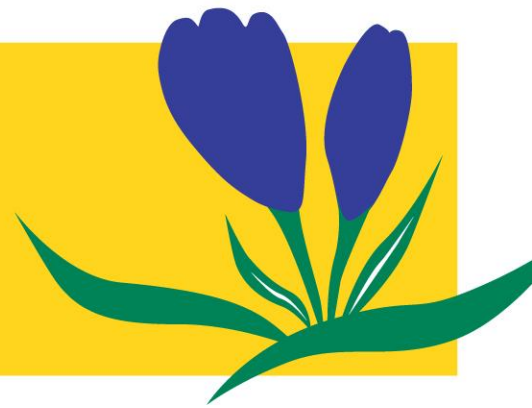


Springmead Newsletter

No. 3 ~ 2023/24



Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents,

Over the last few weeks the teachers have been busy getting to know their new classes - we have had academic meetings for key stage teachers, our academic lead teachers have met each week and Caroline Miller and myself have discussed the learning profile of each child with their teachers. This September, for the first time, children have completed GL assessments from Year 1 upwards to create a baseline to measure children's standing in Maths, English and Science. These will be repeated next May to measure progress over the year. We will be looking closely at these assessment results when they arrive to discuss strategies to ensure that each child receives the right amount of challenge and support in the classroom and beyond so that their learning is extended.

In the next couple of weeks, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher. We value this meeting, early in the academic year, as it helps develop a strong partnership between home and the class teacher, I hope you will be able to make the appointment.

Sally Cox

Diary Dates at a glance

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 at 2.15pm.

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.



Communication

If you are collecting your child during the school day, please copy the office into your communication to the class teacher to inform them of this arrangement, so that the office is aware, this will speed up the collection process. Many thanks.



School Photographs

Friday 6th October

David Wiltshire photography will be in school on Friday morning taking individual photographs. If you have a nursery child who isn't usually in on that day, and you would like them photographed please speak to Shirley Offer to organise timings.

HARVEST

Our Harvest Day is on **Friday 13th October**, the last day of this half term. We have organised a foodbank collection in the morning followed by a church service in the afternoon. The Nursery will be performing their song and will be part of the service. Out of consideration for our young performers, we would ask adults bringing toddlers and babies to stay at the back of the church in order to be able to take them outside very promptly should they become restless during the service.

Mercy in Action

Helping those in need

Mercy in Action are supporting people struggling to make ends meet in Bath who are in urgent need of help. We are asking all families, for our Harvest Offering, to fill a carrier bag with longlife milk, couscous, chickpeas, jam, honey, dried fruit, bulgar wheat and sardines in oil. Other larger items needed are toiletries, loo rolls and nappies. Many, many thanks for your help.

Bring your bag into school on **Friday 13th October**, from 8.00-8.30 to Castle Corner, outside the school building to the Mercy in Action van.

HARVEST Service

Friday 13th October
2.15pm

Parents are invited to join Nursery to Year 6 at their Harvest Service at St George's Church, Beckington. Please park on Frome Road with consideration, and walk to the church. Children are free to go home after the service. No bags on this day, please. After school clubs will be running.

Springmead SSA Presents



Disco NIGHT

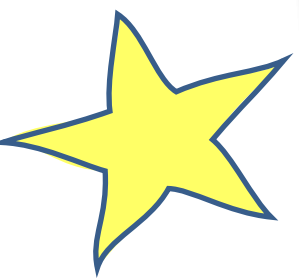
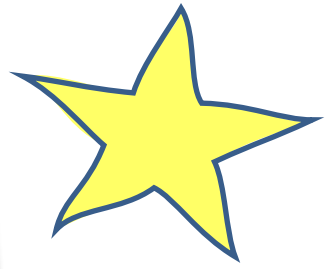
Wednesday 11th October

Two separate discos
(older and younger
children) plus quiet chill
out space available

Nursery to Year 6

5.30pm to 7pm | TICKET £6
[includes drinks and snack]

Discos by Carpe Diem Entertainment



Emergency Awareness Training from Wiltshire Air Ambulance

We were pleased to welcome Andrew from [Wiltshire Air Ambulance](#) to come into school this week to deliver **Emergency Awareness Training** in each class. The classes were inspired by his work and listened intently to the advice and guidance he gave them in how to manage emergency situations and basic first aid. Thank you also to parent, Benedict Doonan who came in to support Andrew.

