

Springmead Newsletter

No. 5 ~ 2023/24



Friday 6th October, 2023

Dear Parents,

Our Harvest Festival is a cherished tradition at Springmead, and over the years has taken different forms – supplying food to our local sheltered housing, in the early days of Springmead, followed by Christmas shoeboxes sent to children in the Philippines. This annual event, taking place next week, not only celebrates the abundance of the harvest season but also instils essential values such as gratitude, compassion, and community involvement. At Springmead, our Harvest Festival goes beyond the customary celebration of fruits and vegetables; it embraces the spirit of giving by supporting our local foodbank, Action Pantry run by Mercy in Action, in Bath, this provides the perfect platform to collaborate with this local charity. This foodbank is a lifeline for many families who struggle with food insecurity. By partnering with them, we not only support their mission but also teach our pupils the value of empathy and giving back. The Mercy in Action van will be parked outside school, on Castle Corner, next Friday morning, ready to receive your donations. Please see details below.

In other news, we are delighted to announce that we are hoping to split the 2024 Year 5 class to create 2 smaller classes. We can see the benefit this is bringing to our current Year 5 children. More teacher time, more space, more individual attention for each child, meaning that they make the maximum progress over the two years in Years 5 & 6. This is dependent on our receiving a few more enrolments as children finish at their first schools in the local area. So if you know of any families that may be interested do please put them in touch. There will be a new classroom provided for the extra class.

Sally Cox



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Forfar
Part of the Forfar
Education Group

HARVEST

Our Harvest Festival Day is on **Friday 13th October**, the last day of this half term. We have organised a foodbank collection in the morning for [Mercy in Action](#) (MIA) a bath based charity, 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.

As many of you know we have been collecting shoes for MIA for some years - on Harvest Day we would like to ask families to bring in any good quality shoes (school or others) that we can add to the collection. They'll be passed on to children in desperate need via the Clothesline, a free resource organised by MIA for children to age 15 whose parents are in desperate need: refugees; single parents fleeing violence; GP, health visitor, social worker recommendations etc



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)

To book tickets, please email Kim in the
office. We will be offering
glo-facepaints to children. To opt out
please tell Kim when you book.

Discos by Carpe Diem Entertainment

PERFORMING ARTS

Those of you who have experienced working in a primary school, are likely to know that the National Curriculum for Music is somewhat short... In fact, the music curriculum is about 12 lines long, containing only three aims, and between four and six targets depending on the key stage. Here at Springmead, however, we pride ourselves on a more developed music curriculum which embodies all elements of music and offers experiences far beyond the expectations for primary aged children.

As well as developing a more detailed scheme for our pupils, this term I have introduced the Music Buzz Word in the classroom. The children are introduced to a new musical word each week, and their classroom music lessons focus on that area. Last week, our Buzz Word was Pulse; this week, Rhythm. The Buzz Word will often be one of the fundamental rudiments of Music, but could also encapsulate a Musical Style or Genre. This is a great way to introduce the children to musical language, and to embed it into their everyday listening. As we move through this scheme, we will share the Buzz Word on the newsletter so you can chat with your children at home about their understanding.

Rehearsal Dates for our parent and staff choir are as follows:

Monday 9th October - 8-9am

Thursday 12th October - 6.30-7.30pm

Wednesday 1st November - 8-9am

Thursday 2nd November - 5-6pm

We really hope you will be able to join us. Please contact Mrs Drury to register your interest in taking part. If you have any questions, and in the meantime, have a listen to Harry Styles 'Treat People with Kindness'...

For exciting Showcase news, please see below.

Hannah Drury



**SPRINGMEAD SCHOOL
PRESENTS.....**

SHOWCASE 2023

FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 7PM

TICKETS: £12 ADULTS/£8 CHILD

**ATHENAEUM THEATRE,
WARMINSTER**

How to order tickets:

Tickets are booked through the Athenaeum Theatre only. Please **check the line up list below to ensure you book tickets** if your child is in any of the acts – you won't want to miss seeing them!

Follow the link or scan the QR code to purchase tickets and use the code word provided to you, that was sent to you on the newsletter on Friday 6th October.

