



Year 7

Newsletter



July 2023

Message from Mr Johnson

Welcome

What a busy half term this has been, I do hope that you've managed to come and join us at one of our fabulous events. I have mentioned a few of them below, but there have just been so many that I don't have space to mention everything. What I can say is that we have had a fantastic term and I would like to thank you all for your help and support during this academic year.

Athletics Team

Our athletics team have achieved incredible results at the Norfolk Schools Athletics Championships. Eight schools attended from West Norfolk with each of our year groups winning, so we were the overall winners. Fantastic results, well done everyone.

Environment

Our students now have the opportunity to be awarded Green achievement points. These points are given out when students use the recycling bins diligently, help out with litter picking, pick up rubbish, use refillable bottles, and make a conscious effort to being kind and courteous to the environment or any other green initiative that the student is involved in within the wider community. I have been out every lunchtime with my bin bag and litter picker doing my bit to keep the school environment clean and tidy and it's fantastic to see so many of the students doing their bit as well.

Insight Explore – Year 10

Some of our fabulous Year 10 students have had the opportunity one Saturday to take part in an Insight Explore event. They worked to develop the students' communication skills through a number of different activities. As part of the day, students took part in a "dragon's den" activity where they designed a product idea to help improve student life. They worked in small groups to conduct "market research" with current undergraduate students, then design and develop a product idea and finally pitch it to current students. We were really impressed with their work and commitment to the event. I met up with them during Tutor Time to discuss the activity and have a celebration breakfast.

Year 6

This term we've been meeting and greeting our new students with their parents/guardians. It's been lovely to talk to them, hear their stories and see how enthusiastic they are about September. We are all looking forward to them starting their Springwood journey.

Year 11 BBQ/Final Assembly/Prom

Year 11 enjoyed a great BBQ and their final assembly, they did so much, enjoy seeing the pictures from the last five years and getting their shirts signed is always a highlight. We then had an amazing Prom and the slight drizzle did not dampen spirits. We all enjoyed seeing the students arrive by different means, then taking part in the disco and the buffet. I wish them all a wonderful Summer and look forward to seeing them on GCSE Results Day - Thursday 24th August.

Trust Art Exhibition

It was a great pleasure at the beginning of July to witness the fabulous art exhibition that was on display in St Nicholas' Chapel. This was an opportunity to celebrate the wealth of talent that we have across the Trust. It shows us that our students have great imagination, terrific skills which they wonderfully express in their art work. Fabulous.

WNAT Community Music Festival

What a treat! We had four evenings of music with performances from across the Trust. It ranged from the traditional ensembles to rock bands, from the primary choirs to the senior Cantabene. I am so very proud of each and every student that took part, it was a joyous delight and the staff band enjoyed playing "Mustang Sally" for you. The finale was a spectacular triumph despite the weather.

WNAT Chess Tournament

We hosted the Springwood round of the WNAT chess tournament recently and I wanted to say how very talented these students are. I have played myself but not to competitor level, very well done to them all. The top ten players in this round will be competing against our other secondary schools in the Autumn term.

KS3 Presentation Evening at St Nicholas' Chapel

What a wonderful evening of celebration was had at St Nicholas' Chapel with our year 9 students celebrating their KS3 successes. This included students being recognised for their outstanding progress within subjects, outstanding attendance and the transition leaders. It was lovely to see so many of you there and I enjoyed talking with you.

Fashion Show

What a fantastic evening I had at the Fashion Show. So much effort had been put in to the outfits on the catwalk. Fabulous show. We would like to say a very big thank you to Paula, the Manager of Veterans at Ease, a charity shop based in Norfolk Street (opposite Waterstones the bookshop), for collaborating with the School, as they donated clothes for the staff fashion collection. Veterans at Ease are always looking for donations so if you get a chance please pop in and offer your support.



Miss Ashfield

Following many years of excellent service as a mathematics teacher, second in maths, Head of Maths, Assistant Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, Miss Ashfield is taking a secondment to Marshland High School next year. We all wish her well in her new endeavour.

September 2023 - Year 6

Looking forward to September, if you have a child going into Year 6 this coming September and would like to come for a tour and/or attend the open evening please follow the link below or use the QR code to book your place(s).

