



Issue Number 4
January 2018

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Meet Miss Holland



I am delighted to be supporting Springfield Primary School this term whilst we recruit a new Head of School. The school is very well led by the senior team and I will add capacity to this.

As an experienced Primary Head and Director of Education for Challenger Enterprise Trust I hope to continue the school improvement journey at Springfield. I will be at Springfield on Mondays and Tuesdays and hope to meet you on the gate in the mornings. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to meet me.



Welcome back from Mrs Brown and Mrs Treble

Happy New Year and welcome back. We hope you had a good break with your children and they are ready for another exciting term. We have some really interesting topics planned for this term and are sure the children will be enthused. You will receive the topic web and homework tasks for your child's year group this week.

Whilst Mrs Allen is not at the school please feel free to contact either of us via the school office. In the short term we have reduced our teaching commitments to support Miss Holland in leading the school forward. Although there have been some changes this current year, rest assured that the children come first, and we always have this in mind when making such changes. We would like to thank Mrs Champkin and Mrs Garcha for holding the fort in Girasole class while Miss Birrell teaches in Giove.

Staffing News

We would like to wish Miss Collins the very best of luck for her forthcoming new arrival. Her last day at school before starting her maternity leave will be Friday 26th January 2018. We look forward to seeing her and her new baby later in the year. Miss Collins will be having her parent consultations on Wednesday 17th & Thursday 18th January. The class will be covered by Mrs Rundle until half term then Ms Page will take over after the half term break. Both teachers plan to visit the class before Miss Collins leaves.

Our values are:



January Value



February Value

Governor News

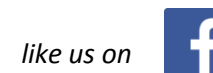
I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the great work that our colleague and friend Mrs Allen has carried out over the past few years.

When Mrs Allen took on the role as Head Teacher the task to turnaround the schools' fortune is difficult to underestimate; since then, Mrs Allen has worked tirelessly with the Local Authority, the Governing Body and most importantly staff to provide an environment for learning that is welcoming, supportive and safe for all our children.

Over the past couple of years Mrs Allen has invested a great deal of effort into preparing our school for the transition to Primary, including the building of a dedicated Year 5 and 6 block 'The Hive' and more recently in converting the school into Academy status and becoming part of the Challenger 'family'. So it is with pride and appreciation that we thank Mrs Allen and wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement ... and of course we look forward to seeing her return to the school over the years to come to see how the changes she has made



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will allow the school to develop and see our children flourish in these all important early years.

Over the short term the school will continue to operate as it is at present, with the day to running being carried out ably by Mrs Brown and Mrs Treble. They will be joined by Miss Holland, Director of Education of the Challenger Enterprise Trust, who will, along with the Governing Body provide strategic direction and additional support as necessary.

The Governors and representatives of Challenger Trust will meet in the next couple of weeks to decide how the role of Head Teacher will be filled in the longer term.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns or issues that you want to raise please feel free to discuss them with any member of the Governing Body.

Best Wishes
Darren Gibbons
Chair of Governors

Staffing News – Meet Molly



Hello, my name is Molly. I am a 5 year old pet Labrador. I enjoy meeting children and especially listening to them read stories.

This is because I am a qualified Pets As Therapy dog and I help children to enjoy reading out loud and sharing their ideas with me. I am looking forward to joining Springfield Primary School. If you look on this website it will explain how I work.

<http://petsastherapy.org/what-we-do/read2dogs>

What has been going on in the classes?

Reception –Will you read me a story?



This half term in Reception our topic is 'Will you read me a story?' We will be looking at different traditional tales beginning with Jack and the Beanstalk. The children have planted beans and will be keeping a diary of how they grow throughout the half term. We will be also looking at 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', 'The Elves and the Shoe Maker', 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'Little Red Riding Hood.'

Reading is an important part of this half term. Please take as many opportunities at home to read to your child and make sure they are reading their book to you. We will be giving out prizes every Friday to these children reading 5 times or more at home.

Year 1 – Moon Zoom



Happy New Year to you all! This half term the children will be learning all about space, the Earth and exploring our amazing solar system. We started our amazing topic with an alien crash site, now it's the children's missions to find the missing alien and return it to its home in space. We will be planning, designing and creating a fabulous vehicle for the alien as well as visiting the Space Centre and seeing real life rockets. The children are going to learn about what makes Earth special and all of its different features. The children are all very excited about our 'Moon Zoom' topic and can't wait to find out more!

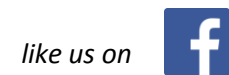
Year 2 – Land Ahoy



Year 2 have had a fantastic term and have all come back to school, after the Christmas break, eager to learn! The children have loved their new topic 'Land Ahoy' and have particularly enjoyed the opportunities they have had to spend time in our pirate role-play areas and explore the pirate themed resources we have in class.



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Over this term the children will learn about Christopher Columbus and Grace Darling. We are very excited about our upcoming visit from a real life pirate! The children will look at the world and develop their geographical knowledge of continents, countries and the oceans and seas. They will develop their scientific knowledge by exploring how things sink and float. The children will also develop their drawing skills by designing pirate flags, sketching boats and creating their own moving sea pictures.

