup> 2008                     |           |
| MFL challenge                   | 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2008                     |           |
| PE / Sports challenge           | 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2008                     |           |

## Curriculum issues / update

The spring and summer terms are traditionally busy terms, the summer term giving further opportunities for groups to have their activities extended by using facilities outside school. Many students have been involved in working for their Entry level, GCSE, AQA Units and Gateway / Duke of Edinburgh Awards. This year 3 students will be completing their GCSE in Textiles Technology, and for the first time 8 will be completing their GCSE Food Technology and 3 GCSE Graphics. Also for the first time 8 students have been working for the Young People's Arts Award. We wish all students every success and hope their work and effort are appropriately rewarded.

During the term many of the students will be enjoying the challenge of extended visits. As in previous years, a number of pupils will be participating in Primary & Secondary College at South Cheshire College and Artscool activities with other pupils from local schools.

Earlier in the term Foundation stage colleagues had their re-assessment to see if they were maintaining the Effective Early Learning Standards (EEL's). We are pleased to report the assessment was successful and congratulations to the Foundation class team.

The main focus of our work for the rest of this summer term is;

- \* Completing all pupil annual reviews.
- \* Completing student course work and examinations
- \* Preparing for the annual School Leavers' Service on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July at Chester Cathedral.
- \* Participating in the SLD schools sports days and other sport activities.
- \* Planning school improvements projects to take place during the summer holiday.
- \* Planning and preparation for the new school year.

## Retirement of Mrs Anthea Bishop and Mrs Kay Nehammer

At the end of the summer term we will be saying thank you and best wishes to two loyal colleagues who have served on the teaching staff of Springfield for many years.

Anthea joined Springfield as a Key Stage 2 teacher in September 1990 and has been our primary school curriculum leader initially for Numeracy and latterly Literacy.

Kay came to Springfield in January 1994 initially as a part time teacher promoting reading and basic skills. Kay became a full time Key Stage 3 teacher in September 1999.

We are very appreciative of their work and commitment to Springfield, their distinctive contributions will be missed. Their work will be celebrated at the end of the school year and we wish Anthea and Kay best wishes in their retirement.

## New faces

During the last few weeks we have been busy appointing new staff ready for September. We have been fortunate to appoint the following colleagues:

**Miss Anna Sandbach** to replace Mrs Bishop and teach at key stage 2

We are developing a new teaching post with the aim to form a class for pupils who need a highly structured learning environment. **Mrs Joanne Henry** will be leading this work.

**Miss Emma Silvestor** has been appointed to develop our performing arts work to include dance and drama and support pupils working for the Young People Arts award. Miss Silvestor will also be teaching part time at key stage 3 & 4.

## School Improvement projects

- During the summer holiday we are planning to build an external **multi use games area**. This facility will improve our sports and PE provision and will be able to be used throughout the year.
- Over the last few years we have invested in a range of computer and communication equipment. We now want to take this to the next stage of development by providing pupils with a **dedicated ICT suite** in which to work.
- We have been given the opportunity to extend our sixth form students opportunities by relocating one of our sixth form classes on to the **Manchester Metropolitan University site**, which is next door to school. This will be an excellent opportunity to take advantage of the university facilities which are being further improved and will include a theatre, creative arts centre and extensive sports facilities.

## School Governors

Our thanks and appreciation to all our governors for their support and giving of their time, it is much appreciated and their work benefits all our pupils.

The current members of the governing body are:

Mr David Griffith – Chairman  
Mr Ray Woolgar – Vice Chair & Parent Governor  
Mr Peter Jones – Parent Governor  
Mrs Barbara Gibbs – Parent Governor  
Mrs Rose Lynn - Parent Governor  
Mr Ray King - Parent Governor

M/s Alison Bowler – Co-opted Governor  
Mrs Pam Bulmer – Co-opted Governor  
Mrs Karen Hole – Staff Governor  
Mrs Janet Turner – Teacher Governor  
Mr Maurice Mogg Community Governor  
Mrs G Coupland – Local Authority Governor  
Vacancy- Local Authority Governor

**Next governor sub-committee 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**Personnel and curriculum – 5:15pm**

**Finance and Premises – 6.15pm**

**Next main governors meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

## CLASS NEWS

### Foundation Class

Another half term has flown by! Foundation class has been 'On The Farm' for the last few weeks. We have all enjoyed the story 'I Love Animals' and now know which one we each love best, and some of the class have got very good at making animal sounds too. We planted seeds just like farmers do, making sure they got lots of water and sunshine so we had a good 'crop' of cress and broad beans ( hopefully!) in a few weeks time. We have played inside in the new play room and outside on the new play equipment having lots of fun with the key stage 1 classes. We enjoyed being guests at a Muslim wedding last week, dressing up in our finery and tasting new foods. Will the next half term be as exciting? Watch this space!