Thank you for your generosity with donations. It was great to be able to support the incredible job that the Air Ambulance services does for our community. If you didn't manage to donate

by sending in money with your child. Here's a link to their [website](#) to make an online donation. **We raised £148 in cash donations but we are sure parents donated online too.**





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

Holiday Club bookings

Please book Holiday Club places before the end of next week so that we can open up bookings to children who are not at Springmead. Our own busy families always have preference for places.

Email Kim, in the office, to book. office@springmead.com



SHOWCASE AUDITIONS

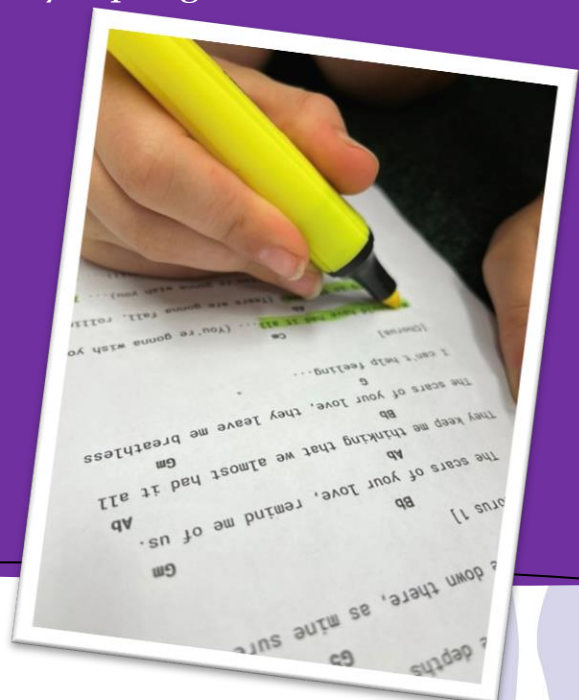
PERFORMING ARTS

Congratulations to all the wonderful pupils who put themselves out there and bravely auditioned this week for **Showcase**. It is a massive moment and everyone should be very proud of themselves. Mrs Drury, Mrs Munckton and Mrs Cox had a lovely time listening to everyone sharing their talents and the audience had a fabulous time too, thank you everyone. Before announcing our line-up this year we have asked a few acts to make a few changes and will announce the final line up in next week's newsletter.

Rock School is one of two music extension clubs which we run at Springmead, with the aim of offering our most talented musicians an outlet for their musical creativity and talent. We are so excited to be working in collaboration with Luke Potashnik and his marvellous recording studio again this term and are so grateful for this opportunity. Limited to just 12 places, Rock School membership is always in high demand, they will be performing in the Showcase and will also compete in the Deizes Eisteddod this year which will offer the children another new, exciting and unique chance to be seen and heard, performing the piece they have collaboratively arranged in their sessions.

We would love to put together a fun, impromptu Parent and Teacher singing performance group for Showcase. We would need 4 rehearsal dates to make this work - 2 before half term and 2 afterwards before the night itself which is Friday 3rd November. Not much time we know, but we have lots of enthusiasm! Email me to let me know you are interested at hdrury@springmead.com.

Hannah Drury



Sports News

Gymnastics club – Over the last couple of weeks our lunchtime gymnasts have explored lots of equipment and built on their climbing and rolling skills. Last week we used the equipment. The children used the slide and also developed their swinging and climbing. This week the children practiced rolling; Forward rolls, log rolls and cartwheels were on the agenda!

