

Springmead Newsletter

No. 2 ~ 2023/24



Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Parents,

How lovely to see so many of our new and old families join us for our successful Party in the Park event on Wednesday afternoon. The weather was kind, families chatted and laughed, took part in competitions (results are below), bounced and slid through the afternoon. It was a joy to see the children with friends and family seizing the day. The BBQ was a great addition, arranged by our fabulous SSA committee.



Diary Dates at a glance

Tuesday 19th September - Showcase Auditions

Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd September - Air Ambulance Visit

Friday 29th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning 8am and Year 3 Award Walk

Friday 6th October - Poetry Competition Final for parents of finalists and Individual School Photos

Wednesday 11th October - 5.30 to 7pm - SSA Disco Night - Whole School

Friday 13th October - Food Collection for Mercy in Action Foodbanks from 8am. Harvest Festival Service at St George's Church,

Monday 30th October - Showcase Rehearsal Day

Friday 3rd November - Showcase - Athenaeum Theatre, Warminster - 7pm

More details of these events are below or you will have been informed by your class teacher.



★ SPRINGMEAD POETRY COMPETITION



Our Autumn term starts with everyone taking part in our very own poetry recital competition.

- Launch pad 5 – Learn your class poem
 - Launch pad 4 – Practice, practice, practice
 - Launch pad 3 – Recite it in front of your class at the class heats on Monday 25th September
 - Launch pad 2 – Be selected for the poetry final
 - Launch pad 1 – If chosen – you will perform your poem at the Poetry Final on Friday 6th October.
- Blast Off!**

Class poems are on Tapestry



September Success

We are so proud of our Year 5 pupil, Seth, who has initiated his own fundraising month to raise money for his local food bank when he heard they were low on stock. He's walking 10,000 steps a day. The money he raises he will use to buy goods which will be donated locally to Fair Frome and Westbury Community Fridge food banks.

If you would like to sponsor Seth, please email his mum Denise, who will share his Go Fund Me page with you. denise.woods@boxfreedom.co.uk

He has already walked 162,472 steps which is approximately 62.5 miles. His family have been part of his challenge too and altogether have walked over 220 miles. Wow!



SHOW CASE AUDITIONS



Showcase auditions are coming up. Children will have been rehearsing acts over the summer. They have until Tuesday 19th September to be polishing these up, ready for their audition at Beckington Memorial Hall in front of the school and 'judges'.

For those new to the school, Springmead Showcase is a real highlight for us, performed at the Warminster Athenaeum on Friday 3rd November, please keep your diaries free for this wonderful annual celebration of our children's performance endeavours.

If you have any queries please do contact Charlotte Munckton at cmunckton@springmead.com



A blue banner for Wiltshire Air Ambulance. On the left is a yellow and green helicopter. In the center is the Wiltshire Air Ambulance logo, which consists of three white curved lines forming a circle around a central point, with the text 'Wiltshire Air Ambulance' and 'funded by you, flying for you' below it. To the right of the logo is a QR code. Further right, the text 'Wiltshire Air Ambulance will be visiting to deliver Emergency Awareness Training soon' is written in white. Below this, in large yellow text, is 'Text EAT to 70460 to donate £5'. At the bottom of the banner, in small white text, it says 'Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message'.

Emergency Awareness Training from Wiltshire Air Ambulance

We are pleased to announce **that next week** we have invited [Wiltshire Air Ambulance](#) to come into school over **2 days to deliver Emergency Awareness Training** in each class. The course content is dependent on age, and can include the following elements: - How to make a 999 call - Recovery position - CPR - Choking - Bleeding - How to use a defibrillator. Each session will last between 30 and 90 minutes dependant on age group and content to be delivered, and will be carried out during school hours. **Each child will receive a certificate to come home with.**

We know the **incredible job** that the Air Ambulance services does for our community. It costs £4 million a year to keep the lifesaving service operational, which equates to around £11,000 per day. **The charity receives no regular direct funding from the Government or National Lottery grants**, so relies on the generous donations from the public and local businesses to raise the vital funds needed. **We would suggest a minimum donation of £2 for each child brought into school on Thursday morning or donated through their [website](#).**



Springmead School Association (SSA)

The role of the SSA committee is to **enhance the education of all pupils** at the School and Nursery by providing extra amenities, which would not be catered for within the normal school funding. In addition, the committee aims to **provide opportunities for parents, pupils, staff and friends of the school to meet and socialise**. This is achieved, through **running a small number of events** throughout the year.