(1) ONLINE BOOKING, *a codeword will be required to purchase tickets and a small extra fee applies.*

(2) TELEPHONE BOOKING *is only available via Ticket Source 0333 666 3366 a small extra fee applies*

(3) BOOK IN PERSON AT THE BOX OFFICE *pay just the ticket price and no extra fees.*

Performers have seats allocated to them, there is no need to book separate tickets.

Athenaeum listing- please follow the link:

<https://www.theath.org.uk/event/springmead-school-showcase-2023/>





Showcase Line Up

Ada and Owen

Will

Darcey

Lizzie, Hannah, Holly, Maddie, Hebe and Charlotte

Ida-Mae

Florence M

Annie and Polly

Owen

Katerina

Scarlett

Rose

Mabel

Iggy

Yr 5 boys

Jessica

Poppy

Evie

Asher

Lily

Maria (Ex pupil)

Yr 4 Dance – Danceworks

KS1 Dance club

Musical Theatre Club

Choral Group

Pre Prep Choir

Prep Choir

Rock School

Poetry Winners

Community Choir

Guitar/Ukulele Ensemble

Sports News

Year 3 and 4 Fixture @ Warminster School – Boys – Tag Rugby and Girls Hockey

On Monday afternoon the year 3 and 4 children headed over the Warminster School for their first fixture of the year. Heywood School also joined us for the afternoon.

The girls headed to the Astro for hockey and the boys to the prep site for tag rugby.

The girls were split into mixed teams and were coached through a few games over the course of the afternoon.

The boys played tag rugby matches against Heywood and Warminster. I was blown away by their determination and teamwork during the matches. Lots of great dodging and passing displayed by all children. Well done, boys!

Fixtures

Please let me know via pedepartment@springmead.com if you wish to collect your child from a fixture.

Autumn Term Fixtures

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)





Swimming Update

Sculling

Sculling is an element of swimming that is used in several levels of learn to swim programmes. Sculling is used to help perfect the 'catch' part of the stroke for all 4 strokes. This is done by teaching the children to get a good feel and grip on the water as they progress through to the pull then push phases of the stroke. While learning, swimmers begin with a head first scull on their back, followed by feet first sculling on their back. The biggest mistake people tend to make is to simply push the water rather than hold and maintain the same effort going in and they did going out. The trick to mastering sculling is knowing the correct position of your hands. Whatever direction the back of your hand is facing is the direction your body will travel. So, if you point your fingertips down to complete the sculling action your feet will go forwards when on your back. If you point your fingertips upwards then your head will be moving forward in the water.

Super swimmer of the week: Kara for showing great progress on her front crawl breathing technique.

Sarah Cozens

Cross Country News

Cross country club have had a fantastic turn out for the start of the season. We particularly welcome the brilliant turn out from the year 3 children and we are very excited for our first fixture this week. It is lovely to see so many at the club, with many joining for fun and physical fitness and others wanting the more competitive side. Running is such a great sport for all and super for your mental health.

Our first fixture took us to Millfield where there was a record turn out with 31 schools competing and 450 children taking part! All the children ran especially well and everyone completed the course. Years 3 and 4 had to run a course approximately 1600m with the Years 5 and 6 children running approximately 2300m. The course took us across field, long grass and a woodland area with some difficult ground to contend with.

Special mention to Annie for putting in a fantastic run and coming home in 11th place out of 110 runners in the Years 3 and 4 girls race. Full results will go up on the playground board so keep an eye out on your position!

Congratulations everyone, Miss Heard and I were super proud of all your efforts.



Cross Country News



Cross Country News



Charlotte Munckton

PRAISE CERTIFICATES

The following children received praise certificates this week.

