

Springwater School and Springforest Sixth Form



Spring SMSC Newsletter 2019

Welcome to

Springwater's termly round up of the enriching opportunities and wonderful work carried out by our students in the Spring term. This newsletter shares only a handful of the events that have been going on since January at our school. Please remember that a vast range of our daily activities are featured on the school website and our Facebook page, so please do check here to catch up to date information about your young people and see upcoming dates for your diary as we move into the Summer term.

Student Council update

The crystal reward system is fully embedded in school now as we work towards our final term.

Wensleydale, Nidderdale and Swaledale have competed since September in a range of events to earn crystals for their teams – crystal totals are announced at the end of each term and shortly a democratic vote will take place to decide on the school reward day to celebrate the achievements and work this year.

In this term the School Council have been working alongside Peter Manning, a HLTA undertaking some further study at York St John University. Students were tasked with thinking about their most and least favourite elements of school – we created a display of areas we really liked, our rebound trampoline, swimming pool, and friendly staff came out as firm favourites for our council members.

The Student Council requested a Valentines Disco and in February we saw the whole of school enjoy some time with their peers in this special activity. We also completed a bag pack at our local Morrisons which was very successful and look to do the same again in the coming term. Some members of the Student Council visited the Youth Voice Conference and shared their thoughts with peers from across North Yorkshire in a school network event which was very much enjoyed.



Curriculum Focus: Sharing our community

All of our students have enjoyed catching the first glimpses of Spring and exploring our environment around us as we have entered a new season. Lots of walks have been taken in the neighbouring towns of Wetherby, Knaresborough and Harrogate and students have enjoyed exploring these areas with their classmates. We have enjoyed seeing some of the wildlife that is in abundance at this time of year and have begun to see colours flourish in garden centre visits and walks in the community.

Classes have been thinking about their local environment in recycling work, the school has become a 'No-Straw' zone following a presentation done by Sixth Form and another group have begun an EcoBrick project; these are bricks made out of non-recyclable plastics that can be sent to countries in poorer parts of the world to be used as building materials. The process involves taking clean, dry, non-recyclable plastics, cutting them into small pieces and stuffing them as tightly as possible into a plastic bottle. This has been a great team building exercise and has been enjoyed by all. Please read more about this activity at the following link:

<https://wasteaid.org/toolkit/how-to-turn-mixed-plastic-waste-and-bottles-into-ecobricks/>

If you have any ideas for making our school more environmentally friendly, then please let us know.



Science Week.

Our annual Science week had an edible twist this year and saw groups using a variety of foods to create fun, messy and interesting science experiments. All of our students benefitted from this sensory approach and found themselves making fizzy worms dance, watching an apple erupt and exploring chocolate flavoured mud along with many other activities. Everyone got involved and loved eating their experiments.



World Down's Syndrome Day

On the 21st March 2019 students wore their odd socks and celebrated what makes them unique. Some students learnt about the 21st chromosome and what makes it different – they put together an interesting information video which can be found on our Facebook page. Lots of students decorated socks that were hung up on our washing line in the reception area.

#leavenoonebehind



Fundraising this term:

Charity Focus: Comic Relief



Students wore red and created wonderful class bakes that were judged in an extra special assembly.

Our judging panel tried all 12 cakes before voting for the class team in each department that had created the most wonderful cakes.

Bakery was very popular with red nail painting and special red nose cupcakes available for our visitors. We made over £150 for our fundraising day and would like to thank everybody for taking part in our activities.

World Book Day 2019

What an incredible turn out of fancy dress costumes and favourite stories. One thing that all of our students engage with is a familiar story and we enjoyed a range of these throughout the day.

'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' was our sensory story for the day and some of our students enjoyed exploring that in their classes and getting a bit messy in the mud.



Easter 2019

We finished the half term with some Easter events – thank you to all of the families that attended our Church Service on Wednesday 10th April. All of the departments shared their learning about Easter, the music they enjoyed and the food they had prepared. Rev'd Phil Carman then visited the school on Thursday with his team to take each class through the Easter Story in a sensory experience. Students waved palm branches at the donkey, had their feet washed, tasted the bread in the last supper and smelt the scented bandages of Good Friday. Our students journeyed through Jerusalem in a memorable way and we would like to thank Phil and his team for supporting us with these fantastic opportunities



In January, school celebrated as we were given the prestigious award, 'School of Sanctuary'; only the second school in Harrogate to be awarded the title. "This recognises the care, thought and energy that Springwater has shown in making their school a safe and welcoming place for all, especially those seeking sanctuary" were words from the awarding body. We are very proud of this achievement and are pleased that our care for all has been recognised in this way.

School returns on Tuesday 30th April 2019. Have a wonderful holiday.