The group has been **extremely effective and we would like to thank them** for their individual and collective efforts over the last academic year.

We are now **inviting parents from across all year groups** to join the SSA Committee for this academic year. The group will meet just three times this year, to decide how money raised is spent and to plan a few key events, so it really will not be too onerous. Ideally, **we would like a parent representative from each year group** although we can be a little flexible! Current committee members are more than welcome to stand again.

The Springmead School Association (SSA) comprises a voluntary group of parents and school staff. The committee consists of:

- the Headteacher
- the Deputy Headteacher
- teaching and non-teaching staff members
- parent members

Our first Meeting is on Wednesday 27th September at 8.30am, in school

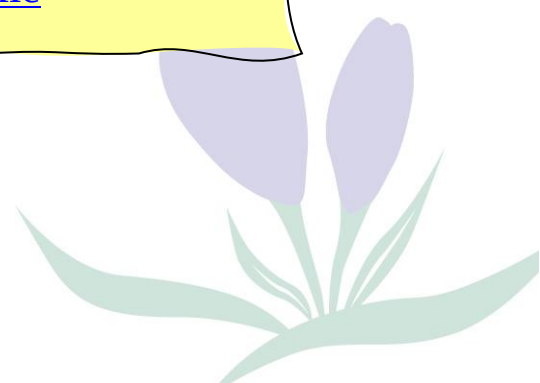
Please email me to let me know if can join us at scox@springmead.com

Maggs Family News

The Maggs family, along with the Harmony at Home team, are completing a 4 mile sponsored charity walk tomorrow, **Saturday 16th September**, for the [Kings College Hospital Charity 'Transforming Liver Care Appeal'](#). This appeal means a lot to them as a family.

Any sponsorship they could raise would be enormously appreciated, although certainly not expected.

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/harmonyathome>



PERFORMING ARTS

We had some huge successes in our performing arts department last term. We are very proud of all our entrants which illustrates the talent and commitment of our pupils.

Evie - Grade 2 Acting (Distinction)

Mary - Entry Acting (Distinction)

Woody – Entry Acting (Distinction)

Rose - Entry Acting (Distinction)

Jess - Grade 1 Acting (Distinction)

Milo - Entry Acting (Merit)

Owen - Entry Acting Duo (Merit)

Polly - Entry Acting Duo (Distinction)

Lizzie - Verse and Prose Grade 1 (Distinction)

Katerina - Grade 1 Acting (Distinction)

Charlotte - Entry Acting (Distinction)

Elliott - Entry Acting (Distinction)

This term's highlights:

There will be ample opportunity for performance this term starting with our Showcase auditions next week. This will be quickly followed by our Poetry Competition, the Devizes Eisteddfod, our Showcase event, Nativities and Carol service. We are looking forward to sharing these with families over the coming weeks. These special events will showcase all the individual lessons, classwork, dance and clubs that occur through the weeks. This dedication to practicing, rehearsing, acquiring skills and team work builds confidence, grit and determination within our children. We are very proud of them all.

Hannah Drury



Sports News

This week we have welcomed our new PE coach, Miss Wells, who joins us from TLE sports coaching. She will be joining us on a Monday afternoon for year 3 and 4 PE and also for the KS2 after school club.

The Hedgehogs had their first PE lesson this week and what a joy it was to teach them. We played the jelly bean game and dishes and domes. Followed by some bean bag activities.

Year 3's had their first hockey experience. There were lots of apprehensive faces on Monday afternoon for the first 'grown up' PE lesson. The children were introduced to the basics of hockey; how to hold a stick, what parts of the stick you can/can't use etc and also how to pass and hit the ball.

In after school sports club we focused on throwing and catching a range of balls and beanbags. We talked about how to make it easier and harder in regards to distances and sizes of the balls and beanbags.