DUCKLINGS (YN)	India: for setting a brilliant example to the younger Nursery children. Josie: for such excellent table manners and being so polite. Rafferty: for wonderful story telling skills and willingness to help.
HEDGEHOGS (YR)	Edith - Super reading skills - working really hard on your blending skills. Ted Super work on your writing - working hard on your letter formation.
RABBITS (Y1)	Corinne - great understanding of adding. Izzy - for being kind and helpful. Barnaby - fantastic reading.
OTTERS (Y2)	Zeph for a fantastic drawing of St Paul's Cathedral. Arthur for working very hard at using his knowledge of phonics to decode longer word. Bobby for a super discussion about what he likes about living in Great Britain.
BADGERS (Y3)	The Badgers for demonstrating resilience on the Award Walk. Beau for magnificent rousing speech as Boudicca. Maddie for finding her resilience on the Award walk. Hannah for doing your best to be your best self.
SQUIRRELS (Y4)	Alexander for great focus and determination in Art. Annie for always contributing her ideas and thoughts. Ida for her focus and perseverance in Maths. Jack for using inference to answer comprehension questions.
FOXES (Y5)	Reuben - for showing perseverance with editing, re-editing, and re-editing again. Angus - for super speedy work with mental Maths.
OWLS (Y5)	Mabel- for her wonderful enthusiasm in English lessons. Rufus- being an engaged and enthusiastic participant in class discussions.
EAGLES (Y6)	Lucy - super safe knife skills. Merle - demonstrating good division skills in Maths. Alfred - great effort refining his swimming strokes. Ava - her creative OS map work in geography.

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 Izzy Flor Thea Elliott Cora	Inès Mary Matilda	Ruby Alfred
Sapphire Corinne		Amethyst
Diamond		Copper
Bronze Platinum		Silver Gold
Gold Plus		

Class Highlights

DUCKLINGS

In the nursery we spend considerable time exploring our surroundings. Through our fortunate location we can access lanes, ponds, a garden, dens, and fields to roam and explore. We revisited the beautiful conker tree on Thursday, at the castle, to see if the conkers had fallen and were delighted to find hundreds to fill our basket. We made a conker machine, of course. We have been talking about autumn planting and plan to plant some conkers so that we can observe the changes that will occur before the children's eyes. We may need to be patient, as they take a long time to germinate! This week's films.

<https://youtu.be/IBCWCvSFNO4>

<https://youtu.be/3JWNMO398EO>

<https://youtu.be/4FFRT7HK9YE>

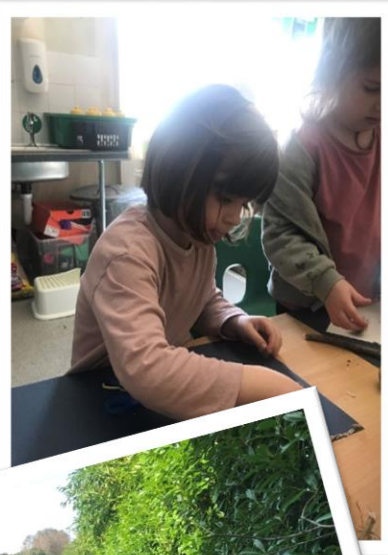
SHIRLEY OFFER



HEDGEHOGS

One of the themes for this year's Black History month is: 'Saluting Our Sisters' so the Hedgehogs have been looking at the artist Lubaina Himid. She is a wonderful artist who uses paintings and sculptures to tell stories of people around the world and events in history. We learnt lots of facts about her, including that she has won the very prestigious Turner Prize. We loved all the bright colours she uses and how she uses nature and objects to add to her art work. When we were out on Go Explore we went on a lovely autumnal adventure around Beckington and collected autumn objects to inspire some art work of our own. We used the natural objects back at school to create some art inspired by Lubaina. We used natural objects mixed with paper and card and pens. We also created sculptures using our construction bricks, we had to try and follow the examples, looking carefully at the different shapes they had used.

CHARLOTTE MUNCKTON, RECEPTION.



RABBITS

Another busy week in the burrow. The children have really enjoyed learning greater than, less than and equal to in maths, and have a great understanding of correctly adding symbols in the middle of numbers or objects and being able to interpret the symbols. They also had fun continuing their work on portraits by drawing each other in which they did a fantastic job. We are continuing to learn Makaton. The children can now do everyone's names, the alphabet, counting, days of the week, months of the year and more. Mrs Cox was very impressed when they taught her how to say good morning.



JEMMA STICKLEY, YEAR 1

OTTERS

In Otters this week, we have focused on learning about the Windrush generation, as part of Black History Month. It was 75 years ago when the HMT Empire Windrush left the sunny Caribbean shores of Jamaica and arrived in Tilbury Docks, East London. The class looked at the history of the Commonwealth and the reasons why thousands of people left their homes to live in England. They watched footage of the boat docking and where new arrivals talked of their hopes for life in England. They loved the part where Aldwyn Roberts sang 'London is the Place for Me' as many of them recognised it from the Paddington film and it summed up the excitement they felt arriving here.

