



Preparatory & Nursery

16th September 2011

Springmead Newsletter
Newsletter 2 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.

Social Committee Meeting

The first Social Committee meeting of the year will take place Wednesday 21st September at 7:50pm at school. If you would like to find out about the work of the social committee please feel free to speak to Charlotte Heald, our current Chairperson.

Frome Cheese Show

Thank you to those who helped with the Cheese Show last weekend! There was lots of interest in the Springmead stand. Such events are only ever possible with the commitment of dedicated volunteers!

Music Workshop, Tuesday 20th September

The children in our prep department will be involved in a singing workshop next week, delivered by a visiting expert, Chris James. Please note that there will be a £2.00 charge for this activity added to the next invoice.

Poetry Performance Competition

The class heats will take place on Thursday 22nd September, with the finals following on Monday 26th September. Please support your child by encouraging them to both learn the words of their poem and to be able to give a performance to the best of their ability. Many of the children will go on to participate in the Mid-Somerset Festival in the spring term but for all it is the opportunity to give a prepared presentation in the safety of their classroom.

Parent Email addresses

Please could you email info@springmead.com with your up to date email addresses as we are looking at a paperless invoicing system for January 2012.

Springmead School
Castle Corner
Beckington
Somerset
BA11 6TA



t: 01373 831555
e: info@springmead.com
www.springmead.com

Sports news

Skill work continued over the week with fixtures commencing next week.

Future Fixtures

Thursday 29th September, Yr 3&4 Football v Beckington (away)

Swimming news

The following certificates were recently awarded to our youngest swimmers, celebrating their early achievements in the pool:

Can blow some bubbles: Primrose Boyden and Noah Pullen

Can get into the water safely: William Jackson

Out of school achievements

Oliver Welbourn has passed his Grade 1 Clarinet with Merit and he has also passed his ASA Schools Competitive Dive Badge. Well done, Oliver!

Phoebe Kirkwood has recently been awarded her British Gymnastics Proficiency level 7 & 8 at Warminster Sports Centre. Well done, Phoebe!

Frances Arnold gained a distinction in her Grade 3 Piano and also gained a merit in her Grade 2 Violin. Well done, Frances!

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

Go Explore, out and about this week

Bushcraft

All the children were treated to a Bushcraft session delivered by Mark and Lucy Hotson, who welcomed us onto the school site with an inviting fire, a shelter and an incredible amount of resources. This event relaunches our Bushcraft programme for the year, which all the children will participate in at some point. The sessions were very varied and included examining parts of a plant using senses, making plates and cordage and knife craft.

The virtue of the week is purposefulness

Your child was introduced to this virtue on Tuesday. 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	Jake Cross-Bourton ~ settling so quickly into Ducklings and playing so well Ada Cooper ~ settling in so quickly and playing so well Libby Roger ~ making friends in the Ducklings Leo Hopkins ~ all his exploration and discovery in the Ducklings
Reception	Taelan Savage ~ doing some fantastic work in our first phonic lesson and for excellent neat writing Martha Johnston ~ working hard in our first phonic lesson and producing some careful work
Year 1	Oliver Knatchbull ~ super concentration with his writing William Ellis ~ fantastic independent writing Jonny Cox ~ super concentration with his writing
Year 2	Louis Donson ~ producing a fantastic book with photos about his holiday Beau Morgan ~ excellent investigative questioning when we were studying the sun
Year 3	Louis Wight ~ fantastic expression when reading poems aloud James Howson ~ settling in so well with the class
Year 4	Louis Mansfield ~ a confident start to his time at Springmead Sam Johnston ~ a super start to life at Springmead Jacob Miller ~ settling in so well into the Squirrels and Springmead Gabriella Doel ~ settling so beautifully into our class and school
Year 5	James Halls ~ a great start to life at Springmead Tilly Arnold ~ her positive approach to all aspects of school Harrison Pow-Jones ~ fantastic presentation of his maths work
Year 6	Emily Herd ~ going the 'extra mile' with research at home Amelia Knatchbull ~ being the first to complete September's class challenge Frances Fox ~ a beautifully articulate presentation about Queen Victoria

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

Yours faithfully,

Madeleine Taylor
Principal

Focus on tables!

Do you know your tables? Go on then – what's 8×7 ? How about 11×12 ? How quickly can you work out 9×17 ? Or 37×43 ?

Are you one of those lucky people who were seemingly born knowing their tables? Did you go through the process of learning them and they have stayed with you for life? Or do you still have to work them out every time you are faced with a problem?

There are a whole host of ways in which we can help our children to learn tables – some children will learn one way and some another – most will benefit from a variety of approaches at different stages of the learning process. 'Make it fun' and 'keep it regular' are the top tips!

- Songs and rhymes – *Two, four, six, eight, who do we appreciate?*
- Rote learning – anyone as old as me will remember learning this way – it suits some children's style of learning – give it a go!
- Patterns – try writing them out – can you see any patterns developing – the nine times table is a good one to investigate.
- Learn a few at a time – if you are encountering a new table – start with three or four, some easy ones and some a bit trickier – 6×8 , 6×10 , 6×2 , 6×5 – add in a few at a time once these have been mastered.
- Repetition, repetition, repetition – each academic year the children will go back over tables they have already learnt – by revising the multiplication facts frequently we hope that the tables will eventually become firmly embedded.

The children will be encountering tables throughout their schooling, and will be provided with lots of support in school. You can make the process even easier by helping them at the various stages of the journey.

(Answers 56, 132, 153, 1591)

Jacqueline Beardsley