



# SPRINGWELL SKY

Where learning matters for everyone



## THE HEADLINE

Springwell Learning Community, here in Barnsley, is not the only Springwell in The Wellspring Academy Trust!

Springwell is a name that we can all be proud of. As the trust has expanded we have helped to support schools across the region. The trust has grown its expertise for working with special needs children and those who have left mainstream. That work has taken me, and others from Springwell, to Leeds, Grimsby and Lincolnshire. I am very proud of Springwell and all it represents. People across the region have come to associate that name with everything we have worked hard to achieve here. Authentic care, warmth, trust and unconditional positive regard go along with the name Springwell. It is for these reasons that our family of schools in the trust have chosen to take the name Springwell and make it their own.



Springwell Leeds is now part of our family of schools. Leeds council are building three brand new Springwells across the city.

## Issue 18 – Easter 2017

In the south east of our region we have the newly formed Springwell Learning Community, Lincolnshire. Five new academies will take our name and work to provide excellent education and care for vulnerable children across the county.

We can all be proud of the work we do here and the impact that has in Barnsley and beyond. I now find myself working not only in Barnsley but also in our other Springwell schools. Dividing my time between Springwell in Barnsley and Springwell in Lincolnshire means that Miss Watts now has the role of Associate Executive Principal here in Barnsley. Springwell is in safe hands and Miss Watts is now supported by our two new Executive Vice Principals, Mr Ross and Mrs Davis.



It is a pleasure to work with our children and staff here in Barnsley and an honour to share the name Springwell far and wide.

Happy Easter!

**Visit Our Blog**

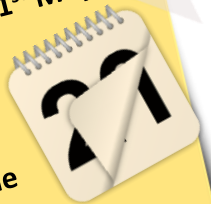
Please visit our blog on a regular basis to see all the latest work created by Springwell pupils. Please feel free to comment on the blog in an e-safe way. Our blogging rules can be found on the blog. All comments are moderated by school staff before they become public.

**Wow 28000 Visits!**

[Springwell.primaryblogger.co.uk](http://Springwell.primaryblogger.co.uk)

### Key dates for the diary – Summer Term 2017

- Academies open for Summer Term: **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**
- Academies closed for May Bank Holiday: **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**
- Year 6 SATS week: **W/C Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May**
- Academies close for half term: **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**
- Academies re-open: **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June**
- Special Academy Sports Day: **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June**
- Community Day: **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July**
- Family Learning Day: **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**
- Academies close for the summer holidays: **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**



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CLASS 3 PERFORMS FOR  
**WORLD BOOK DAY**

As our school's theme for World Book Day was Roald Dahl, **Class 3** decided to perform one of his 'Revolting Rhymes' in assembly. They chose the Three Little Pigs because it combines two fairy stories- The Three Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Hood. All pupils took part over the week and enjoyed working together to produce the play. It went down well in assembly with lots of laughs and a big round of applause at the end.



Well done to Thomas and Scott who have recently started their work experience at Henry Boot. We are all very proud. Keep up the good work boys!

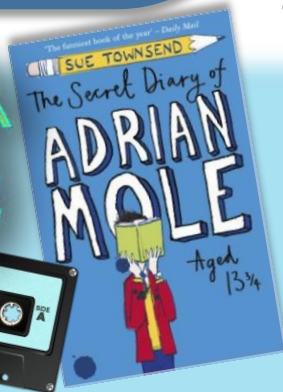


**Henry Boot**  
CONSTRUCTION

**Springwell@Forest** have started swimming at AquaKids in Barnsley. We have been learning the techniques for breast stroke with big circle arms and legs. We have lots of fun learning with games. We can also jump in!



**BACK TO THE 80S**



This half term for our **Elements** topic **Year Nine** having been learning all about the 1980s. As an introduction to the topic pupils watched a film about the key events from the 1980s and looked at some objects and games from the 1980s. Some pupils had never seen cassettes and videos before. How times have changed!

Pupils listened to and analysed song lyrics from the 1980s and then wrote their own song making a political or social statement about what is happening in the world now.

Pupils have also learnt about Margaret Thatcher and the miners' strike; particularly the Battle of Orgreave. As part of this we invited an ex miner (Miss Dixon's Dad) to come and talk to us about his experience of the strike. Pupils have also been working with Claire from Open Minds and have used dramatic techniques to help them with their writing. Pupils have read the Secret Diary of Adrian Mole and have written their own diary entry from the perspective of a miner or policeman at the Battle of Orgreave.



# Understanding QR Codes

At Springwell we love to use technology in our learning. You may notice a number of these strange looking square codes throughout this newsletter. They are QR codes and can be scanned to get information. The QR codes in this newsletter will direct you to films that our pupils have produced.

