

# Springmead Newsletter

## No. 24 ~ 2023/24



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents,

With the wisteria bursting into bloom and the sun shining through showers, we welcomed excited children, clad in party wear and eagerly carrying food for their shared buffet, with the anticipation of the day and term ahead: the new term could not have got off to a better start. The Founders' Day Service, in St Georges' church, was lovely. We were treated to a Musical Theatre club flash mob, interrupting and mirroring my message of unity and acceptance, with a rendition of 'This is Me' from The Greatest Showman.



Madeleine Taylor, our specially invited founder of Springmead, and former Headteacher, shared a story of the importance of clear communication, kindness and ice cream. We sang our beautiful School Song and reflected with a prayer with another school founder, Madeleine's sister and current teacher, Jacqueline Beardsley.

The service was a poignant moment to reflect and say thank you for all we have at Springmead School and was followed by birthday cupcakes!

We have had great news about the School Biathlon National final during the Easter Holidays. We had 2 year 3 pupils competing at Bath University. There were some incredible athletes at the event and our girls did extremely well.

Both went faster in their swims and runs to get higher point scores than at the Regional event. Charlotte came 34<sup>th</sup> overall with a point score of 1904 (an improvement of 144 points) and Lizzie came 45<sup>th</sup> with a point score of 1658 (an improvement of 84 points).

This was an incredible achievement as the girls were racing the top competitors from all across Great Britain. Congratulations to both Lizzie and Charlotte! We are so proud of you.

*Sally Cox*



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**Forfar**  
Part of the Forfar  
Education Group

## Diary Dates at a glance

- Wed 24th April - SSA Meeting 8.30am  
Wed 24th April - Nursery Afternoon Tea - 2.45pm  
Mon 29th April - Year 3 & 4 Athletics  
Mon 6th May - Bank Holiday - School and Nursery Closed  
Wed 8th May - 10am to 12 noon - Open Morning for new parents  
Wed 22nd May - Tennis Afternoon - Year 5 & 6  
Thursday 23rd May - Careers Event - Year 6  
Fri 24th May - Last Day of Half Term  
Mon 27th May - Bank Holiday School and Nursery Closed  
Mon 3rd June - Whole School Photo  
Wed 5th June - Countrylore Bushcraft Camp  
Wed 5th June - Hoglets 1.45pm to 3pm.  
Mon 10th June - Rounders fixture - Years 3 & 4  
Wed 12th June - Hoglets - 1.45pm to 3pm.  
Wed 19th June - Yr 1 and 2 PE afternoon with Beckington  
Wed 19th June - Hoglets - 1.45pm to 3pm  
Mon 24th June Yr 3 and 4 Athletics event @ Stonar  
Thurs 27th June - Nursery Class Performance  
Fri 28th June Yr R Class performance  
Fri 5th July - Summer Art Exhibition and Official Art Studio opening  
Mon 8th July - Sports Day  
Monday 8th July - School trips week.

More details of these events are below or you will have been informed by your class teacher.  
Additional dates will be added in due course.

# Founders' Day



Please also check our online calendar [here](#)

# PERFORMING ARTS

**Music Buzz Word:** Genre - A word used to describe the style of the music. Over the coming weeks, we will explore different genres through our buzzwords.

It's been a great start to the term, with our Musical Theatre Club performing a surprise flashmob of This Is Me from The Greatest Showman at the Founders' Day Service on Tuesday morning. We took great pleasure in interrupting Mrs Cox's opening speech (very respectfully, obviously) with our impromptu performance. Well done to all those who took part, especially as it had been an entire month since they last rehearsed the song!

At the end of last term, Milo in Year 2 took Grade 1 Ukulele, and over the Easter break, we found out that he achieved a Merit in this exam. Well done Milo.

And last term, we entered three pupils into the ISA Musical Theatre competition. The children had to perform a piece to camera for adjudication, from which 10 finalists were selected to perform next month in Ascot. Unfortunately, our three entrants did not gain places in the final, but the feedback we received was excellent, and they each got a certificate of participation.

