



SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL[®] NEWS



@SpfldUK



May 2021 Issue

www.springfield.uk.net

Springfield Sixth Form Week

We are proud to announce that 'Springfield Sixth Form Week' takes place during the week beginning 14th June for our Year 11 students. Our intention is to offer students this engaging programme that develops their understanding of higher education, careers opportunities and valuable life skills. Students had have the opportunity to sign up for different sessions ranging from 'An Introduction to Criminology' to 'Dissections in Science'. All of the sessions are summarised and listed in the following pages. We strongly recommend students take advantage of this 'never before offered' opportunity. Springfield Sixth Form week will be followed up with a week of virtual work experience. This is another way we are recognising the challenging times experienced by pupils and supporting them with their ongoing education. For full details of what is going to be offered please view the Prospectus by following this link https://springfield.uk.net/images/files/documents/Year_11_Sixth_Form_Week_Prospectus.pdf (Please note that the deadline for signing up has now past.)

Mr Wharton
Deputy Headteacher



From the Headteacher



This has been a short but very busy half-term at Springfield, and it has been refreshing for all to have lessons being consistently delivered on site again, albeit with the necessary systems of control remaining in place. A key focus has been ensuring that Year 11 students have every opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills across their range of subjects; and for staff to work together to design, review and moderate a programme of assessments to support the 'Teacher Assessed Grades' that are required this year in the absence of formal GCSE examinations.

A sincere 'well done' to our Year 11 students who are working hard to get the best grades of which they are capable. Thanks also to staff colleagues who, as well as supporting the Year 11 students in lessons, designing assessments and navigating the complex administration required by the examination boards, are also putting together what we hope will be an engaging and enjoyable final 'Springfield Sixth Form' week for our Year 11 students before they leave for a week of virtual work experience and their personal 'next steps'. A range of masterclasses and seminars are available for the Year 11 students, including criminology, dissection and presentations from local colleges; as well as driving lessons and team building activities led by the British Army. Other students should not be surprised to see Year 11 out of uniform during the week as they will be attending as if they were at sixth form; the structure of their day will also be slightly different from normal. More information about the week is available on the website:

<https://springfield.uk.net/index.php/school-life/latest-news/773-year-11-springfield-sixth-form-week>

As Year 11 move on to what we hope will be happy and successful next steps at college, on an apprenticeship or in the workplace, our attention turns to welcoming the students who will join us in Year 7 in September. Ordinarily our transition events would comprise a series of day visits and meetings at the school. However, we anticipate that, even with some restrictions lifting nationally, our approach will need to be adapted within the DfE recommended systems of control for schools and will be reviewing relevant public health advice before confirming all arrangements. (If you have a child in Year 6 kindly note that we will update you as soon as possible after half-term.) We were delighted to note that Springfield's 'first choices' went up significantly for September and we look forward to welcoming a large cohort of young people to our community.

We recognise that health and safety remains a priority for all members of the school community and are mindful that it may be some time yet until school age children are offered COVID19 vaccinations, if indeed they are. While we hope that circumstances allow the easing of lockdown measures to continue nationally, I would take this opportunity to highlight that Government guidance to schools is sector specific and does not always mirror public perceptions of what is 'allowed' elsewhere. Trustees and Governors will continue to review the school's risk assessment and make changes in a

responsible and organised manner as guidance is updated. A number of students are understandably asking what will be in place next (academic) year, and of course the fact of the matter is that we do not have certainty at this point. However, like the students we look forward to a time when we can start to open up more of our provision again.

I know that staff and students are looking forward to the half-term break and hope that everyone is able to find some time for both rest and fun. I hope that you enjoy reviewing this

edition of Springfield News and would also remind you that news and updates are also continuously published on our website.

With kind regards

Ms S F Spivey
CEO, Headteacher

Safe Travel to and from School

While we would always encourage our students to be punctual to school, some of our neighbours have raised a concern that a few children are arriving over half an hour too early! This means they are gathering around neighbours' gates and gardens before school opens. In particular, this appears to apply to some Year 7 students arriving at the Central Road gate.

