



Springwood Junior Academy's Newsletter

P.R.I.D.E

Positive. Respectful. Independent. Determined, Empathetic



Spring 1 Newsletter

Core values of the Academy

P . R . I . D . E

Positive, Respectful, Independent, Determined and Empathetic

Vision of the Academy

All pupils will become Readers for Life, Aspirational, Responsible Citizens (Key Drivers of the Academy) and have PRIDE in themselves, each other and their community (Core Values of the Academy).

Our core values are embedded within the vision of the Academy (our key drivers) – we want all of our pupils to develop in to readers for life, become aspirational, responsible citizens and have PRIDE in themselves, each other and their community. As an Academy, we are passionate that all pupils should develop these skills in order to become successful, happy and confident young people and adults ready to excel as adults.

As pupils move up through school, each year our expectations for pupils' increase and therefore each pupil re-starts the learner levels in September – striving to be their very best. At the end of last half term, your child may have brought home a Learner Level certificate and badge – please make sure that you celebrate this achievement with your child as this demonstrates their commitment to learning and developing.

Learner Level layers are as follows: Bronze learners follow the core values of the school most of the time with a few reminders from adults; Silver learners follow the core values of the school all of the time – they no longer need the reminders; Gold learners follow the core values of the school all of the time and are role models to help others.

Each half term, pupils have another opportunity to maintain and improve their Learner Level.

During the school day, pupils received praise and rewards for positive attitudes and exceptional learning. If your child comes home and tell you that they moved up to blue or pink then please celebration this with them as this is demonstrating great learning behaviours and attitudes! Look at their class dojo score – you will see that for blue they will gain 5 dojos and pink 10 dojos.

Mrs Malton's message!

We hope you have all managed an enjoyable Christmas and New Year; taking time to be together as families and friends. We would like to thank you for your kind staff cards and gifts, they were really appreciated by all!

Our pupils worked hard during 2023 and have returned in 2024 with positive attitudes and a growing desire to learn and achieve. We continue to promote active learning and independence, supporting pupils to want to be their very best all of the time; this level of determination helps our children to develop into aspirational, responsible citizens who have the opportunities to be who they want to be and achieve what they want to achieve!

Thank you to all of our parents who completed the parent view questionnaire sent out in December; we value parent voice and look forward to using this to further strengthen and develop our Academy. 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child felt safe at school, 80% felt their child had not been bullied or where they had been bullied agreed that this had been dealt with quickly and effectively, 90% of parents would recommend the school. 100% of parents agreed that the school has high expectations of behaviour with 90% strongly agreeing and 10% agreeing.

Some examples of parent voice about strengths of the Academy - "Always encouraging pupils to do better and they get praised and rewarded for good work.", "The communication between teachers & parents, I find I am always updated with how my daughter is doing & it's brilliant.", "Lots of diverse opportunities and topics covered.", "SJA fosters a nurturing environment and encourages positive development of its pupils.", "Strong leadership, supportive and caring staff which is reflected in how the children are treated and interacted with." We thank you for these kind words. As an Academy, we work hard to embed the core values of the academy and through this we have been able to create a nurturing and respectful environment where differences are celebrated and pupils are inquisitive and want to learn more. It is truly amazing to have received such positive parent voice.

Parental voice about ways in which we can further improve and develop - "Clearer single point of communication; more timely communication.", "Teach the older pupils to be more respectful when waiting at the school gate in the morning." At Springwood Junior Academy, we thank you for these suggestions. In response to parent voice, we are developing assemblies and class learning which will be completed with the upper KS2 pupils to ensure that there is a deep understanding around the need for positive and respectful behaviours within the community including when waiting by the school gate. School Council will support with the content and delivery of this.

In addition, we are exploring the best way to centralise our means of communication with parents and will be developing a live calendar within the school website to ensure that information about events can be accessed in a timely manner. In addition, all school letters will be added to the website so that they can be downloaded whenever required by parents. We truly value your suggestions and thank you for supporting us to be our very best!

Staff news

Mrs Doe will be leaving us on Friday 19th January, ready to welcome her new baby in to the world and enjoy a well-deserved maternity leave. I am sure you will wish her and her family the best of luck at this special time.

I am really pleased to share with you that we will be welcoming Miss Goodland into the Academy who will be teaching our FS2 pupils Wednesday – Friday whilst Mrs Doe is on maternity leave. We look forward to working with Miss Goodland who is eager to learn all about the Academy and our pupils.