**Well done to Darcey, Rose and Mabel.**

*Hannah Drury*

**Congratulations to students who took a LAMDA exam in March.**

**Kara Grade 1 Distinction**

**Charlotte M verse and prose Grade 1 distinction**

**Jess H Grade 2 Merit**

**Lizzie Grade 1 distinction**

**Milo Grade 1 distinction**

**Evie PP Grade 3 distinction**

**Owen and Polly duo Grade 1 merit**

**Elliott B Grade 1 distinction**

**Ida Mae entry distinction**

**Jack T Grade 1 merit**

*Lou Cox*

## Charity Events this Term

**This** term, we will support Springmead's charity, Mercy in Action, a well deserving Bath based charity that has always had important links to the school. We have grown together in the work we do and it has been wonderful to witness the direct results of the money we have raised over the years. This money supports families in our local area through incredible local charitable enterprises such as [Action Pantry](#), [Clothesline](#) and [Petra](#) as well as supporting children overseas in the [Philippines](#) with housing and schooling. Each class will be planning charity events to raise money.

Supporting children in understanding their responsibilities as citizens in helping children less fortunate than themselves is important work for the future, promoting values of generosity and empathy towards others. Mercy in Action will be visiting the school next week to talk to the children about their work.

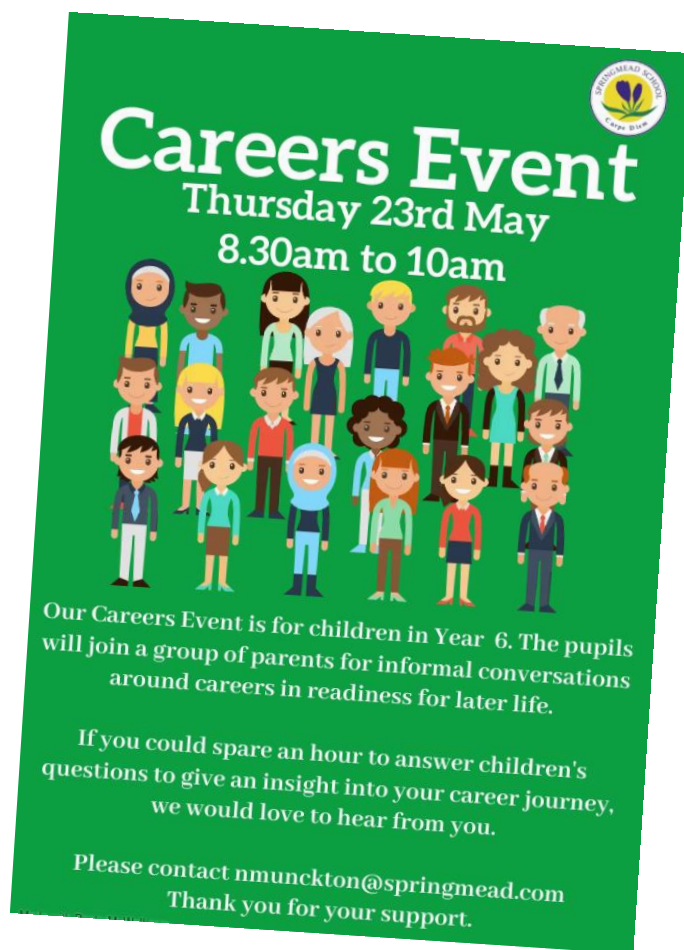
We look forward to hearing about their ideas to fundraise and efforts to raise the most money possible. We understand that it will family's pockets that we will be digging into, so thank you in advance for your generosity.

## School Uniform

It is now the summer term, believe it or not (!), summer uniform can be worn. It remains optional this half term but becomes compulsory next half term.

Tights should only be worn with winter uniform and not summer dresses. School shoes instead of trainers, please. Springmead summer hats are available to purchase at Scholars. Please name everything! See the [uniform list](#) for details.

Thank you for keeping our school smart.



## Google Reviews

Thank you to the parents who gave us some fantastic reviews. It is much appreciated. It is not too late, if you can find the time to support us - we would deeply appreciate it.

It shouldn't take long...

This link will take you straight to the correct place to leave a review:  
<https://g.page/r/CaM5JA4Pdc4gEBM/review>

Thank you for your support.

