



Year 8 Office: 01553 779408

Email: [classof2025@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:classof2025@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

## July 2022

Message from Mr Johnson

As I write this message it is lovely to feel cool again after the recent heatwave! I must say the students have been amazing during this time.

As ever, it has been a hugely busy half term with so much happening. Year 11 Prom was fantastic with hundreds of students enjoying a night of fun and dancing. I am sure the forthcoming Sixth Form Prom will be equally as fun!

Our students have been an absolute pleasure this half term. As I walk around the field at break and lunchtime, it is lovely to talk to each and every one of them. What a fabulous group of young people.

One particular highlight of the term was our four-day outdoor music festival. Our very own Glastonbury! Springwood students played and sang their hearts out with students from our other Trust schools. Similarly, the fashion show was a magnificent celebration of all things haute couture! Ms Markwell, her team and the fabulous students made this one the best ever!

I am sure you will be excited to hear that we have so many plans to make next year even better! Watch this space – there are even plans for a panto!!!

There are also a couple of introductions within this newsletter, letting you know about some changes for September.

Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to welcoming you back in September!

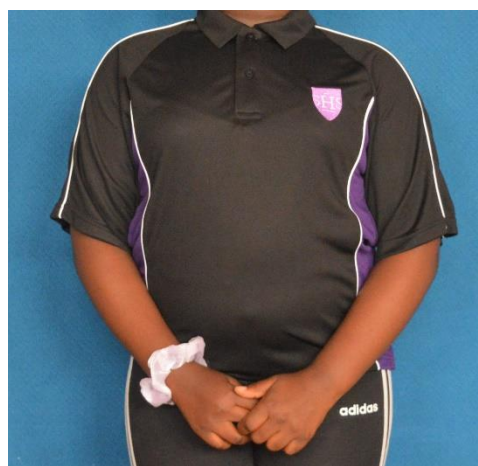
Andy Johnson

Attendance - government update:

In September, we will be sending out new government information regarding school attendance, but we would like to make parents aware ahead of the new term that the government is changing the rules around absences from 1st September. The changes in the rules will mean that we will not be able to agree absence for holidays booked during term-time. Likewise, multiple fixed penalty notices can be issued for any unauthorised or unagreed absence and these may now lead to court action.

Uniform:

Just a quick reminder that we have changed our uniform supplier. Orders are now done directly through Price & Buckland. The link is on our school website. I have attached a copy of Springwood's Uniform Policy for your information. The most significant change to the uniform is the new PE kit. We have seen students wearing the new PE top this week and we are really pleased with how it looks. There will also be available to purchase a Springwood sweatshirt that students can wear if they need an additional layer in the colder months. Please note that they are not permitted to wear alternative sweatshirt type tops.



PTFA:

We would love to continue to grow our PTFA committee and look forward to hearing from you if you would like to get involved. Please contact Mr Richard Thompson if you would like further details about our PTFA, the kind of things we do and how you could contribute.

[r.thompson2@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:r.thompson2@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

Term dates 2022-23:

	<b>First Day of Term</b>	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
<b>Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 <b>Years 7 and 12 Only Return to School</b> Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 Return to School</b>	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
<b>Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>Spring 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
<b>Summer 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
<b>Summer 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2023

### School Holiday 2022 - 2023

	<b>First Day of the Holiday</b>	<b>Last Day of the Holiday</b>
<b>Autumn Half Term Holiday</b>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Christmas Holiday</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023
<b>Spring Half Term Holiday</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>Easter Holiday</b>	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>Summer Half Term Holiday</b>	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023
<b>First day of Summer Leave</b>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023	

### Training Days/Bank Holidays

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

May Bank Holiday – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Hello, I am PC 1858 James Smith and am your new safer schools officer.

I'd like to take the opportunity to explain what my role is in keeping you or your children safe in and outside of school and to introduce myself, starting with the aims of my role.

A safer school partnership has the following aims.

- Safety of pupils, staff and the school site and surrounding area/community
- To help young people to deal with situations that may put them at risk of becoming victims of crime, bullying or intimidation, and to provide support to those who do.
- Focused enforcement to demonstrate that those that do offend cannot do so without facing consequences.
- Early identification, support and where necessary challenge of pupils involved in or at risk of offending
- Improved standards of pupil behaviour and attendance, and less need for exclusions
- More positive relations between young people, the Police and the wider community.
- Effective approaches to issues beyond the school site that negatively impact on pupil safety and behaviour.