In after school sports club, we explored the archery equipment. The children practiced their aiming skills at the target and then worked in pairs to complete a timed competition. On the reserve side of the target is a circle with different numbered puzzle pieces the team that had the most points in 10 minutes were the winners! In sports lessons, hockey continues with children learning skills to gain control of the ball and hockey sticks.



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

Swimming

Working to be an all-round swimmer.

At Springmead we use the water skills awards as our assessment tool. However, we also try to ensure that all our pupils are confident able swimmers by the time they complete year 6. The minimum standard expected in the curriculum is to complete 25m unaided, and we have always surpassed this.

We include several skills such as floating, sculling, jumping in and even diving. Plus, work on all 4 strokes and learn the basics of tumble turns in our higher groups. This enables children to feel confident and safe in the water and in many cases provides the steppingstone needed to go into competitive club swimming. This is something we are very proud of and love to hear about the successes of our swimmers outside of school. We have had children go on to compete at local, county, regional and even national level in the past.

If you would like any further information about how to get into club swimming, please contact me at scozens@springmead.com.

Super swimmer of the week: Ada Ruggiero-Jansch for showing fantastic improvement on her strokes and demonstrating enthusiasm to continue her progress.

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.

Sarah Cozens





**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

at Springmead School

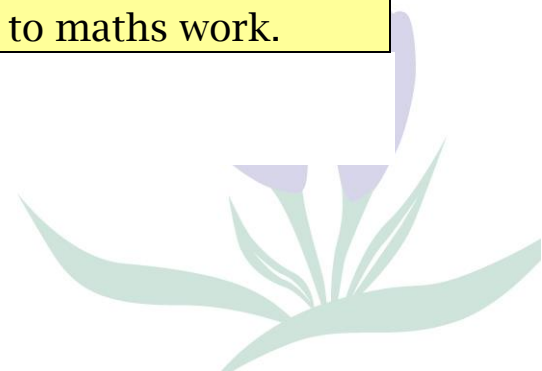
Everyone, children and parents, are invited to the playground from 8am on Friday 29th September to buy a cake and have a drink, please send in a donation (minimum £1.00 please) to raise money for this great cause!

Thank you

This event is arranged by Year 6



PRAISE CERTIFICATES The following children received praise certificates this week.	
DUCKLINGS (YN)	India for helping to settle our new Ducklings in. Esraa for great contribution at carpet time. Ben for sitting beautifully at carpet time.
HEDGEHOGS (YR)	Florence for fantastic French! Super counting in French.
RABBITS (Y1)	Cora for great work in maths with place value to 10. Arlo for using his phonics in his writing. Ada for fabulous reading.
OTTERS (Y2)	Harrison for great work in maths on partitioning numbers. Zeph for settling into Springmead so well and super work in science on plants!
BADGERS (Y3)	Lizzy for excellent participation in all class discussions. Charlotte for dynamic detective work in comprehension.
SQUIRRELS (Y4)	Elliott for such detailed and descriptive sentences about ancient Athens. Angelo for always producing such neatly presented work. Florence for her beautifully annotated Greek vase design.
FOXES (Y5)	Ellie for showing determination to succeed in all her work. Harriet for demonstrating how to treat others as she would like to be treated.
OWLS (Y5)	Rose for being such a warm and friendly presence in the classroom. Isaac for his enthusiasm and resilience with his learning.
EAGLES (Y6)	Elliott for taking superbly detailed notes during our bushcraft session. Bea for a great start to fire craft skills at bushcraft. Poppy for her positive approach to maths work.