# Sports News

## Team Bath Netball Trip

We all had a fantastic evening watching Team Bath play Leeds during the Easter holidays. It was such a great opportunity for the children to watch live sport and so close up. The Team Bath girls gave it all they could but couldn't manage to come back from a ten point gap. The end score being... 51-67



## Summer PE at Springmead...

This is my favourite time of year for sport at Springmead. Lots of exciting team and individual sports are played. Rounders and Cricket, Athletics and Tennis.

Excitingly we are hosting our annual Wimbledon Day with Mandy (a coach from Writhlington Tennis Centre) delivering a session to every year group in the school. We are also holding a special Tennis afternoon for the year 5 and 6 children at Beckington Tennis Club.

There will be plenty of opportunities for rounders and cricket in PE lessons, clubs and fixtures.

And finally lots of throwing, jumping and running in preparation for Sports Day!!!

# Sports News

## Fixtures

Please let me know via [pedepartment@springmead.com](mailto:pedepartment@springmead.com) if you wish to collect your child from a fixture.

## Fixture List

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May - Year 1-6 Cricket Festival @ Frome Cricket Club

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May - Year 3/4 Athletics vs Beckington (home)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 5/6 Tennis afternoon @ Beckington Tennis Court

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June - Year 3/4 Rounders vs Beckington (home)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Year 1&2 Sports afternoon with Beckington children

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Year 3/4 Athletics event @ Stonar

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June Year 5/6 Cricket @ Warminster

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July - Sports Day

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Wimbledon Day



# 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)**

<b>Emerald</b> Thea Zeph Arlo Rose. W	Inès Angelo Edith Ruby	<b>Ruby</b> Hebe Mathilde .
<b>Sapphire</b> Milo Ida Freya. G Holly H		<b>Amethyst</b> Otto Charlotte Iggy Elliot. B Freya. S
<b>Diamond</b> Lily. H Izzy Cora		<b>Copper</b> Florence. M
<b>Bronze</b> Alfred. M Reuben		Lily. H Flor Matilda. B
<b>Platinum</b>		<b>Silver</b> Florence. C
<b>Gold Plus</b> Corinne		<b>Gold</b> Mary

# Class Highlights

## DUCKLINGS

Ahoy Matey! This week in Ducklings it has been all things Pirates in preparation for our Summer Performance. The children are very excited about the theme, they have been learning about how Pirates talk, what they wear and we have even come up with our own Pirate names for everyone.

The Ducklings had a wonderful Founders' day, they were beautifully behaved when they ventured up to the church with the rest of the school and then all tucked into a brilliant buffet. In the afternoon we went for a crocus hunt and painted the School flower in the garden in the sunshine. Thank you to everyone that provided a delicious plate.

MARIA KEATES



# HEDGEHOGS

The Hedgehogs were super excited to come back to class after the Easter break, who doesn't like a birthday party on the first day back? We had a great time at Founders' day celebrating the school and were especially excited to get birthday cake!

We settled into the rest of the week with our new Theme of Stories and Adventures and this week we looked at Jack and the Beanstalk. We discussed some different versions of the story and the Hedgehogs thought about whether they would climb a beanstalk if one grew outside the window! We produced some super creative writing and pictures to share our ideas.

We are consolidating all the phonic sounds we have learnt and putting them into practise, writing words and sentences, we have some really tricky sounds to contend with, and are feeling very grown up. In Maths we have been thinking about numbers to 20 and beyond. We have used lots of games and practical resources to explore the teens numbers which can be quite a tricky concept. We now know that all the teens numbers are made up of a 10 and another number. We loved playing number building games to create new numbers using the multilink cubes.

CHARLOTTE MUNCKTON



## RABBITS

It's fantastic to be back! I couldn't move on before mentioning the school trip to Winchester. It was truly a wonderful experience and the best way to finish our space topic.

It's been lovely to hear about everyone's adventures during the holiday, I can't quite believe we are now in our last term!

We have started our new theme of Myths and Legends which will hopefully bring as much fun as learning.

The children had a great Founders' day on the first day back with a lovely Church service followed by our special shared lunch and a party! Thank you so much for all the food that was brought in - it was all delicious.