Autumn Term Fixtures

Monday 2nd October - Year 3 and 4 Rugby vs Warminster (away)

Tuesday 3rd October - Mendip Cross Country League - Millfield

Wednesday 11th October - Year 5 and 6 Girls Hockey & Boys football vs Warminster (away)

Monday 30th October - Year 3 and 4 Hockey vs Beckington (home)

Tuesday 7th November - Mendip Cross Country League - Shepton Mallet

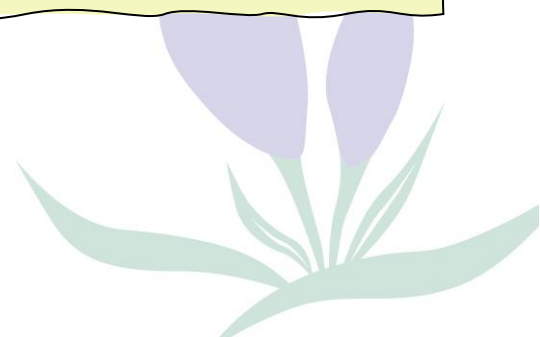
Wednesday 8th November - Year 5 and 6 Girls Hockey vs Heywood (away)

Monday 27th November - Year 3 and 4 Girls to Stonar - Triangular fixture with Heywood (away)

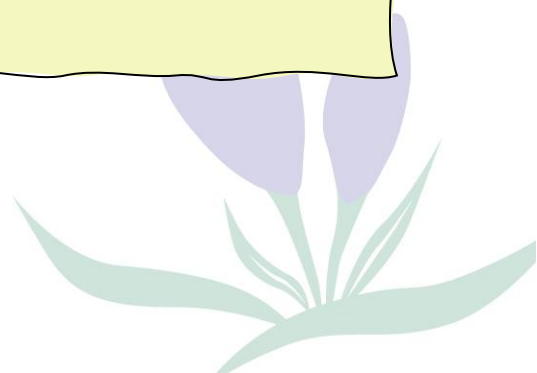
Wednesday 29th November - Year 5 and 6 Girls Hockey vs Stonar (away)

Monday 4th December - Year 3 and 4 Football vs Beckington (home)

Emma Lindley



Sport and PE



Swimming

Fun swim

Playing in the water is a fantastic way to build water confidence. It allows the children to choose their own activities and enjoy some social time with their friends. We quite often see some of our less confident swimmers attempting skills while playing that they have been reluctant to try during lessons.

As our last fun swim was cancelled last year unfortunately due to a lack of available lifeguards. We will be having a make up fun swim next week, as we have now got the swimming groups sorted out.

Super swimmer of the week: Zeph, for going out of his comfort zone and challenging himself.

If you would like to speak to a member of the swimming team, please feel free to call Sarah Cozens at school between 9:00am and 10:00am every Thursday, alternatively you can email her on scozens@springmead.com. For pastoral issues related to swimming, please speak to your class teacher directly.





**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

at Springmead School

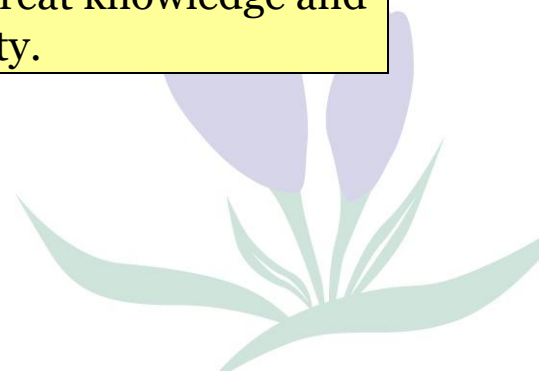
Everyone, children and parents, are invited to the playground from 8am on Friday 29th September to buy a cake and have a drink, please send in a donation (minimum £1.00 please) to raise money for this great cause!

Thank you

This event is arranged by Year 6



PRAISE CERTIFICATES The following children received praise certificates this week.	
DUCKLINGS (YN)	Asa, Otterlie, Margot and ZJ all received praises for settling in so well to nursery life. George and Jack for great counting in French. Keira for super singing in music.
HEDGEHOGS (YR)	Thea – Super number work. Excellent number recognition and writing numbers too!
RABBITS (Y1)	Bronte – For a fantastic first week. Flor – For wonderful manners. Margot – great understanding in maths.
OTTERS (Y2)	Will for a super painting of a Tudor house. Mathilde for a lovely painting of a fire using water colours. Otto for showing such kindness to his classmates. Milo for making a new classmate feel welcome.
BADGERS (Y3)	Molly for being on fire in maths with place value. Caleb for being so responsible with the class jobs. Holly for demonstrating resilience and settling in so smoothly.
SQUIRRELS (Y4)	Oliver for settling in so well to Springmead life. Matilda for settling in so well to Springmead life.
FOXES (Y5)	Kara – for a fantastic first week at Springmead. Aubrey - for a fantastic first week at Springmead.
OWLS (Y5)	Matilda, Ava and Violet- for a fantastic first week at Springmead! You have all settled in so well and it is so lovely to see your enthusiasm and positivity towards your learning.
EAGLES (Y6)	Delilah– gaining great confidence in her own ability during bikeability. Lily – super improvement in her bike riding skills. Billy Tisdale – demonstrating great knowledge and understanding during bikeability.