## How do QR codes work?

You can scan the QR code on a device, like a smartphone or tablet. You need to make sure you have a QR reader, like Qrafter, for free from the app store. The QR codes within this newsletter will direct you to further information or even videos that the pupils have produced.

1. Open the QR reader
2. Point it at the QR code
3. Scan it and the link will open. Easy!



As part of our key stage 2 elements curriculum we visited Conisbrough Castle in Doncaster to see what a real life castle would have been like 800 years ago. We were fortunate enough to be able to explore the castle grounds and learned what life was like for the people living there. In the afternoon we looked at some artefacts from around the time the castle was in full operation including money, kitchen utensils, musical instruments and even weapons and armour worn by the knights who defended it! The most exciting part of the day was being allowed into the keep, which was the living headquarters for the lords and ladies. The views from the top of the keep were truly breath taking!

Scan the QR code to view the brilliant Castles film produced by the pupils of Springwell.



Over the past six weeks Key Stage 3 have been focusing on gangs and gang culture in the UK. We have studied and discussed the dangers and consequences of gangs as well as why young people are vulnerable to be engaged in gang culture. Our understanding of gangs grew immensely when we were honoured to have special guests like PC Rob Marshall and our very own Mr Baker, speak with us about their experiences with gang related crime. Through our journey students have worked extremely hard producing great works of art, writing, and educated opinions on gangs.



## Sam's Safaris

Primary have had a special visit from Sam's Safaris. We are learning about caring for pets and met a bearded dragon, a guinea pig, two mice, a tortoise, a turtle, a rabbit and a snake. We could find out what part of the world they come from and special information about them.





# ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

## Aim for 100% attendance for a better future

There are 190 days in a school year which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.



Give your child a better future - aim for 100% school attendance

Springwell Learning Community  
 Springwell Special Academy | Springwell Alternative Academy | WELLSRING ACADEMY TRUST

This half term we have had a big push on attendance. We have some amazing end of term attendance prizes for the pupils who have achieved 100% attendance this half term. Many thanks to Tesco, Morrisons, Barnsley Premier Leisure, Barnsley Bowl and Tykes Racing for their kind donations. School council representatives Ripley and Corey had to work hard to resist the temptation of cracking open the Easter eggs donated by Tesco. Good effort boys.



**Give your child a better future – aim for 100% school attendance.**



## Global News!



Switching lights off when we are not in the room, picking up litter, using water sensibly, reusing some of the left overs, sharing taxis, making room for nature on our grounds and using eco-friendly fuel for heating have become everyday practice at school. All staff and children are now aware of the positive impact we can have on the environment by changing old habits into eco-friendly ones on a daily basis. This excellent practice has been recognised by the Eco Schools body, and as a result we have just been awarded the prestigious Silver Award this month. We are very proud of the award and would like to congratulate the children and all members of the school community for continuing to support eco-friendly ventures.



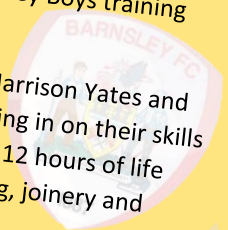
## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD



The KS4 students at Kendray continue to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh sectional awards. A number of students have now achieved the required 24 hours for the physical section award - Kieron Yates, Callum Broadbent and Josh McQueen in particular demonstrating excellent levels of commitment. All the boys have made huge progress in football, most notably Kieron Yates being invited to attend a Barnsley Boys training session.

Kieron Yates, Josh McQueen, Harrison Yates and Callum Broadbent are also closing in on their skills sectional award, by completing 12 hours of life skills which has included cooking, joinery and motor vehicle maintenance.

It is the first year Springwell have run the award and it has been a fantastic opportunity for the students and staff to engage with learning - well done to all students and keep up the good work!



## Parent Council

All parents are welcome to contribute towards the Parent/Carers Council. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The venue and time is to be confirmed. Any parents wishing to attend but struggle to get to the venue please contact Rachel Musgrave PSA on 07702897563.

I am pleased to announce that on 16<sup>th</sup> March, Springwell Learning Community was successful in achieving the LPPA Award for another three years. A massive well done to all the pupils, staff and governors involved. We are all very proud!



## THE MINERS' STRIKE OF 1984

As part of the *Elements* topic, The 80s, Year 7 have been learning facts about the miners' strike. The strike started in 1984 at Cortonwood Colliery. It soon became wide spread over the country and it lasted for a year. During this time, miners were on strike and refused to go to work as a boycott of the closure of the pits. There were some tragic moments during the miners' strike, especially the Battle of Orgreave. There were only 6 pits that remained open after the strike, compared to the initial 174.