Summer Reading Challenge results

Class	Name
Rabbits	Alfred, Jasper, Cora, Arlo, Ada, Corinne, Izzy, Harry and Inés.
Otters	Mathilde, Zeph, Otto, Milo and Will.
Badgers	Darcey, Beau, Mary and Caleb
Squirrels	Woody, Ida Mae, Tristan, James, William, Oliver, Alexander, Elliott, Matilda, Polly, Owen, Angelo, Freya and Florence.
Owls / Foxes	Mabel, Reuben, Ava, Scarlett, Ellie, Harriet, Seth, Isaac and Rose.
Eagles	Lily, Poppy, Elliott, Rafe and Alfred.

Well done to all our super readers who completed our summer challenge!

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	Violet Florence.C Ava. C Ines Mathilde	Ruby Corinne
Sapphire		Amethyst
Diamond		Copper
Bronze		Silver
Platinum		Gold
Gold Plus		



Class Highlights

DUCKLINGS

Betty and Ernie the rabbits came into school for the first time this term and were very well received by the class. We had waited for a few weeks, until the nursery was calm and serene for Betty and Ernie to feel at ease in their new surroundings. The nursery children loved watching them, petting, feeding and learning all about rabbits with rabbit books, stories and facts. Betty and Ernie will come into school on different days each week, so they get to see and know all the children in the Nursery class.

Last week we were enjoying the sunshine, so storytelling moved outside as we created our own Stickmen to act out the story. This week's story is all about Going on a Bear Hunt. We've set up a small world area in the classroom. It has inspired lots of story language and interactions. We visited the castle across the road too, on Wednesday, as conker inspectors to check on the progress of the horse chestnut tree. We are pleased to report conkers are growing, some are white still in their cases, and there are some on the ground but plenty on the tree. They are quite small but we have high hopes of larger brown conkers being produced and dropped to the ground over the next few weeks. We will visit the tree each week to report on its progress. We sheltered under the tree in a downpour and talked with the children about how the tree's canopy stopped the rain.

This week's films:

<https://youtu.be/dFuvfl7-NUw?si=nZhggNpLnu2IGeZh>

https://youtu.be/Dy4px07w5qY?si=SL_wJfwR_69i7GlG

<https://youtu.be/qsTJqgXP1xO?si=N9kUsqSRkd6hH8ej>

SHIRLEY OFFER, NURSERY



HEDGEHOGS

This week we went out on our first Go Explore session. Unfortunately, it was Wednesday which was very rainy! But we didn't let it spoil our fun and we managed to find a dry-ish window in the morning to go out head out. The children had a wonderful time. We had lots of great opportunities to work on our movement skills, walking, climbing, jumping etc. We worked hard on our listening skills and understood the importance of safety when we were out and about. We used the story of The Tale of Peter Rabbit to inspire some blackberry picking...although our haul wasn't very large! We had fun in the stream and climbed trees. It was a wizard adventure!

CHARLOTTE MUNCKTON, RECEPTION.



RABBITS

We have had another great week in Rabbits. It was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves at Party in the Park and to talk to some of you. The Rabbits are continuing to paint their self-portraits which will go on our wall in pride of place. They really enjoyed watching the showcase auditions and how brave some of them were - so incredibly to get up in front of the school and perform. We were also lucky enough to have a very interesting visit from the air ambulance. Well done, Rabbits.



JEMMA STICKLEY, YEAR 1



OTTERS

This week Year 2 spent time imagining what it would be like to be a newspaper reporter in 1666. They looked at a copy of The London Gazette that came out on the September 10th, 1666, and discussed how the Great Fire was reported at the time. They wrote their own newspaper reports and enjoyed soaking them in tea to age the paper.

They made some great pictures of London burning by blending pastels as the blazing background and cut out silhouettes of buildings.

They also looked at a map of London that pre-dated 1666 and they worked out where the fire spread to on which days.