THE SPRINGMEAD READING AWARD

Please send a photograph of reading award sheets to Johanna Robinson
(jrobinson@springmead.com) by Wednesday each week, for inclusion in the
newsletter.



Emerald Ruby Sapphire Amethyst Diamond Copper Bronze Silver
Platinum Gold Gold Plus (over 100 books)

Emerald Alfred. M Corinne Scarlett Otto Milo	Ruby
Sapphire	Amethyst
Diamond	Copper
Bronze	Silver
Platinum	Gold
Gold Plus	



Class Highlights

DUCKLINGS

The Nursery class are so busy exploring all the different aspects of nursery life. Building routines and understanding of their environment enables them to make connections in their learning. The video of their first few days enabled parents to share in these moments too, and by watching them with the children gave shape to the stories that they talked of at home.

This week we have had a focus on autumn as we are beginning to see seasonal changes. We've had minibeast hunts and gatherings of autumn leaves to mix colours and hues. We will return to this theme over the next few weeks. These sessions support children to begin to be aware of the circle of life - birth, growth and decay. We give them important language and time to follow their developing interests, their own research, and mindful observations. As adults, working alongside the children, we listen to them, scaffold their understanding and vocabulary, posing questions to encourage deeper thinking skills and development of knowledge.

This week's films:

<https://youtu.be/wHLT-2x1MuQ>

https://youtu.be/DNnR_IdQMv0



SHIRLEY OFFER, NURSERY



HEDGEHOGS

We have been exploring 2D shapes this week. We have been busy using shapes to make pictures of our own and also used shapes to match a set picture too. We used our large magnetic shape to build houses to role play in and use our small magnetic shapes to build small world houses and our own worlds. We have been thinking about the correct mathematical language for shapes. For example we learnt that a diamond is actually called a rhombus and is a type of quadrilateral! It's important for children to use the correct language so they are familiar with the words and can bridge the gap with everyday language. Using the correct language allows children to engage with concepts and develop a deep understanding. Allowing the children to play and explore with resources in their own time, gives children the opportunity to show curiosity, to seek challenge and a 'can do' attitude as well as having lots of fun!

CHARLOTTE MUNCKTON, RECEPTION.



RABBITS

What a great week we have had. The Rabbits are getting used to their new classroom and new structure. They have learnt lots of new things, and started learning about where we live in Geography, old toys in History and animals in Science. We had a fantastic time learning about Picasso's abstract faces' and they had a go at drawing their own. They produced some fantastic pieces that are hanging up, pride of place, in our classroom. We loved our Go Explore and picked blackberries, yum!



JEMMA STICKLEY, YEAR 1

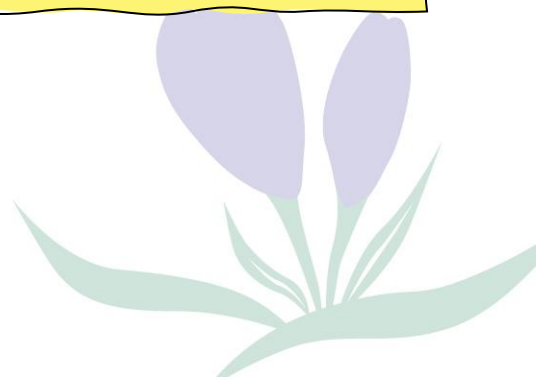
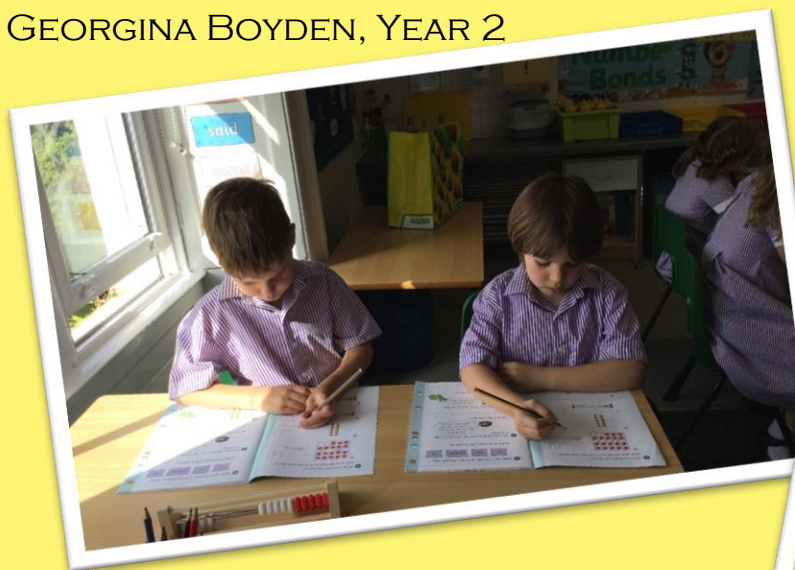