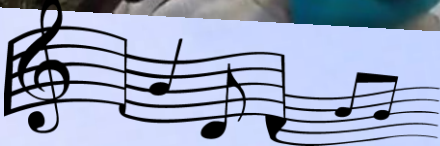


Scan the QR code to view our film about The 80s



In our class pupils looked at books and artefacts from miners. They felt how heavy a Davy lamp was, understood why it had to be used in mines and they appreciated how difficult the conditions must have been underground for miners. They also found a lot of local history in some books very kindly lent to us by Mr Taylor.

This topic has certainly generated a lot of discussions and has fascinated the children in year 7.

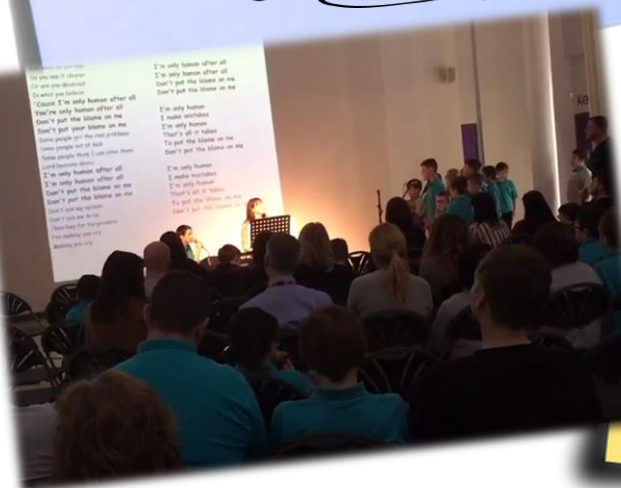


Music at Springwell has become a culture in itself. From children coming to play music before their school day starts, at lunchtime and after school to children passing qualifications, Composing, performing in concerts and teaching other children and even staff.

Children thrive and become involved in this thing that has an impact on most people's lives. Children who struggle to read can learn to read music, which is something most adults can't do. Children who previously had little self-esteem find themselves on stage playing or singing to an audience. Children who have found it difficult to work with their peers find themselves playing in a band and children who felt no purpose find a place in the world of 'Musos'.

Every day there are children in the school, expressing themselves through this magical, human phenomenon. No one can explain why we love it so much. Children develop their growth mind set when learning how to play an instrument and they develop resilience when they practise. They also learn to appreciate each other's talents and encourage and support each other in the classroom.

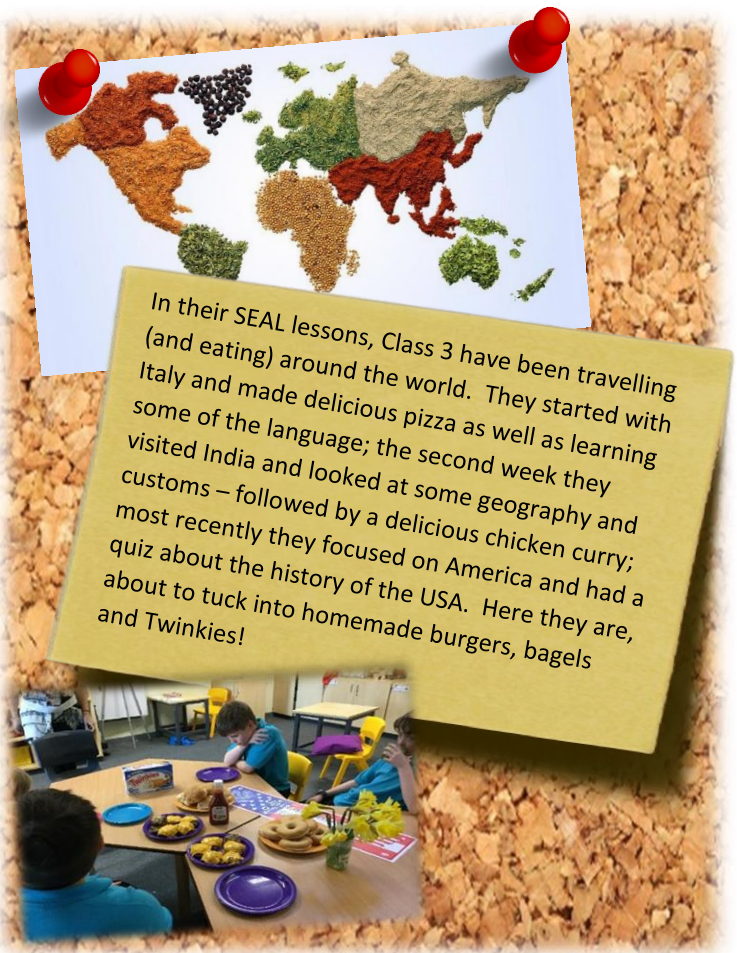
**We are looking forward to our concert on 7<sup>th</sup> April and I currently have 25 children on the list to perform.**





# FUNDRAISE

This year pupils and staff had fun supporting Comic Relief and raised over £250! Pupils wore something red, bought red noses and sold their baking. The Care Team had a makeover and the staff did a sweepstake, which was won by Mrs Reid who kindly donated her winnings to Comic Relief. Well done everyone, together we can definitely make a difference!