We would be grateful if you would discuss this with your child, please. If this does apply, please support him/her to arrive at the correct time in order to avoid any inconvenience to others. Kindly note also that staff are not on duty before school opens and so arriving at the correct time is also important for student safety. The times of the school day are listed in the timetable on the school's website:

https://springfield.uk.net/images/files/correspondence/TT_Summer_Term_2021.pdf

We welcome students cycling to school, but are concerned to note that not all of them are wearing suitable helmets or always cycling with due care and attention. The school's home school agreement asks parents to 'ensure that

my son/daughter travels to and from the site safely (including ensuring that my son/daughter wears a helmet if they choose to cycle'.

There is lots of information on line regarding safe cycling and courses for children. If you do allow your child to ride a bicycle to school, please ensure that they have a suitable helmet, that their bike fits and is roadworthy (including working lights if cycling in the dark) and that they have the skills to cycle safely and independently.

Ms S F Spivey
CEO, Headteacher



"Kask Utopia Aero Road Cycling Helmet" by Glory Cycles is licensed under CC BY 2.0

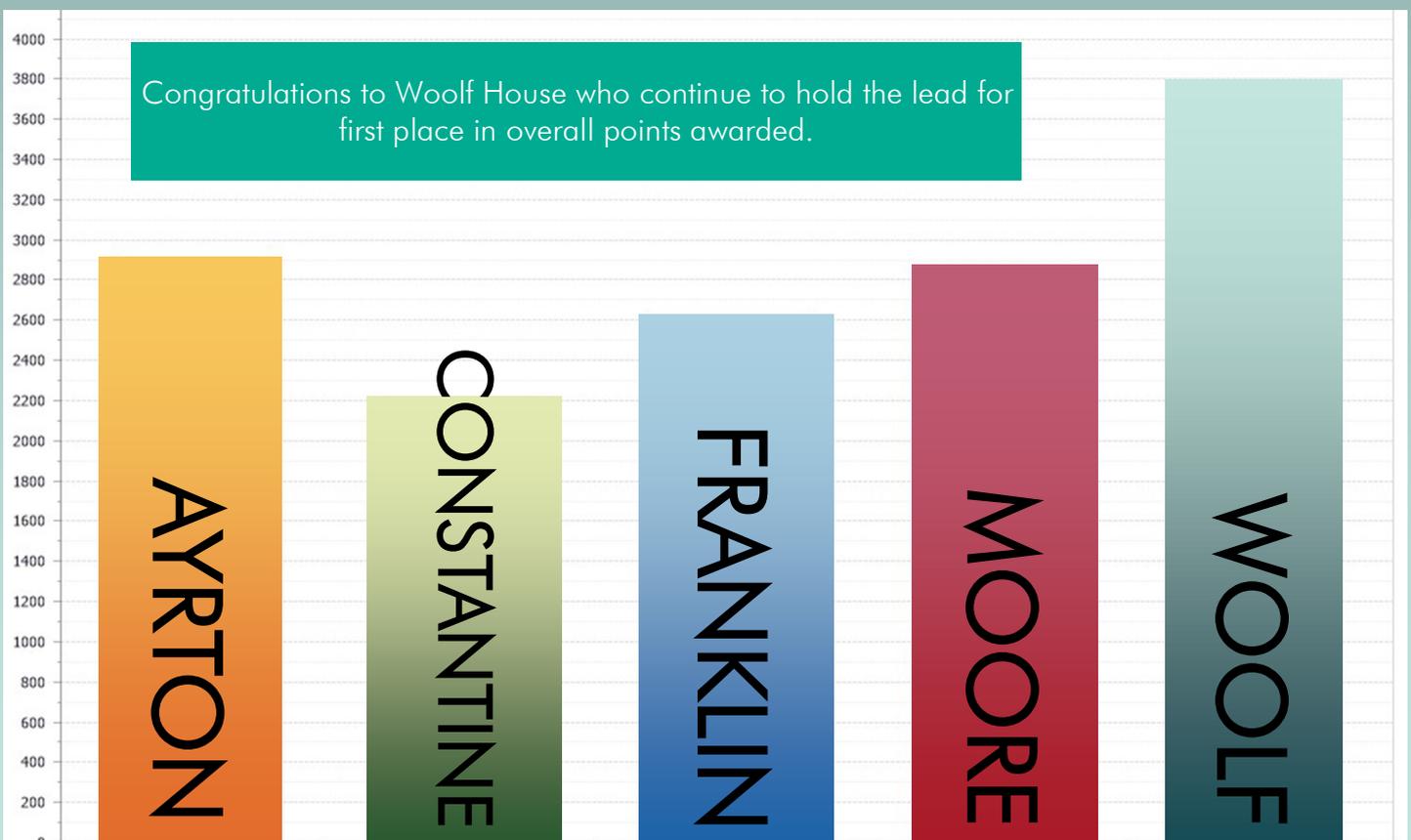
House News



As a very surreal year begins to draw to a close, and we can finally look forward to more positive times ahead, it's been really refreshing to look back at all of the house competitions that have taken place in the school which have documented, praised and rewarded the many talents of our pupils. There have been 25 house competitions in total so far this year and it has been wonderful to see so many pupils engage and take part in something which recognises creativity, hard work and effort. With a little over 7 school weeks until we break up for a much deserved summer holiday, I urge pupils to get involved (at least) one last time in any of the competitions that take place next half term - every little counts towards your House total!

Lastly, a huge well done to all of our KS3 pupils who took part in the PE House Relay competition (full details on pages 5 and 6) and the entries for the Art Department's half termly photo challenge (full details on page 16).