Year 3 – Heroes and Villains



We have had a great start to our Spring Term where we are learning about Heroes and Villains. On Monday the 8th January we had two fire fighters and a forensic scientist visit and they taught us lots about their jobs and answered many questions about how and why they are heroes in our community. Thank you for your generous donations of white socks and haberdashery supplies, our sock puppets will look fantastic! We are looking forward to our innovate task where the children will demonstrate their knowledge through a superhero rap.

Year 4 – Traders and Raiders

It has been an exciting start to our new topic, ‘Traders and Raiders’ and the children are looking forward to finding out more about Vikings and Saxons. They have asked all sorts of questions, such as ‘Where did the Vikings come from?’, ‘What are longboats?’ and ‘What did the Vikings eat?’ Through topic work the children will soon be able to answer all their questions.

In maths the children have started work on time and measure and in literacy the children are continuing with fine tuning their descriptive skills and will produce their own saga based on stories they have heard from our book ‘The Saga of Erik the Viking’ by Terry Jones. We can’t wait to read them!

We have booked an all day Viking workshop for the 5th of February, Travellers Through Time, where the children will have the exciting opportunity to find out more about life and times in Viking/Saxon England. The children can come to school on that day dressed as either a Viking or a Saxon.

Year 5 - Stargazers

In Year 5, we have been exploring our topic, Stargazers. We have discussed what we already know about our Solar System and have been posing questions, which we hope to soon be able to answer (as much as we can anyway!).



In English, we have looked at moon myths. We have then had a go at planning and writing our own. We have also started reading our new class novel, ‘Welcome to Camp Nightmare’, written by R.L Stein, which we love!

In addition to this, we are going to Leicester Space Centre where we hope to really be stargazers! We are really striving to reach for the stars this half-term and make it a happy and successful one.

Dawn Till Dusk

Upcoming theme nights
Please contact Hayley 07557364462 for further information.

Week Commencing	Theme
Monday 15 th January	Cookery Night
Monday 22 nd January	African Drumming
Monday 29 th January	Cookery Night
Monday 5 th February	Archery

Bedtime Story Evening

The week of 29th January is National Storytelling Week. To celebrate, we will have a childrens’ author, Sarah Mackie, visiting the school on Monday 29th January and working with class groups. You can find more about Sarah’s books by visiting her website: <https://www.sarahmackiebooks.com/>. On the evening of 30th Jan we plan to have a bedtime story evening from 5:30pm. Children will come to school in pyjamas, listen to bedtime stories and drink hot chocolate. See accompanying letter for further details.



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Inspirational Role Model



This week the Year 5's had a talk by Maddie Brasier who is a PhD student at the University of Liverpool. She has collaborated with British Antarctic Survey and the US Antarctic Program on expeditions and research projects. She is part of an upcoming expedition called Homeward Bound. Maddie came in and spoke to the classes about her expedition to the Antarctic. She discussed: what she did, how she got there and how long it took her. The children were all ecstatic to then try on some of her equipment.

Day	Club	Room/Teacher
Monday	Italian - Yrs 1 - 5	Galileo(Mrs Ventriglia/Mrs Di Ciccio)
	Reading Club – Yrs 1 & 2	Giove (Miss Birrell)
	Science Club – Yrs 3 - 5	The Hive (Mr Swain)
	Maths Club – Yr 5	Roma (Mr Gotham)
	Badminton – Yrs 3 - 5	Hall (Miss Pugh/Miss Eales)
Tuesday	Multi Sports – Yr 5	Mr Cooper
	Multi Sports Club –Yr 1 & 2	Hall (Mr Cooper)
Wednesday	Homework Club – Yr 1 & 2	Terra(Miss Bains/Miss Chopra)
	Art Club – Yr 1 & 2	Marte (Miss Vasso/Miss Moore)
	Chess Club - Yrs 3 - 5	Vivaldi(Mrs Leska)
	Christian Club – Yrs 1 - 5	Nettuno (Mrs Lowery)
	Drama Club – Yrs 3 & 4	Michelangelo (Miss Cain)
Thursday	Chinese Club – Yrs 1 - 4	Galileo
	Homework Club – Y3 & 4	Da Vinci(Mrs Gardner)
Friday	Creative Dance Yrs 1- 5	Hall (Maz)

All clubs will be finishing at 4.15pm

Important Diary Dates

- 17th Jan PTA Meeting – 3.30pm
- 29th Jan Sarah Mackie (Author) -Whole School Story Telling Workshop
- 30th Jan Whole School Bedtime Story & Hot Chocolate 5.30pm – 6.20pm
- 5th Feb Year 4 Saxon/Viking Workshop – Dress Up Day
- 5th Feb Year 2 Pirate Dress Up day
- 6th Feb PTA Pancake Morning – 8am to 8.45am
- 6th Feb Parent Consultation
- 7th Feb Yr 1 & Yr 5 National Space Centre Visit
- 7th Feb Full Governors – 6.30pm
- 8th Feb Parent Consultation
- 8th Feb Last Day of Half Term
- 9th Feb **School Closed – Teacher Training Day**
- 19th Feb **Children back to school**

Springfield Website

Sometimes newsletters and calendars get mislaid. Please remember you can always see a copy on our website www.springfieldprimaryschool.org.uk. Newsletters and letters home to parents will always be given out on a Friday. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

D Brown

Mrs D Brown
Deputy Head Teacher