Daytime Tours



Monday 18th to Friday 29th September 2023

Daily tours available at 9.25am, 11.45am & 2.30pm

To book a place(s) please use the link

<https://shsopendaytour.eventbrite.com/>

Open Evening



Wednesday 27th September 2023

Presentations at 6.00pm, 6.45pm & 7.30pm

To book a place(s) please use the link

<https://shsyear6openevening.eventbrite.com/>

I wish you all a fantastic summer holiday and I am very much looking forward to September.

Best wishes.

Mr Johnson

Message from Mr Cuss & Mrs Robinson



As we reach the end of our summer term, I am sure you will all agree that the time has flown by fast and it only seems like yesterday that it was their first day walking into Springwood. We have both thoroughly enjoyed getting to know students and parents and would like to thank you for your continued support, we really appreciate it.

This half term students have taken part in lots of summer sporting activities, for example our sports day and other team fixtures. Participation from the Year 7 cohort was strong and lots of school sports records were broken during sports day. Special mention to Beth Poucher, who is the new Victrix Ludorum and Kody Somerton, who is the new Victor Ludorum as they both won the most amount of points during the day and each won all three of their events.

On July 4th all students took part in their third Super Learning Day. They had been preparing for this day in their Maths lessons prior to the event. I am sure there has been talk of smoothie making around the dinner table at home. Students had to create, market and present their smoothie to a panel of judges and the rest of the year group. We were both lucky enough to be on the judging panel and tasted some interesting creations on the day. Congratulations to 7S1 who were victorious and had the best tasting smoothie of the day.

The students have had an assembly based around the dangers of large open water spaces with a focus on the lakes at Bawsey pits. Students are actively encouraged not to swim in these areas. Please remind them of this during the summer break.

We hope everyone has a lovely time over the summer holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Year 8 return to school on Thursday 7th September. Please see further on in the newsletter for the term dates next year.

Mr Cuss & Mrs Robinson

Ramble across Roydon Common



On 28 June, a select band of Springwood High School pupils had the opportunity to escape the classroom for a precious couple of hours and visit nearby Roydon Common. It was an all-too short introduction to this Norfolk Wildlife Trust reserve and some of its outstanding flora and fauna. Agnieszka Munns, lead of the school's environmental committee, guided Babs, Lilly, Ben and Alice to the common and, armed with field guides, binoculars and a telescope, set out to make some interesting and engaging connections between the pupils and their surrounding world. Bird life was obliging: yellowhammers, linnets, skylarks and stonechats all posed or displayed in the sunshine, allowing everyone to practise identifying them and finding them in the guides. Red kites were distinguished from common buzzards, and a garden warbler was identified singing on 'Merlin', bringing the modern app to the natural world in an innovative and exciting manner. Insect life was less conspicuous: while only one fly-by dragonfly species was spotted, three sadly unidentified beetle species were examined. Any of the adders which can be encountered in thicker, heathery spots were, of course, avoided by staying to the marked footpaths. Pupils were also introduced to the ecology of the area: focussing on its sandy soil and geographical features, which showed how it had, in the distant past, formed part of the coastline. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to visit this fragment of a disappearing world, seeing birds that are increasingly rare and threatened, and appreciating the value of a place that needs to be protected and treasured if it is to continue to survive for its 15 species of dragonfly, 30 species of butterfly, 450 species of moth and many rare plants.

Twitter:

Mrs Munns and the Eco-Group at field trip to Roydon Common Reserve, where students learned how to use binoculars and a telescope to identify bird species. Bird life was plentiful: yellowhammers, linnets, skylarks and stonechats all posed or displayed in the sunshine, allowing everyone to practise identifying them and finding them in the guides. Pupils were also introduced to the ecology of the area and conservation efforts of the reserve.

100% Attendance

These students have maintained 100% attendance since they started in September.

Well done!

Vitor	7B1
Rea	7B1
Josh	7B1
Harriet	7B2
Erin	7B2
Archie	7B2
Abdul-Roheem	7B2
Mia	7F1
Marcus	7F2
Elizabeth	7H2
Kyle	7O2
Charlie	7O2
Adedayo	7S1
Harriet	7S2

Achievement Points

Whole Year Group Total



Achievement Point

Award Badges

100 = Bronze

250 = Silver

400 = Gold

600 = Platinum



UK Mathematics Trust

In April, top set students from Year 7 and 8 participated in the Junior Mathematical Challenge from the UK Mathematics Trust. A big well done to everyone who took part - especially the 13 students who received a bronze award and 12 who got silver. Congratulations to Ash Budny who was the only student in Year 7 to be awarded gold! Ash's score was so high, they were invited to participate in the follow on round "Junior Kangaroo" - Well done Ash!