Mrs Goldsmith, Head of Achievement, Year 8



House Relay Event





Monday, 10th of May marked House Week at Springfield School. To celebrate this the PE department put in place an exciting House Relay Competition. Pupils competed in their houses in an attempt to pass the relay baton around the 400m track in the fastest time possible. All pupils who took part gained house points, where eagerness, enthusiasm and resilience were all on show. Well done to all pupils who took part, and additional house points have been added for the winning teams. Congratulations if your name is below.

Mr Peachment, Head of Constantine

Year Group	House	Time	Winning Pupils
Year 7 Boy Winners		1 minute and 4 seconds	Aaron Jenkins (7L) Zak Kent (7L) Chas Thistlewaite (7L) Roman Phelan (7L)
Year 7 Girl Winners		1 minute and 18 seconds	Rubie Irani (7N) Sophie Randell (7N) Erin Jenkins (7N) Isabelle Seaton (7N) Phoebe Boiling (7N) E C (7N) Freya Scowen (7N)
Year 8 Boy Winners		1 minute and 4 seconds	Jordanas Andriunavicius (8G) Reggie Dugan (8G) James Frost (8G) Joshua Witt (8G)
Year 8 Girl Winners		1 minute and 12 seconds	Imogen Likely (8D) Neve Aberly (8D) Lucy Mengham (8D) Lola Charlton (8D) Alice Green (8D)
Year 9 Boy Winners		56 seconds	Joshua Pitts (9R) Bryn Shipp-Scutt (9R) Taylor Smith (9R) Joseph Carroll (9R)
Year 9 Girl Winners		1 minute and 8 seconds	Evie Mitchell (9L) Poppy Harris (9L) Nicole Scowen (9F) Olivia Lawrence (9L) Talitha Stanley (9F) Ava Hutchison (9F)



During Mental Health Awareness Week (10th to 16th May 2021) the aim is to achieve wellbeing and good mental health. The Mental Health Foundation started the event 21 years ago. Every year they set a theme and organise and host the week. It has grown to become one of the biggest awareness weeks across the UK and globally. We enclose below some helpful links that offer support with wellbeing and mental health not only during this week but throughout the year:

Mental Health Foundation

The theme this year is 'connecting with nature'. There are some great top tips available:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

Young Minds

Support for young people who may be struggling with their mental health following the pandemic.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

U Matter

Portsmouth based emotional health and wellbeing service for young people and their families.