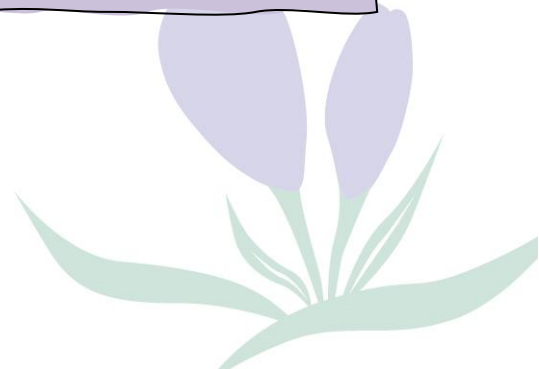
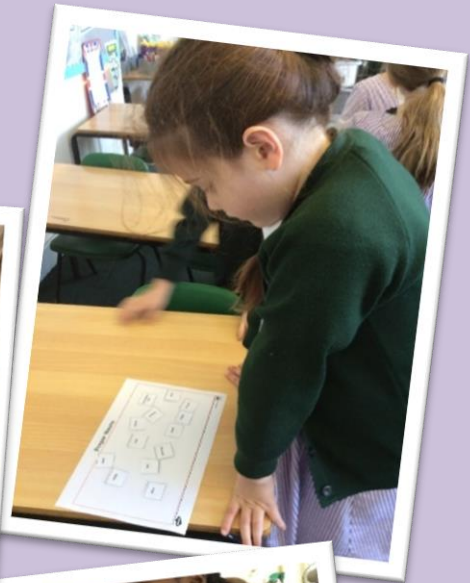
GEORGINA BOYDEN, YEAR 2



BADGERS

Who knew that there were so many different nouns! Each Badger was given a selection of nouns which needed to be sorted into the different classifications. They made a fine job of working together, discussing reasons why which word should be placed in which group and getting those cogs whirring. All this teamwork was not dissimilar to the workings of the Roman Army, about which the Badgers found out more this week. Having learnt about eagles, with the class poem, it was a handy link that the Romans used an eagle as their symbol. It was an important part of the design, together with a thunderbolt (see poem) which symbolises Jupiter, the king of the Roman gods and not to mention the red colour for Mars, the god of war. The Badgers have been busy investigating and preparing their own shield designs. Fantastic research and learning, Badgers.

JANE DICKSON, YEAR 3



SQUIRRELS

Last Friday, the Squirrels tackled their award walk. 10km stood between us and school... A misty autumnal morning greeted us as we met at Great Elm church. We stocked up on food and supplies and headed off into the countryside. It was such a lovely opportunity to get to know the children in a different setting! We trundled down country lanes, through dewy fields, saw glistening cobwebs, young cows grazing, played in the park, walked calmly and quietly through the golf course, munched through our supplies, clambered over a bridge and through a field full of sheep, and finally arrived at school.

What an amazing feat Year 4... Miss Robinson and I are so proud of you!