In their SEAL lessons, Class 3 have been travelling (and eating) around the world. They started with Italy and made delicious pizza as well as learning some of the language; the second week they visited India and looked at some geography and customs – followed by a delicious chicken curry; most recently they focused on America and had a quiz about the history of the USA. Here they are, about to tuck into homemade burgers, bagels, and Twinkies!

## BE DOG SMART!

To kick start KS2's *Elements* topic, we had a visit from Laura and Martha the French Dog. They had both come from 'Dogs Trust' to teach us how to be dog smart. We learnt all about how to read a dog's body language and what to do if a strange dog approaches you. The children really enjoyed the experience and by the end of the workshop, they didn't want Martha to leave! Here are a few tips that we have taken away from the experience.



- B**eware of disturbing dogs that are eating or sleeping.
- E**ven if for fun, don't ever tease a dog please.
- D**on't approach a dog with no owner around.
- O**nly stroke a dog when the owner says 'Yes, you can.'
- G**et the dog to sniff your hand first, then stroke gently.
- S**trange dog approaching? Stand still, look away, cross your arms.
- M**ove calmly and quietly around any dog.
- A**ll that hugging and kissing - you might like it, dogs don't!
- R**emember all dogs have teeth.
- T**reat dogs with respect and they will respect you!



Scan the QR code to view the film produced by our Primary pupils all about how to 'Be Dog Smart!'



Primary One had a fantastic time at Pirates Cove Soft Play, engaging in active play whilst developing their social skills and cooperation skills. The running, crawling and climbing really helps to develop the pupils' gross motor skills and encourages the children to use their imaginations and engage in exploratory play. It was so much fun... even for the teachers!



## Safer Internet Day

At Springwell, the pupils understand how to be responsible digital citizens and are constantly reminded about the many dangers that can be found online. Safer Internet Day 2017 was celebrated globally on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February with the slogan 'Be the change: Unite for a better internet.'

The day offered the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. The pupils of Springwell are keen to share the message and produced a powerful film that has now been viewed far and wide across the world. The film can be watched by scanning the QR code.



## Magic Moments from around our Learning Community

### GCSE HOSPITALITY

Our students in Key Stage 4 and at Springwell@Dearne have been busy planning and preparing romantic meals as part of their GCSE Hospitality coursework. Our students have been transforming settings into 5-star romantic venues, with music playing and creative table decorations. Guests, including Miss Watts and Mr Baker were treated to a three course meal. It was great to see our students enjoy the day and the event was well received by all who attended. Well done!



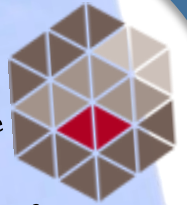
### ACADEMY STUDENTS PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL

Year 11 students at Springwell@Netherwood have been readying themselves for September 2017.

A number of students, including Chelsea Frere, have been for interview at Barnsley Sixth Form College and have been given conditional offers to study "A" Levels.

Ricky Fitzpatrick has successfully attended his second briefing session with the Army. He hopes to join up in September as a Vehicle Mechanic.

Other students have been on interview at Barnsley College and been offered places, including Marian Lapunik – Level 3 Creative Media Production.



### BUSY TIMES FOR SPRINGWELL@HORIZON

It has been an extremely busy period for the Springwell@Horizon students who have been busy working hard this half term. Students have completed their Hospitality coursework following their successful Christmas event and also GCSE Statistics coursework. This, alongside completing their functional skills exams, has been tough going but students have really matured and shown how resilient they can be. As a way of reward we are now looking forward to our rewards trip to outdoor laser tag where we will take on the defending champions Kirk Balk in a bid to steal the laser tag crown. A well-deserved reward for all the hard work they have done. Bring on the GCSE Exams now.

### UPCOMING SPORTS FIXTURES

Springwell Learning Community are hosting a 7 a side football tournament alongside the Youth Sports Trust on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, the final will be held at Rotherham's New York Stadium. 6-8 specialist settings will be participating, Springwell are hoping to enter 2 teams of KS3/4 pupils. This is a great opportunity for pupils to experience working as part of a team alongside pupils from other settings, improving physical and mental health and wellbeing. Qualified referees will be provided helping pupils play to the rules, keeping the games safe and fair.

Springwell Learning Community's Sports Day will be held on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> of June. Parents and carers are welcome to come along and join in with the afternoon's activities.