### Class 1PF *(see separate sheet)*

### Class 1HR *(see photos)*

What a busy time we've all had in Class 1HR, lots of outdoor play and picnics due to the lovely weather. We even managed a Hindu Wedding, although William was pleased to go home to his mum at the end of the day! Everyone has worked hard in music lessons, composing their own music piece, which we recorded!! They sound fantastic!

Congratulations to Sophie, William, Zack and Vicky who took part in the Warrington Athletics. They all did brilliantly and we got three medals – Well Done Everyone!!

Have a lovely holiday, we hope the sun shines, from all in Class 1HR

### Class 2AB *(please see photos)*

This has been a busy half term with several subject Challenge Days to fit in. The most recent one involved us dressing up for a Muslim wedding – we have to thank Farida who lent us lots of clothes to dress up in. Earlier in the term we made up a poem about Winter and performed it in Assembly for the Literacy day.

We are lucky to have our Horse riding sessions during this term as the weather is usually much better! The children do enjoy these sessions and always respond well to the staff at the Riding school. They listen to instructions and do their best to carry them out.

Our story has been about Percy the Park Keeper and his friends. We are going to continue with this and hope to write our own book before the end of term. Hopefully we will be able to dress up as Percy.

In Numeracy we have been looking at tall/short where we have used the children and the staff to demonstrate the difference. We have made a lovely display board to illustrate our work. We then went on to long and short making extending snakes and comparing the length of different vehicles.

All the staff in 2AB hope you have a lovely half term.

### Class 2LM *(see separate sheet)*

### Class 2JD

A busy half term for Class 2JD. In Maths we have been concentrating on measuring. We have used rulers, tapes and even our hands and feet.

There have been three Challenge days:

- The first, Humanities, had the children making models of various buildings which we used to make a 3D map.
- The second was PSHE where we grew our own cress to add to egg sandwiches that we made and the class composed a rap which they performed in assembly
- The third challenge for RE involved some of our children dressing as Buddhist monks and playing instruments to some Buddhist music.

We have planted some pumpkin seeds for a competition later in the year to find the biggest.

The Bitesize Theatre Company performed a production of Red Riding Hood which all of the children thoroughly enjoyed.

There has also been a football tournament at Nantwich Football Club, swimming lessons at Crewe Baths and Lower School Sports Day – results not in at time of press!

Thank you for your donations of fruit for the children's snack times and Good Luck to **Millie Yoxall** who travels to Tennessee for a gymnastics competition on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

### **Class 3RP** (*see separate sheets*)

### **Class 3GD**

A super half term here in 3GD We have been enjoying the fabulous weather and doing some sensory poetry outside under the trees. We particularly loved being under the huge spreading Horse Chestnut at the front of school.

Our new Humanities topic is Africa and we are becoming expert at African drumming and playing other African instruments.

We have another Pete Wells sensory ICT story which everyone enjoys and we are looking forward to our RE Challenge on Friday when we will be exploring Buddhism.

Earlier in the term we had great fun on the PHSE Challenge day with a super performance for upper school in assembly.

We have lots of exciting things planned for after half term and we hope you all have a super half term 3GD

### **Class 4CT / AS**

Congratulations go to the swimmers from Classes 4CT/AS and Mrs Turner's class 4JT. They have worked hard this half term to gain awards from the swimming baths. In the last session we have all the inflatables out which should be fun.

Fridays have been enjoyable with different activities going on through Challenge days:

- We have had a PSHE Challenge day – where the class made up a play about not leaving people out
- In a Humanity day they 'went on holiday to Hawaii'
- On another Challenge day a Sikh visitor into class who told them all about his religion.

**Robert, Dan, Julian, Tommy** and **John** have all worked hard to complete a second section of their Asdan work which will be externally moderated in June.

### **Class 4JT**

This half term we have been concentrating on the 'Personal Development' module of the Transition Challenge. We have taken delivery of 30 saplings from the Woodland Trust. These have been planted at the far end of the school grounds. We have also cleared the pergola of the overgrown plants and weeds. After half term we shall replace with summer bedding. Preparations for the first sale of the summer season are ongoing, with a variety of seedlings. Please keep a look out for plant sales during the coming weeks. We will also be offering a re-potting service for post and hanging baskets after the half term break.

In Food Technology we have been evaluating and developing different pizza bases and toppings.

Last Thursday the students made their own lunch, to which the Class Governor, Mrs Bulmer, was invited. Everybody worked very hard that morning and lunch was delicious.

### **Sixth Form**

This has been a very good year for the sixth form as the accredited work for the upper sixth is all coming to a fruitful end.

The technology subjects have been marked internally and the final examinations are close with Food Technology next Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Textiles on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June and Graphics on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of June.