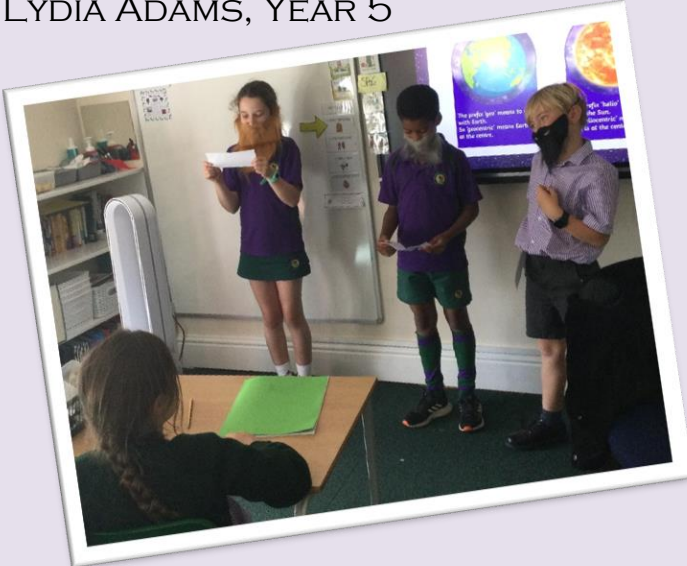


STACEY WATSON, YEAR 4



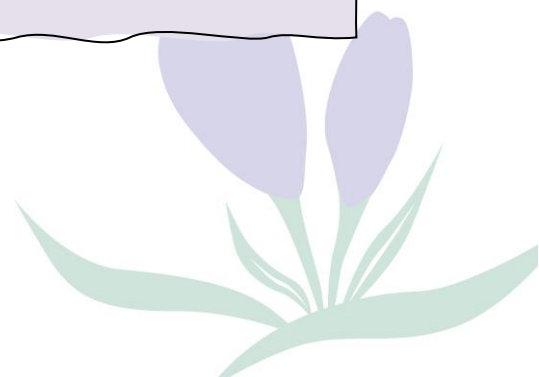
OWLS

LYDIA ADAMS, YEAR 5



This week in Owls we have continued to explore themes such as diversity and inclusivity through our English and PSHE lessons. In English, the children had the opportunity to write a character profile for one of the four women behind NASA's first expedition into space. As part of the planning for this, we discussed what makes a good role model. This linked well to our lesson in PSHE this week where we explored positive and negative influences and the importance of standing up for our own thoughts, opinions and beliefs.

Another exciting event this week was when we were visited by Aristotle, Copernicus and Galileo! They dropped by to tell us all about the geocentric and heliocentric theories of the solar system. This was a great way for the children to see how scientific theories develop and change over time as new evidence is discovered. We also looked at ordering, comparing and rounding numbers in Maths this week, which brings us to the end of our unit on Place Value. Next week we will begin our new unit all about Addition and Subtraction!



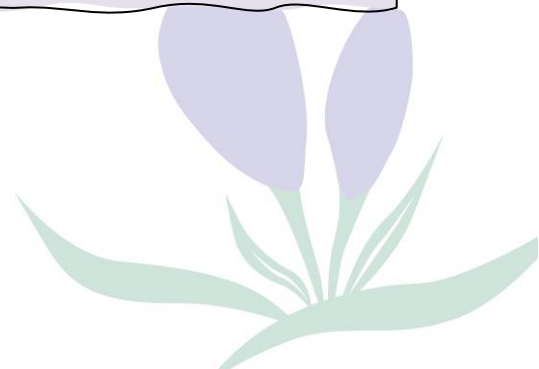
FOXES

Foxes have continued apace with the class reader, considering some big questions like 'is it ever appropriate to lie?' and 'what is the definition of successful?' As a class they are proving to be confident, to make bold statements and support them with lots of evidence.

We have all been very excited about selecting Golden Time equipment for the new class, and they have loved being able to influence the choices we make. Thanks to the SSA, there has been plenty of fun playing with the new building bricks in wet playtimes this week.



JACQUELINE BEARDSLEY, YEAR 5



EAGLES

The Eagles enjoyed their first bushcraft session on Wednesday. Despite the wet conditions the class had a fantastic time with Mr and Mrs Hotson who introduced them to the concept of bushcraft and what the curriculum would hold before an introduction to knife craft – creating a tent peg, and fire craft – using a fire-steel to light a birch bark tinder. Our new ambassadors made a super start, particularly with the fire craft as we have never had so many successful ignitions on a first day - long may it continue!

NICK MUNCKTON



Maggs Family News



The Maggs family, along with the Harmony at Home team, completed a 4 mile sponsored charity walk last weekend 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>

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to our pupils **Bea and Angus**. They both competed in the **Frome Boulder Rooms climbing competition** where **Bea won the girls competition** and **Angus came 7th** in the boys. Angus came 3rd in the 'longest hang' competition with an impressive time of 6 minutes and 4 seconds.

Lizzie Cochrane took part at the **Liberty Gymnastics Club Championships** on Sunday and came first of her group, well done Lizzie!

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



Forfar
EDUCATION