Computer Science Achievement

Well done to these 5 students in 7H1 who have been awarded a computer science achievement badge. Teacher Mr Manu was very impressed with their work!



Ted's Tennis Talk

Ted was interviewed this evening by Radio Norfolk at his tennis club in Easton.

Radio Norfolk are doing a feature as Alfie Hewitt is playing at Wimbledon this week so they wanted to talk to Ted and his friends that play wheelchair tennis.

The interview was on radio Norfolk 12/7/23 at 8.30am, there is also a 4 hour sport special on Thursday 13th July at some point in the day and his interview may be on Look East at some point soon.

Well done Ted!



The Gliders

The Gliders rocking the stage at the WANT Community Music Week!

Go Gliders Go!





School Council

The Student Council is led by our Year 11 Head Students and is made up of five different committees who help to make Springwood High School a better place to learn!

These are our 5 committees and their Year 7 representatives -



Teaching & Learning -

Jeron M

Alex C



Equality & Diversity -

Harry M

Esme T

Georgy J



Environment -

Barbara O

Alice M



Embracing School Life -

Isabella B

Rehaan H



Student Well Being -

Elsie M

Joseph P

Marcus R

Equipment Checklist

All students should have the following with them every day –

School bag

Timetable Card

Knowledge Organiser

Pencil Case -

Pens x 2

Red pen

Pencil x 2

Ruler

Calculator

Rubber

Failure to have the correct equipment after being reminded once will result in a 2 week Equipment Report.

All students need to be prepared daily.

Key Dates

- Thursday 20th July – last day – finish at 14.25
- Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September – Staff Training Days
- Wednesday 6th September – New Year 7 & Year 12 in school
- Thursday 7th September – all years back to school

Year Office Contact Details

Year 7 Office, direct dial 24/7—01553 778090

Email Mr Cuss, Head of Year 7—p.cuss@springwoodhighschool.co.uk

Email Mrs Robinson, Year 7 Manager—j.robinson@springwoodhighschool.co.uk

Generic email—classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk

School website—www.springwoodhighschool.co.uk

Attendance Information

What should I do if my child is unwell? —If your child is unwell, please call the Year 7 Office on 01553 778090 or email classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk before 8.00am and give specific reasons and symptoms of the illness. You will need to contact the office EVERY DAY that your child is off. The information you give will be recorded on our official register.

Leave of Absence—There may be exceptional circumstances where you need to request a leave of absence for your child. You will need to submit a 'Leave of Absence Form'. These can be found on the school website or we have a paper copy in the office. This form needs handing in to the Year 7 Office. You will then receive a phone call, email or SIMS message stating if your request has been granted or denied.

Attendance Information

Expected attendance at Springwood High School is 100% and regular attendance is a minimum of 96%; this is equivalent to students attending for 182 of the 190 days possible in a school year.

Attendance can be summarised as shown in the table below

ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE	DAYS OF SCHOOLS MISSED	OFSTED SCHOOL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE GRADING
98% and above	4 days or less	Outstanding
96% and above	8 days or less	Good
94% and above	12 days or less	Requires improvement
Below 94%	More than 12 days	Inadequate

Appendix 4: Attendance Policy Quick Guide for Parents

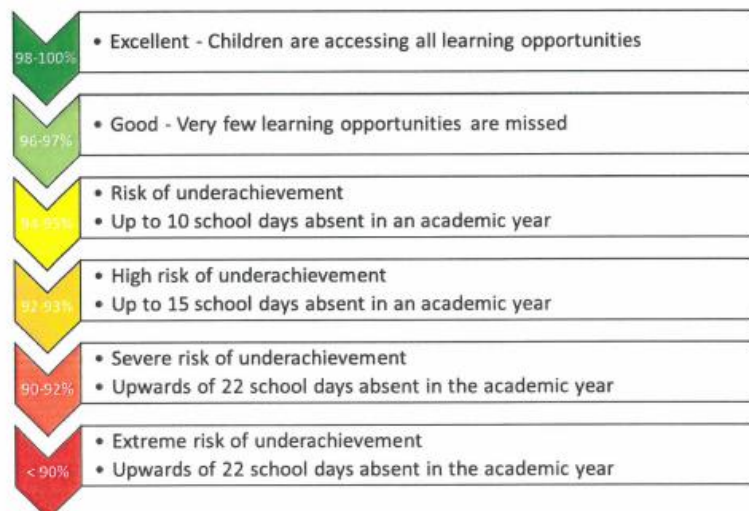
Attendance Policy Quick Guide for Parents

We expect pupils to attend school for 100% of the academic year.