OTTERS

The children have continued to delve deep into the history of the Tudor streets of London during 1666. They have learnt more about how we know about the fire, what an eyewitness is and what is a good source of historical information. They were fascinated to learn about the diarist, Samuel Pepys, who buried his Parmesan cheese and wine in his garden to protect it from the fire and wrote in secret code. They painted some great pictures of Samuel Pepys too.

In SPaG, the class have been looking at vowels and consonants and in maths they have been working hard on writing numbers in words and partitioning numbers up to 100.

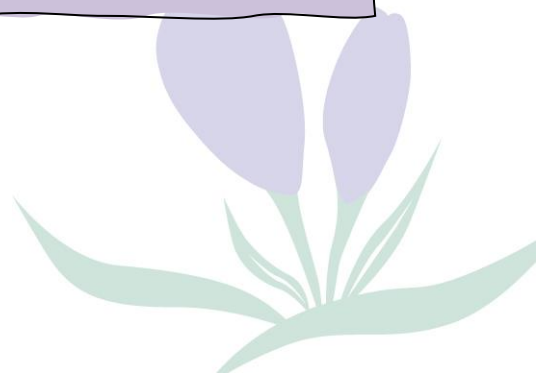
GEORGINA BOYDEN, YEAR 2



BADGERS

Launching into week two of the Autumn term, the Badgers are grasping every opportunity to learn, investigate and to think for themselves. The cogs have been whirring and thinking skills being brought to the fore, whether it be for an observational drawing of an osprey, a challenging maths calculation or how to identify a noun, verb, adverb or adjective. In History we are exploring the fascinating conundrum of what exactly is the difference between ancient and modern Britain? Who were those roving Romans? Why did they decide to leave the warm climes of Italy and head for the rather cold, rainy and tricky shores of Britain? More information to be revealed next week.

JANE DICKSON, YEAR 3



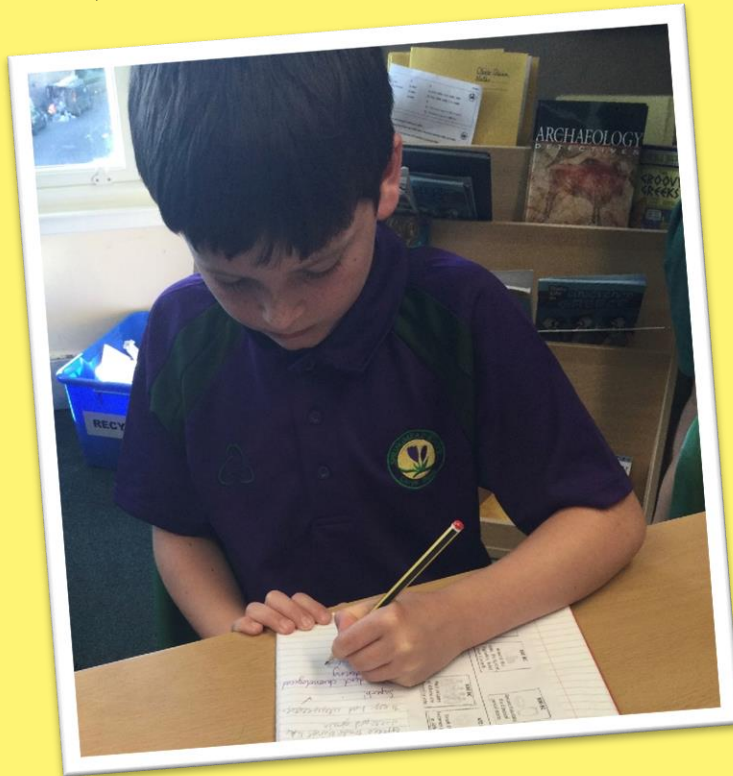
SQUIRRELS

The Squirrels have enjoyed their first lesson on the Ancient Greeks. We looked at where the ancient civilisation was located and that it was made of city-states. The children recognised that many of the states were located along the coastline, which made for great trading opportunities.