We shall be organising one or two trips and we are considering the 'Monkey Farm'. Hopefully, all the staff will be released!

### **Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme**

As part of the DoE Award preparation 6<sup>th</sup> formers have been practising their camping techniques. This has involved the pitching and putting away of large tents that will be used on the expedition phase of the award. We have practised cooking techniques using portable gas stoves. Our first attempt involved the preparation of canned foods and our second session we used specially prepared camping food. The types of food tried were; chicken casserole, Chilli con carne and beans and bacon in tomato sauce. These were all boil in the bag and were enjoyed by all the students.

We have been building up our stamina for the expedition by going on regular walks in the local area. We use these as an opportunity to build on social and language skills as well as just enjoying the chance to be out in the fresh air.

### **Entry Level**

All the Students that have been involved in Entry level work have all successfully passed and are to be congratulated on their effort and diligence to do so well. This is a particularly high success rate.

### **Arts Award**

Students are nearing completion of their Arts Award. They have been working very hard and as part of this course visited the Lowry Museum in Salford. The students enjoyed this greatly and did some very interesting interpretations of the paintings they saw on their return. This has been a valuable scheme and one which may well play a large part of the curriculum.

## **PE & VI FORM**

### **VIth FORM**

#### **REASEHEATH**

The Lower VI had a fabulous term at Reaseheath studying small animal care. They have been working with snakes, rats, rabbits, goats, alpacas, birds and many more! The students have been feeding the animals, cleaning them out and handling them. *(See attached photos!)*

#### **ENTERPRISE**

This term the VI Form began the Springfield Smoothie Enterprise Project! This has been extremely successful with the students making their own smoothies with names like Banana Split, Tropical Delight and Berry Blast! Sales have been excellent so we will continue with this project next term.

#### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

Students have continued working hard towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award. We have been practicing for the forthcoming expedition with lots of local walks. They have also been developing their camp craft and navigation skills through a number of different activities. Fingers crossed that it will be nice and dry for their 15 mile expedition next term!

**Forthcoming Dates:** Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Reaseheath Awards Day – Lower VI Form

### **P.E. / SPORT**

This term there have been lots of excellent achievements so a big WELL DONE goes to the following people:

- **Michaela Manley, Natalie Carson, Ben Wood and Vicky Scragg** who all participated in the Kielder Challenge in April. They were part of a team with 4 students from Ruskin Sports College and participated in a number of outdoor activity challenges against other teams from around the area. It was a cold and wet day but all 4 students worked really hard and did the school proud.
- All the footballers who participated in the final football tournament of the academic year at Nantwich Town Football Club. All players have worked exceptionally hard in all the football tournaments and should be very proud of themselves!
- **Eddie Hodson, Tommy Wheeler and Luke Bennett** who took part in the Boccia Competition held at Widnes Leisure Centre – all 3 boys performed really well.

All classes have been working exceptionally hard in PE, developing their athletic skills and practicing for the inter-schools athletics tournament on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

All students deserve to do incredibly well and I'm sure we'll have a fantastic day!

**REASEHEATH PHOTOS**



## Nurses Corner ☺

A reminder of contact details should you require them:

1. If you wish to contact Sue or any of our Nursing Team, our e-mail address is:  
[spring@cecpct.nhs.uk](mailto:spring@cecpct.nhs.uk)
2. The phone number for activating delivery of continence products is (01270) 415411.
3. All other enquiries through Sue please - Tel: 01270 275648.

Some sad news for us - Sharon our Health Care Assistant will be leaving us this Summer. She will work until we break up in July, to show her replacement 'the ropes'. We will let you know in the July newsletter who will replace Sharon.

Also Dr Pugh, the Paediatrician from Leighton Hospital, is retiring in July.

Have a good holiday if you are going away and please remember the hats and sun block.

Sue and the Nursing Team

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May       | Upper school RE/Music Challenge day<br>Half term-school closes at the usual time.  |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2008  | School reopens for the second half of the summer term.   |
| Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June  | Behaviour Team 'drop-in' 11:00am to 1:00pm.<br>Open to all parents to talk to members of the team re advice on children's behaviour ' sleep issues |
| Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June  | Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form parents evening   |
| Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> June     | Numeracy Challenge Day<br>Wells Green Church musical evening in support of Springfield   |
| Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> July      | School Leavers Service at Chester Cathedral  |
| W/beginning 7 <sup>th</sup> July  | Primary College Week   |
| W/beginning 14 <sup>th</sup> July | Secondary College Week   |
| Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> July    | Modern Language Challenge day  |
| Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> July     | Sports Challenge Day   |
| Tuesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> July    | Whole school celebration assembly<br>End of term and school year for pupils- usual transport times   |
| Wednesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> July  | Staff training / preparation day   |

**Have a Happy and Safe Holiday**