Mrs Matthews has made the difficult decision to leave her role as Breakfast Club Leader and Lunchtime Supervisor; we will miss Mrs Matthews within the Academy and wish her all the best in her new adventures in life!

High expectations – Attendance

Good and consistent attendance is essential for pupils to learn well and become confident adults. At Springwood Junior Academy, we strive for 100% and target every child to have over 96% attendance; below 96% is considered poor attendance as this means children will have missed 9+ days over the year. If a child's attendance falls below 90%, this is considered persistent absence. Springwood Junior Academy follows the Rotherham Attendance Pathway which includes issuing Fixed Term Penalty notices for families taking term time holidays and/or for where a pupils' attendance falls below 90% and improvement over time is not seen.

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to inform school when their child is not attending school, please ring the office on 0114 2872597 to report an absence. It is important that this contact is made before 9:30am. Contact should be made **daily** if your child is off ill. If no contact can be made with parents/carers and/or a pupil has been off ill for a number of days, an EWO (Education Welfare Officer) visit will be requested; this involves the EWO visiting your family home to speak with you about why your child is not in school and see if any further support is needed. Please note this is part of our attendance and safeguarding procedures.

It is important to understand the negative impact of poor attendance and inconsistent attendance on attainment for our pupils. **Please ensure that your child attends school daily and arrives on time, minutes add up quickly to lost learning.**



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Academy attendance target 96%

Current Academy attendance 92.2%

High expectations – Uniform

As a school, high expectations is extremely important and part of this is wearing full school uniform. We do ask that **ALL** pupils attend school wearing **FULL** school uniform.

If you do not have an item of uniform, please ensure you purchase a new one (pre-loved uniform is now donated to the local charity shop to support our families during this difficult financial time – please access this if you require it). We do have loan items in school which we lend to pupils not in full uniform however this is not a long term solution for pupils without items, rather a temporary support measure for when a pupil 'forgets' an item of uniform. Please ensure that all items of uniform or clearly labelled with your child's name.

All lost property will now be gathered and stored in main reception, should your child lose an item of clothing please come to main reception and ask to look in lost property.

Thank you for your support with this!

Tidy uniform, tidy mind - leading to strong learning and great achievements!

Family support available

We understand that for many families the cost of living crisis is causing a high level of worry and we understand that these worries may have increased over the Christmas period. Please remember that as a school we work with a local food bank and a social supermarket who we can refer families to. These referrals can only be made in exceptional circumstances and on a limited number of occasions. If you require support with this, please email info@springwoodacademy.org or speak with Mrs Malton or Mrs Holland.

If you are struggling to manage your worries, feeling down or just need to speak with someone then please use the links below to seek support.

Rotherham IAPT – 01709 447755 <https://iapt.rdash.nhs.uk/about-rotherham-iapt/>

Anxiety UK – 03444 775774 <https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/>

Further support can be found on the school website using the link below <https://www.springwoodacademy.org/page/?title=Support+with+Cost+of+Living&pid=99>

Dates for your diary

Monday 8th January – school reopened to pupils after the Christmas break

Tuesday 9th January – Y6 local walk to support writing

Thursday 11th January – author in school to work with KS2 – Richard O'Neill

w/c Monday 15th January – afterschool clubs commence

Monday 22nd January – EYFS (FS0, FS1, FS2) and Y1 African Drumming Workshop

w/c Monday 5th February – afterschool clubs end

Monday 5th February – Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 6th February – Yorkshire Wildlife Park visit – Y1 and Y4

Friday 9th February – Learner Level assembly

Friday 9th February – school closes 3pm for February half term

Monday 19th February – INSET day - school closed to pupils

Tuesday 20th February – school reopens to pupils 8:40am

Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February – parents' evenings

Friday 1st March – National Y7 school place offer day for Y6 pupils

Wednesday 6th March – Y2 – Y6 Drumming Workshop

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

w/c 11th March – Science week

w/c 11th March & w/c 18th March – SEND reviews (direct invites)

Wednesday 20th March – Y5 and Y6 Aspirations/careers day at Magna

Thursday 28th March – Learner Level assembly

Thursday 28th March – school closes at 1:30pm for Easter break

Monday 15th April – school reopens to pupils 8:40am

Tuesday 16th April – National FS2 school place offer day for FS1 pupils.