They placed some key events on a timeline, ensuring they were in chronological order.

Well done Year 4!

STACEY WATSON, YEAR 4



OWLS

Well done for another fantastic week Owls. We started this week by looking at the women behind America's first ever expedition to the moon. As part of this discussion, we looked at the book 'Hidden Figures' and had an interesting discussion about why the book might be called this. This linked wonderfully to our Be Yourself topic in PSHE which has led to many conversations about diversity and prejudice. We talked about the importance of celebrating the differences between us and contemplated how boring things would be if we were all the same. Another highlight of this week was Wednesday's Party in the Park. It was fantastic to see all the children having fun with their friends, enjoying the delicious barbecue, tumbling down the inflatable slide and trying out their netball and welly throwing skills. Enjoy a restful weekend wonderful Owls, you've earned it!

LYDIA ADAMS, YEAR 5



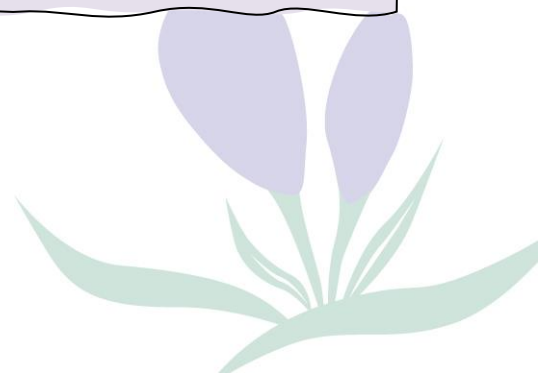
FOXES

Foxes have had another jam-packed week, cheerfully completing all their assessments, embarking on this half term's science topic, Space, and launching into our new class novel, *Front Desk*, by Kelly Yang. They spent a long time studying the book's front cover and blurb, making observations, predictions and asking lots of questions they'd like answered. It's amazing how much you can discover before you even open a book!

Our PSHE session led to some thought-provoking drama deepening their understanding of good and not so good feelings and how to explain the intensity of their feelings to others. They are proving to be a thoughtful and mature group of individuals.



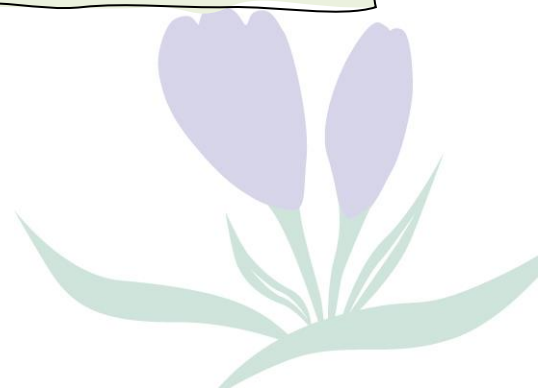
JACQUELINE BEARDSLEY, YEAR 5



EAGLES

The Eagles have ventured outside of the classroom this week for the annual Bikeability training. After spending Wednesday morning in the playground developing and demonstrating their bicycle control skills, we have been all over the village learning about road safety and the skills to make us competent road users. The Eagles did a fantastic job of listening and learning, and now have the knowledge, ability and confidence to get out on the road cycling.

NICK MUNCKTON, YEAR 6





OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Ava, in Year 5, was awarded a gold and 2 bronzes at the Warminster Swimming Club Championship Awards. She also received the Head Coach's special award for 2023 for her technique and range of skills. Great news, Ava.

Rose, in Year 5, was successful in securing an ensemble part in Merlin Theatre Production's upcoming Christmas show 'Elf'. Over the summer she achieved a Distinction in Entry Level 3 (Debut) Ukulele and Distinction in Entry Acting. Amazing, well done, Rose.

Do please share your child's out of school news and successes with us so we can celebrate. Do also remind us if we ever forget- it happens! Please email details to and scox@springmead.com

Sally Cox
Headteacher