A bit about me. I have been a Police officer for thirteen years. I began my career working in response policing in Essex Police before training as a detective working in Child abuse investigations and CID. I transferred to Norfolk constabulary as a detective in 2018 working in King's Lynn CID.

I made the decision to apply to work as a safer schools officer because I have seen first-hand how children, teenagers and families are affected both positively and negatively by the Police and criminal justice system. I believe this role will allow me to use my experience to provide support and advice to students and their families to make our community safer and stronger now and in the future.

I firmly believe in education and crime reduction and want to empower students to make the right decisions throughout their time at school which will give them the best opportunities into their adult lives.

I will be splitting my time between Kings Lynn academy and Springwood high school. I look forward to meeting and engaging with students, parents and staff in school and if you have any questions feel free to contact me via Email on [James.Smith1@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:James.Smith1@norfolk.police.uk)

Further information can also be found online at <https://www.norfolk.police.uk/advice/child-protection/safer-schools-partnerships> and you can follow the safer schools team on Twitter @SaferSchoolsNfk

Kind regards

PC James Smith

## **New challenges ahead**

I feel as if the Year has raced by once again. It really doesn't seem a year ago that I was writing to celebrate the fact that our year group had got through their first year at high school!

They have now completed Year 8 and will very soon be into a new phase of their Springwood journey. Year 9 will be a very important year for everyone. Most importantly, they will start to think about GCSE options very early on the year and will work with their form tutors to make some sensible choices. Students have had two years to settle into school life and get used to the routines and high expectations of school, so there will now be much more of an emphasis upon academic progress.

As ever, there will be some changes for all. One or two of our Year team are changing role or position and we wish them well for the future. We say a huge goodbye to Mr S McGee 8H1 Form Tutor and welcome his replacement, Miss N Elvin into the Year 8 team.

The Year 8 team will also be changing, as I will be stepping down from my role as the Head of Year. Although it has definitely had some ups and downs, it has been a real pleasure to meet the pupils and to get to know them. If they continue to work hard, I am sure they will leave with wonderful results and great memories.

I welcome Mrs Mann to the role and wish her every success. I know that she knows many of the pupils well and is looking forward to working with our wonderful team of tutors.

## **Some thoughts from our students on the year, the future and their overall aims:**

"I enjoyed most of the lessons in year 8 because I found them more interesting....eg History" Jacob

"I enjoyed...Super Learning Day and preparing for it in lessons. I am looking forward to the Disneyland Trip." Karolina

"I have enjoyed the Space Trip and the plane thing when you had to build a plane.....My aim for Year 9 – to do extra stuff out of school" Vanessa

"I enjoyed Year 8 for making friends, having a laugh and raising money for Springfest" Harry

"Some things I have enjoyed about Year 8 are going on the Space Trip and doing the Super Learning Day with friends. Next year, I am looking forward to going on more trips and picking options." Wiki

"In Year 8, I have enjoyed the school football games and winning the county cup" Harry B

"Things I have enjoyed about Year 8 are the music concerts, performing in orchestras and bands"

"Things I have enjoyed in Year 8 are the trips that have happened such as sailing. I am looking forward to new experiences in lessons and my aim is to revise longer and more often" Ellie

## Sports Day

Year 8 contributed enormously to a most successful “Sports Day” this year. Actually, shared over two days, we had excellent participation across the board. The House competition is quite fierce and the Sports captains had no difficulty recruiting for the various events. Felbrigg House were the winners, with Oxburgh in second place.



Well done to Maxwell and Wicky for being the overall winners in the year group.

## The Brilliant Club

A big congratulations to Ash, Amelie-May and Finn for completing their sessions with The Brilliant Club.





## Junior Kangaroo Maths Challenge

I'm really glad I had the opportunity to take part in the Junior Kangaroo Maths Challenge as it was very fun, while challenging at the same time. I think it was definitely a worthwhile experience because it stretched my maths abilities, with interesting and unique problems that I wouldn't get in regular maths lessons. My parents and I are very proud that I managed to achieve a merit in the challenge. From Kara C

These students received a certificate of participation:

Jaxon W (43)

Ben Y (79)

James S (95) - 97 was the boundary for a merit so he just missed out

Kara C was awarded a certificate of merit - a huge achievement!

A huge well done to you all!



