



Preparatory & Nursery

30<sup>th</sup> September 2011

**Springmead Newsletter**  
Newsletter 4 in 2011-12

**Dear Parents and Children,**

The weekly Newsletters keep you up to date with current issues, please look out for them, every Friday. Please, always read these alongside your Calendar of Events, as some dates unavoidably change! Newsletters are also available on the school website [www.springmead.com](http://www.springmead.com).

**Poetry Performance Final**

Every child from Reception through to Year 6 learnt a poem and stood up in front of their class to perform it, what an incredible achievement! A huge 'well done' to all the finalists. We were treated to a lovely afternoon of humorous and thoughtful interpretations of Alan Ahlberg poetry at the Village Hall. Thank you to Peter Stone who had the unenviable task of judging the competition. This year's winners are:

<b>Reception</b>	William Jackson
<b>Year 1</b>	Harriette Puddy-Jones
<b>Year 2</b>	Amelia Nicholson
<b>Year 3</b>	Louis Wight
<b>Year 4</b>	Jenny Lee
<b>Year 5</b>	Alex Mori
<b>Year 6</b>	Cameron Wight

The House Trophy this year goes to Spring House.

Springmead School  
Castle Corner  
Beckington  
Somerset  
BA11 6TA



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**Reminder: Harvest Service, Sunday 2nd October 2011**

**Could all children be seated, in uniform, with fleeces, by 9:50am in the church please.**

**Harvest gifts**

Thank you so much for the gifts, which will be distributed this week. Thank you also to those parents who helped us to transport them to the church. If you didn't manage to bring them on Friday, please bring them with you on Sunday

**Parent Consultations with Caroline Miller**

Caroline Miller is available for appointments on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011 from 4.30pm to discuss your child's progress regarding individual tuition, piano or class music lessons. Please indicate on the slip attached if you would like to meet with her. Mrs. Miller will allocate you a time when we receive your slip back.

**Springmead Showcase News**

The showcase will be held in the evening of **Friday November 25<sup>th</sup>**, in the Theatre at Prior Park College, Bath. Because this date is slightly later than we had anticipated, school auditions for the children will be held on **Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup> 2011 (Reception - Yr 3) and Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 (Yr 4 - 6).**

The acts selected to go through to the Showcase will perform to the whole school on **Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> 2011.**

A reminder to adults and former pupils, the closing date for registering your entry is October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Social Committee News**

The first Springmead Social committee event of the year was very well attended. It was good to see so many new faces as well as familiar ones!

A new chair was elected for the year. This year the role will be shared between Helen Messenger, Patsy Mori and Karen Pow-Jones. Charlotte Heald was applauded for her conscientious work on behalf of the committee over the last year.

A new treasurer was also elected. Shirley Offer will be taking over from Sarah James. Sarah has done a sterling job as the committee treasurer for many years. The committee thanked her warmly for her time.

There are three events for the Autumn term to put in your diaries!

Night hike - 14<sup>th</sup> October, 6:30pm at Shearwater. Years 3 -6 (flyer attached)

Storytelling Evening - 18<sup>th</sup> November, Nursery - Year 2

## **Go Explore, out and about this week**

### **Nursery and Reception**

This week the children made some beautiful seasonal mobiles down at the wildlife area, gathering leaves, seed heads and bark. Please admire the mobiles in their outdoor classrooms!

### **Rabbits & Otters**

With wellies and waterproofs at the ready the Otters and Rabbits headed for their first visit to the wildlife area since last summer. There have been many changes down there such as the leaves turning fantastic shades of gold, yellow and orange, the grass no longer long and packed with flowers, and the general dampness about making the descent rather faster than some had expected. Our task was to find leaves, which we could compare on our return to school, and to identify the variety of conditions required for different plants in the local environment. As well as our serious scientific investigations we did manage to squeeze in some den building and some splendid splashing in the stream and, despite the obligatory nettle stings, we had a fantastic time!

### **Eagles Bushcraft**

The Year 6 children enthusiastically headed off for their first bushcraft session this week, on a warm late summer afternoon they enjoyed a mixed theory and practical session around a campfire. All the children were given notebooks that they will use to capture important information to put into their bushcraft journals back at school. The passion for this area of the curriculum was very evident over the course of the afternoon - the children were a joy!

### **Bronze Award Walk**

It was a lovely sunny afternoon as the Squirrels headed out for our Bronze Award Walk. The children did brilliantly with hardly an "are we there yet?" to be heard. The views from Heavens Gate were amazing and there were lots of leaves to kick as we made our way through Longleat forest all the way to Shearwater Lake and back to Heavens Gate car park a full 10 kilometres later. We arrived back at school tired but full of satisfaction at our achievement.

### **Copper Award Walk**

All the children headed out on the Copper Award Walk full of excitement and they all fully enjoyed walking through the woods, especially through some very soggy, sticky mud. The children walked the 8km in high spirits and they all did extremely well.