JEMMA STICKLEY, YEAR 1



## OTTERS

What a wonderful week back at school we have had! The children loved the Founders' Day celebrations, particularly singing Happy Birthday to the school in the church and enjoying their buffet lunch.

They have begun their new topic on Holidays and loved telling one another which countries they have been to on holiday. They discussed how they travelled there and what has been their favourite holiday and why. They went on to research about where their dream holiday would be, and wrote about why they would like to go there, what landmarks are there, the food known to the country and what they would need to pack. The children had lots of exotic dream destinations such as Bora Bora, Bali, and the Maldives!

In SPaG the children have been busy learning about adverbs and in maths they have begun their next topic which is all about fractions.

GEORGINA BOYDEN, YEAR 2



## BADGERS

What a fabulous start to the Summer Term: as we all gathered in the class and church, shared a stupendous spread and ventured forth into exploring new topics.

The Romans began to use it, the Ancient Egyptians didn't, and we use it today. What could that be? In the words of the famous Abba song, 'Money, Money, Money'. The Badgers worked in teams to identify which coins are bronze, which are silver, which are a mixture and in which denominations do the notes come? Using top tips, each team added their money, and this was checked by the other team. The race was on to find how many ways there are of making a particular amount.

Already the Badgers have begun to discover the huge impact the Ancient Egyptians still have with us today, including creating paper, ink and writing, maths, geometry, architecture and medical science, amongst many other things. A brilliant first week back and so lovely to see everyone.

JANE DICKSON, YEAR 3



## Squirrels

It was so lovely to have the children back in school, they always bring a sense of liveliness and energy. On Tuesday morning we shared our Easter adventures, celebrated the school's 22nd birthday and discussed the last term ahead - we have a lot to look forward to.

In maths this week, we have been finding tenths as decimals, where the Squirrels have been dividing a whole into ten equal parts and representing one of those parts as 0.1

The year fours have made a brilliant start to the Summer term... here's to many more days filled with learning, laughter, and cherished moments!

STACEY WATSON, YEAR 4

## OWLS

Well done for a great first week back Owls! We had a great time getting stuck into our new topic, 'Wonderful World!'. The children created seascapes in Art, explored natural resources in Geography and pondered symbols of peace around the world in RE. We also had a wonderful time discovering more about our class text this term, 'Cloud Busting' by Malorie Blackman. This unique story is written entirely in verse, which has prompted many interesting discussions about how authors use different techniques to create the desired effect on the reader. We also put our growth mindsets to good use in Maths, as we not only delved into our new learning about shape, but also extended our thinking even further with some tricky problem-solving tasks! Well done Owls for all of your hard work this week, I hope you have a restful weekend.

LYDIA ADAMS





## FOXES

As always, the Foxes have hit the ground running this week, beginning with our Founders' Day and a thought provoking and fun service in church. The shared buffet was a huge hit with a fabulous array of food.

Much of the last few days has been about looking at new books. We had a delivery of books selected specifically for the class using funds raised by the Book Fair, a great mix of fiction and non-fiction; they are already being shared and passed around the children. Our half term challenge is to read a book by Michael Morpurgo and with over twenty of his novels in the classroom, there's plenty to pick from. We look forward to seeing the accompanying work adding to our display.

JACQUELINE BEARDSLEY



## EAGLES

The Eagles have had a great start to their final term at Springmead. They enjoyed a fantastic shared buffet on Founders' Day, sharing sausage rolls, sandwiches, pizza, scones, brownies and doughnuts.

Another bushcraft session with Mark and Lucy Hotson allowed the class to learn about the changing hedgerows and the plants that are springing into life at this time of year. They were also able to use some modern technology to recognise the song of different birds in the locality. There was also the opportunity to use their DT skills as they created throwing arrows to use with an atlatl - a handheld, rod-shaped device that employs leverage to launch a dart.

The class have also enjoyed their first RSE session, as part of the Science and PSHE curriculum, thinking about the changes that take place to the human body during puberty. The Eagles have recognised the changes that happen to boys turning into men, girls turning into women and changes that happen to both genders.

NICK MUNCKTON



# OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

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 [scox@springmead.com](mailto:scox@springmead.com)

Sally Cox

**Headteacher**



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EDUCATION

