

# Autumn Personal Development Newsletter 2020



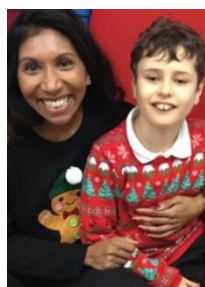
**Welcome** to our Autumn newsletter. School has certainly felt different over recent months and we know it hasn't been quite as we would have liked it – it is with this awareness that we want to start by saying a huge well done to all of our students, staff and families for supporting each other through a difficult time. The Springwater School community has shone through with its resilience, sense of humour, kindness and commitment to learning. Well done everyone.

For our first half term, we decided to engage in a 'Recovery Curriculum'. This way of teaching and learning offered us the opportunity to engage in experiences that bring us joy, help us to feel safe and secure and to support us to get back into the routines of school life. It was lovely to focus on mental health and wellbeing as we came back to school.



## Charity fundraising...

This term has been as busy as always in our bid to support those charities close to our heart. Students and staff have taken part in a collection of days across term to raise money for Breast Cancer Research, Children in Need, Save the Children and Martin House – raising over £400 to send to these worthy causes.



Resurrected bites is a local food bank in Knaresborough, supported through St Marks Church in Harrogate. During lock down and beyond wonderful volunteers have been delivering and packing food parcels for some of the most vulnerable people in the area. All the food they distribute are donations from shops, businesses and the general public. Staff at Springwater school collected items to donate during Harvest and they were gratefully received.



Remembrance Day – School remembered the fallen soldiers and thought about the significance of the poppy in remembering them. We created a wonderful display in the reception area.





During anti-bullying week we ran a competition in school to create a poster promoting anti-bullying. This is the winning poster by one of our Kites students – it is now displayed around school and we are all reminded of being kind to others when we see it.



Staff training:

We are training two members of staff to be Licensed Practitioners for the Thrive Approach. This is a specific way of working with children that helps to develop their social and emotional wellbeing. We look forward to using this further developing our mental health education in school.

#### What did RE look like in our school this term?

We began by thinking about ourselves, the things we like and don't like and how we relate to others, having a sense of our own identity in the world that we live in. Students in Primary then took part in some continuous provision with Diwali sensory trays – making lamps, listening to music and exploring with rice in Rangoli patterns. As we move towards Christmas, students have been thinking about the nativity story and taking part in different activities for our Christmas Service. This 'virtual' ceremony will be available on our Facebook page, where many of our students have worked in their bubbles to showcase their Christmas work with you. Please go along and watch it there. We hope you enjoy it!



We look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Have a wonderful holiday.