## **Sports news**

### **Fixtures news**

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September Yr 3 & 4 Football v Beckington**

On Thursday afternoon the Year 3 and 4 football team played their first match of the year against Beckington. The two teams appeared evenly matched but it was Beckington who were on the attack from the kick off. The Springmead defence worked hard to keep the scores level but Beckington kept pressing and got the breakthrough. Springmead responded by mounting their own series of attacks and a long distance free kick from Jack Parfitt-Keates got them back into the match. The remainder of the first half was a case of Beckington snuffing out Springmead attacks and then hitting on the break. Despite the best efforts of Louis Wight in goal Beckington managed to score three more times to lead 4 – 1 at half time. The Springmead team didn't allow their heads to drop and right from the start of the second half went on the attack.

Charlie Shakespeare found his shooting boots and soon started making inroads into the Beckington lead and with support from captain Jacob Miller and Sam Johnston the game started to turn in Springmead's favour. Springmead were soon on level terms and continued to press forwards whilst still keeping it tight at the back. As the game headed towards the final whistle both teams were pressing for a winner but had to settle for a draw. It was a very pleasing second half performance from Springmead and all the players can feel very proud of themselves.

### **Future Fixtures**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Yr 3 & 4 Hockey v Kilmersdon (this fixture has been cancelled)

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Yr 5 & 6 Football v Hemington (home)

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, Cross Country, Wells Rugby Club

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, Yr 5 & 6 Football v Calder House School (home), afternoon fixture during PE time, will finish by 3.30 pm

### **Swimming news**

Well done for the following achievements in the pool:

10 Metre Rainbow Award: Abby Sparrow, Florence Stickells, Scarlet Vaughan and Beau Morgan

Water Skills Grade 2: Abby Sparrow

### **Out of school achievements**

Christian De Jaeger has been awarded his Royal Yachting Association Grade 1 for sailing skills achieved over the summer holidays.

Miles and Alex Kamerkar both achieved their Orange belt in Karate with the Mushin Karate Association.

Please don't forget to share your child's out of school successes with us so we can share the good news! Please email details to: [mtaylor@springmead.com](mailto:mtaylor@springmead.com)

**The virtue of the week is compassion**

Your child was introduced to this virtue on Wednesday. As always, it would be helpful if you could recap and extend their learning and understanding over the week!

**The winning house this week is Winter**

House points are awarded to our pupils for lots of reasons including: good behaviour, kindness, good work and effort. These are totalled each week and the results are shared with the children.

**Stars of the week**

The following children received praise certificates in assembly this week.

Nursery	Max Henwood ~ sitting and listening during story times Charlie Milsom ~ working hard during our music sessions
Reception	Noah Pullen ~ being more independent, particularly when getting changed for P.E and clubs Primrose Boyden ~ working hard on her sounds and blending – Excellent!
Year 1	Jessica Metcalfe ~ fantastic number work Rue Fowler ~ fantastic number work
Year 2	Amelia Nicholson ~ always ‘having a go’ particularly if something appears daunting Lexie Chilton ~ always trying her best both in her work and in the classroom
Year 3	Harry Buchan ~ Excellent work on his own fable and dot picture All of the Badgers ~ a fantastic class assembly all about Australia
Year 4	All of the Squirrels ~ for fantastic effort, determination and cheerfulness on our walk Eddie Donson ~ for leading the way and setting a great pace on our 10k walk Theo Fitz-Johnson ~ leading the way and keeping our spirits up right to the end of our walk!
Year 5	Lydia Collingwood ~ great dividing skills in maths Evie Jackson ~ being helpful and caring with younger children Campbell Goff ~ always being polite and courteous to those around him
Year 6	Mia Ralph ~ showing lots of determination with her maths William Starkey ~ a very creative story inspired by a Victorian artefact Fraser Humphrey ~ making a huge effort with neatness

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**Madeleine Taylor**  
**Principal**

## **Focus on Harvest**

“We plough the fields and scatter, the good seed on the land  
But it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand.”

At this special time of year while the farmers and keen gardeners collect in their crops and we give thanks to God for a successful harvest, it is an ideal time to reflect with our children on the importance and origins of our food.

We have all laughed at the old joke, where little Jimmy replies “Tesco’s” to his teacher’s question “ Where do carrots come from?” But in all seriousness do our little ones know the real answer? It is a wonderful season to be out looking for fruits, vegetables and seeds in our environment, take every opportunity to collect hazelnuts, chestnuts and blackberries and you will find that even the most picky eater will try something if they have found it themselves.

So enjoy some fun autumnal walks collecting conkers, kicking leaves and finding the wonder in God’s beautiful creation.

While you are talking about produce that can be found locally it is also an ideal opportunity to begin to consider with your child the impact of food miles and our carbon footprint on the world. There are a multitude of websites where you can calculate your own impact on the environment, but one child friendly version that I have discovered can be found at:

<http://www.cooltheworld.com/kidscarboncalculator.php>

**Sally Cox**

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### **Parent Consultation with Caroline Miller Reply Slip**

Name: .....

I would like/am unable to meet with Caroline Miller on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

\*Please delete as applicable