You can support your child to have excellent attendance by taking these steps:

- Ensure your child arrives on time for school every day and is ready to learn. Arriving after registration is recorded as an unauthorised absence. Pupils must be in school by **8:45 am**.
- Avoid taking holidays during term time.
- If your child appears to be only slightly ill, send them in to school. We have staff who will contact you if their condition deteriorates.
- Book any medical appointments outside of school hours. If this is unavoidable, please book for as late in the afternoon as possible and inform the school of appointments in advance.
- Supply a copy of the appointment card or hospital letter if your child has an appointment during school hours.

If your child becomes reluctant to go to school or you need help, please contact the school immediately; we are more likely to be able to work together to solve any problems if we act early.



Term Dates Summary

	First Day of Term	Last Day of Term
Autumn 1st Half Term	Wednesday 6th September 2023 Years 7 and 12 Only Return to School Thursday 7th September 2023 Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 Return to School	Thursday 19th October 2023
Autumn 2nd Half Term	Monday 30th October 2023	Wednesday 20th December 2023
Spring 1st Half Term	Thursday 4th January 2024	Friday 16th February 2024
Spring 2nd Half Term	Monday 26th February 2024	Thursday 28th March 2024
Summer 1st Half Term	Monday 15th April 2024	Friday 24th May 2024
Summer 2nd Half Term	Monday 3rd June 2024	Friday 19th July 2024

Training Days & Bank Holidays

Training Days - Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September 2023
Friday 20th October 2023
Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May 2024



Appendix 1

SPRINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

UNIFORM & SPORTS KIT CHECKLIST

<p>*Blazer White, stiff collar school shirt *House colour school tie</p> <p>**Plain black tailored trousers or *School skirt</p> <p>*School jumper</p> <p>Plain black tights or plain black knee length socks (when worn with a skirt) Plain black socks that must cover the whole ankle (when worn with trousers) Over the knee socks, short socks such as ankle or trainer socks, and footless tights or leggings are not allowed.</p> <p>Plain black (leather or leather-like) shoes (no boots, black trainers, stilettos, ballet pumps, sling backs or toeless)</p> <p>Plain coat (no logos or other markings) long enough to cover blazer properly</p> <p>PE KIT</p> <p>Compulsory: *Springwood PE shirt Black Shorts Black Socks Trainers (non-marking sole with grip) Football Boots</p> <p>Optional: Black Track Suit Plain Black leggings Plain Black 'skin' can be worn under PE shirt Shin pads and gumshields</p>
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Items marked * can only be bought from the school

**Trousers deemed appropriate by Springwood High School are available for purchase via our website. School trousers can be purchased from other suppliers. However, if the trousers worn by a student are considered unsuitable or inappropriate and a suitable alternative cannot be sourced from elsewhere, parents/carers will be directed to buy the trousers we have available through our website.

The school reserves the right to make the final decision on the suitability and/or appropriateness of the school trousers worn by Springwood students.

Lost & Found

Please put your child's name in all of their clothing, on their tie, their PE kit, each shoe/trainer/football boot and all other belongings. We have seen numerous students lose bits and pieces over the last 6 weeks. Most have been returned as they have names on them.

Please label everything!

If your child has lost anything, we have a lost property basket in the canteen next to Mr Cuss' office and one in the LRC next to the books. Please encourage them to check these places first.

Anything that comes to the Year Office with a name in, we will return to students ASAP.



The Springwood Parent, Teacher, Friend Association, PTFA, is an excellent way to bring people together to raise money and help support the school and the pupils of Springwood.

It provides an opportunity for everyone to work together to:

Raise funds to help the school provide extra resources for the pupils.

Provide support for school trips and outings and other special events.

We have a new chair of the PTFA, **Paul Blandford**, and we would like to encourage all parents, teachers and school staff to get involved even if you only have a small amount of time available. You may wish to join the committee and be involved in the organisation, or just be available to serve teas and coffees at PTFA events - you may even just like to provide the odd cake here and there! Whatever your preferred commitment, large or small, the Springwood PTFA would be very grateful for your help.

If you are interested in joining us, please email ptfa@springwoodhighschool.co.uk