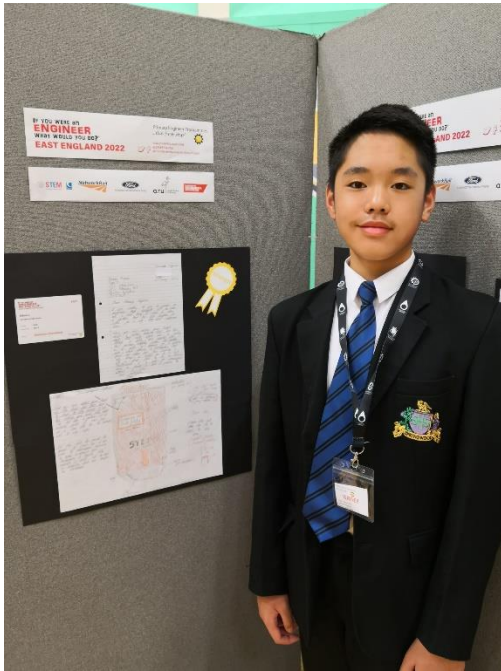
## 'If I were an Engineer' competition

Students had to submit a design for a problem along with a letter to explain to the engineers judging why they should consider building it.

For the East England Region engineers from companies like Ford Global Fund and Network Rail alongside representatives from Anglia Ruskin University got together to choose the winners. They were delighted to name some of our pupils as winners.

This year saw over 30,000 pupils participate across the UK and on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Wednesday's event showcased the winners for the East England Region. The exhibition of all the winning designs is open to the public, as well as the official awards ceremony which took place.

A huge well done to Ethan S.



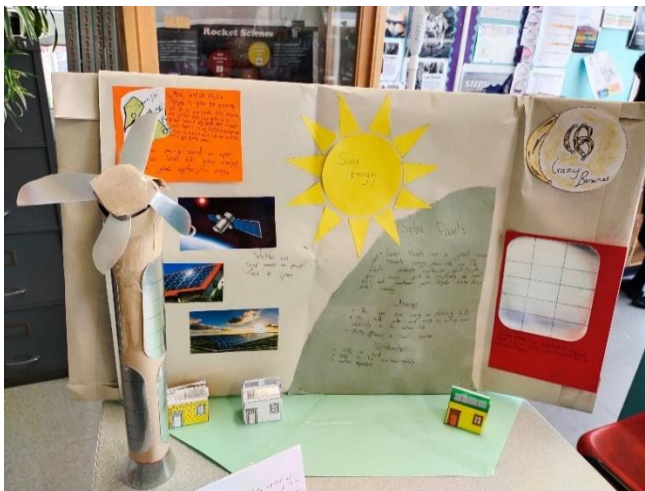
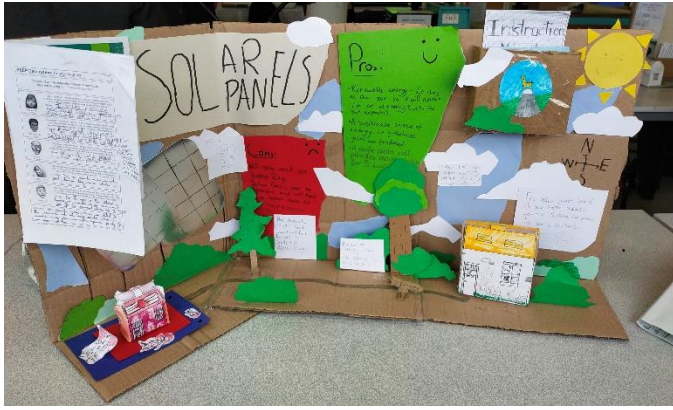
## Super Learning Day

Completing their Bronze Crest Award.

Many pupils have mentioned this project as a highlight of the year. They worked in teams and had to come up with well researched, environmentally friendly designs. It was clear that lots of thought and hard work went into all aspects of the work and the end results were very impressive indeed.







## Springfest

All of the preparations had been made weeks ago. The big day arrived (only yesterday as I write this) and we were just a little concerned. We certainly didn't want 40C heat – but didn't want it to rain either. In the end, it was warm and kept dry for us. Perfect!!

It was a delight to see all of our year group in one place having such a great time. Many thanks go to Mrs Eveson for coordinating and organising the events. There are lots of people and companies involved and the pupils had the chance to try out some incredible activities.



## Start of next year:

The school year will start on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September for Year 9 students.

We hope you all enjoy a wonderful summer break. Best wishes from the Year 8 Team.