The class showed sympathy at the appalling treatment that people experienced after arriving here, such as not being allowed jobs or homes. They listened with sensitivity to Dame Floella Benjamin's story 'Coming to England' and discussed how hard it must have been for Floella and her family to have endured such awful racism.

Having fun in a lesson on phonics



Painting a watercolour picture
of Jamaica.

GEORGINA BOYDEN, YEAR 2

BADGERS

What a week for the Badgers! One minute everyone was leaping into action, following instructions and carefully positioning bodies in a comfortable recovery position and the next it was time to re-create the times and vibes from when the Romans invaded about 2,000 years ago. Both activities involved working together and finding solutions to problems. Getting into character as the infamous Boudicca and daughters, everyone worked in groups imagined what it would be like and how would they feel having a Roman Centurian delivering the news that all land and goods would be removed immediately. How rude! The intrepid actors gave sterling performances as they demonstrated angst, hurt and anger about their situation.

JANE DICKSON, YEAR 3



SQUIRRELS

This week in English, the Squirrels have been looking at the poem 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright. It is a magical poem full of senses and imagination. Their first task was to think carefully about their own senses and the experiences they have had or would like to have.

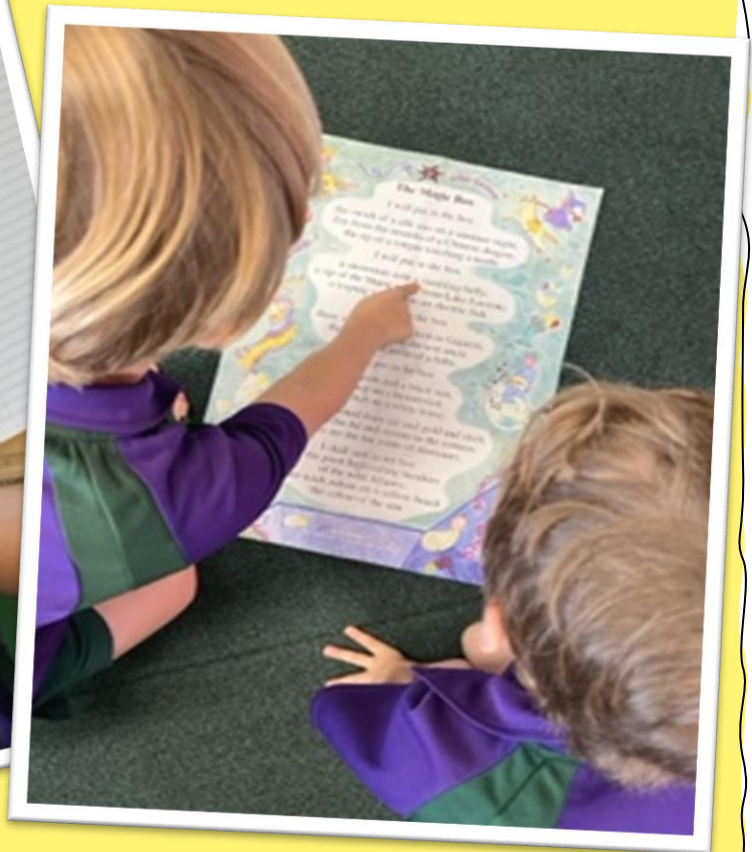
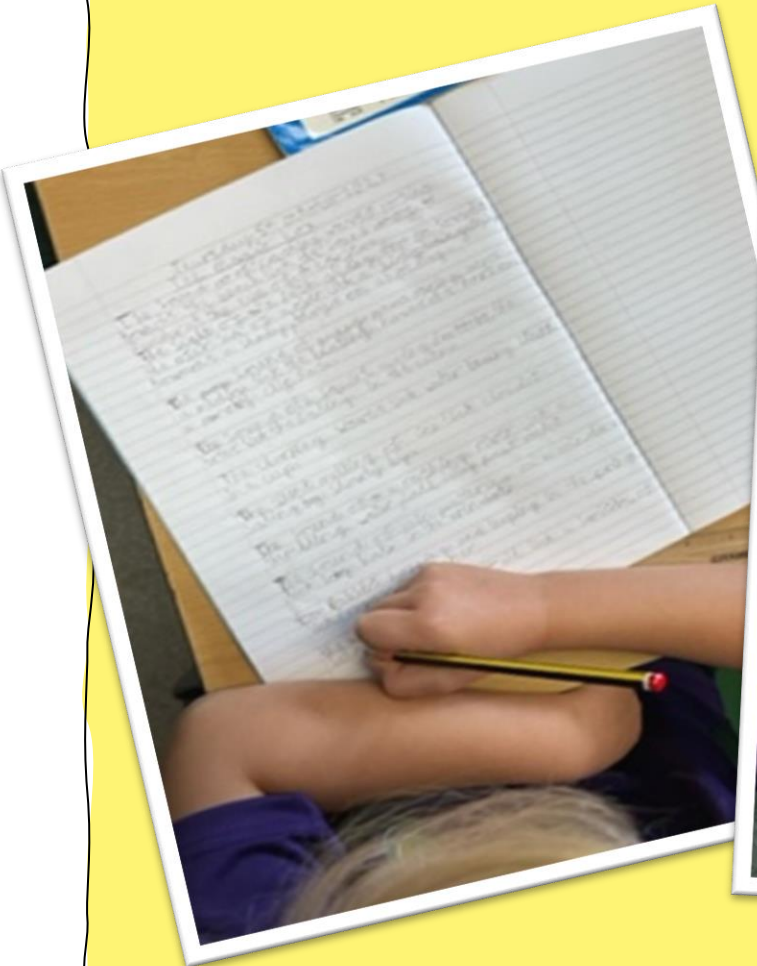
Together, we thought of examples such as: the smell of freshly baked cakes or the sight of a beautiful sunset.

After, we discussed how adjectives are used to add detail to a noun (person, place or thing) to make descriptions clear or more interesting. They help create an image in the mind of the reader. We thought about how we could use these within our writing too.

We are now learning to recognise and use other devices Kit Wright uses to get the attention of the reader, such as alliteration, onomatopoeia and similes.

The children came up with some brilliantly descriptive ideas, and I'm really looking forward to reading their finished poem.

Well done Year 4.



STACEY WATSON, YEAR 4

OWLS

In Art this week, we started thinking about Black History Month. We discussed a range of different significant black figures and their contributions to History and then each child chose one of these individuals to sketch. It was wonderful to hear how knowledgeable the children were about events such as the Montgomery bus boycott and Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream...' speech, and to then build on this learning by looking at some lesser known individuals, such as the four women we have been looking at in our class story.

Another highlight of this week was our DT morning at Warminster. The children began the morning using computer aided design to plan their shields, then got stuck into the workshop where they were able to bring those designs to life using a laser cutter to make the base and thermoplastics to make the boss. Overall a fantastic morning and the children all came back buzzing with excitement!

LYDIA ADAMS



FOXES

The Foxes had an amazing time on their DT morning at Warminster School. They experienced computer aided design and a laser cutter; recycled plastic by grinding it, melting it and using a mould to reform it; screwed a wooden handle to hold in the boss, and used paint pens to add to colour to the finished product. Our shields are all ready for any imminent foes, and we have lots of discussions about the processes to look forward to.

Lunch was one of the highlights; who knew there would be such choice at a secondary school, with a salad bar fit for anyone!



JACQUELINE BEARDSLEY

EAGLES

The Eagles had another great bushcraft session on Wednesday. Under the guidance and watchful eyes of Mr & Mrs Hotson, the children learnt about the theory of knife craft and about a range of different types of knives, alongside rules and restrictions. Before getting hands-on with the specially designed knives the children spent time reinforcing the safety rules and precautions, including how to pass a knife safely and 'elbows on knees'. We then undertook a series of practical tasks to develop our confidence and skill working with the Opinel knife.



NICK MUNCKTON

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Asher's parents, in Year 6, wanted us to share how proud they are that he has been selected as a top three finalist in his year to go through to the final of the school poetry competition today. He has been selected for the top three in every single poetry competition since Reception and he has so far come first in six of those finals.

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

ISA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION
Accredited Member