<https://www.relate.org.uk/hampshire-and-isle-wight/children-and-young-peoples-counselling>

Telephone: 02392 827026

Email: relate@relateportsmouth.org.uk

Kooth

11-18 year olds in Portsmouth who are struggling with their emotional wellbeing can access a free online counselling service, wellbeing resources and self-help tools from Kooth.com.

Young people can access this service anonymously by signing onto www.kooth.com. Kooth provides unique out of office hours' provision and is open 7 days per week, 365 days a year from noon until 10pm weekdays and from 6pm until 10pm on Saturday and Sundays. The service provides added value with moderated, scheduled forums and self-help articles (many written by service users) to provide peer-led

and self-help support. Kooth helps to reduce waiting times for young people seeking help and removes stigma around mental health and accessing services. Kooth integrates with face-to-face local services to ensure a seamless transition for young people.

The team of qualified counsellors, therapists and support workers provide guided, outcome-focused help for each individual. Kooth take safeguarding and clinical governance extremely seriously. The safety and well-being of all service users is an utmost priority. <https://www.kooth.com/>

For more links and information relating to mental health and safeguarding please visit our website: <https://springfield.uk.net/index.php/school-life/safeguarding>

Mr Wilburn, Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to:

Tia Burt (11N)
Zahid Ahmed (11R)
Alexander Lane (10S)
Rhianna Fry (10E)
Keira Shackleton-Clift (10N)
Hazel Betteridge (10S)
Summa McKenzie (10S)
Izzabella Martin-Nown (10D)
Erin Powell (9P)
Madeline Slater (9L)
Lisa Pimlott (9E)
Matthew Manchip (9S)
Rozea Salih (9D)
Alfie Wright (8F)
Amelia Gray (7P)
Artin Bagheri (7E)
Anjali Patel (7E)
Bobbie Buckner (7G)
Grace Crutchley (7P)

The listed pupils all received a Headteacher's Award this half term. The awards are given in recognition of hard work and achievement. The pupils were nominated by their subject teacher and they were presented with their certificates by Ms Spivey (pictured right and on page 9).

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration





Virtual Interviews

From Tuesday 4th May 2021 Year 10 pupils begin a two week challenge of mock interviews during their Personal Development Learning lessons. Usually they would be in a large room, face to face with employers eager to talk to them in an interview type situation. The purpose is to give pupils a taste of what to expect in an interview scenario and the type of questions that would normally be asked. However, this year we have had to adapt and once again with the support of EBP have provided an opportunity for pupils to have 1:1 interviews with an employer virtually. Pupils have been located in our Learning Centre and were allocated 15 minute slots for their virtual interviews. They were socially distanced with headphones and their own laptop so that they were able to have meaningful discussions with employers. This was a useful follow up to their recent classwork on completing application forms. Despite several pupils showing some nerves they persevered and

found that it was an advantageous process. Valuable lessons have been learned and it may well be that future job interviews will be carried out this way. One of the business employers who was involved in the day commented 'I am an Education and Business Partnership Ambassador and I participated in the Mock Interview Day held at your school on 14th May 2021. I just wanted to say that the students did themselves and your school proud and they were some of the best students I have met in my ten years as an EBP Ambassador. I am a Human Rights Barrister who represents disabled and life-limited children and I was also struck by the very incisive and challenging questions that the students asked me about my job.' Thank you so much for the support of EBP and all the companies involved in the interviews.

Mr Lomas, Head of Enterprise and Personal Development Learning



Calling creative young booklovers – win a £10 National Book Token for each of their classmates?

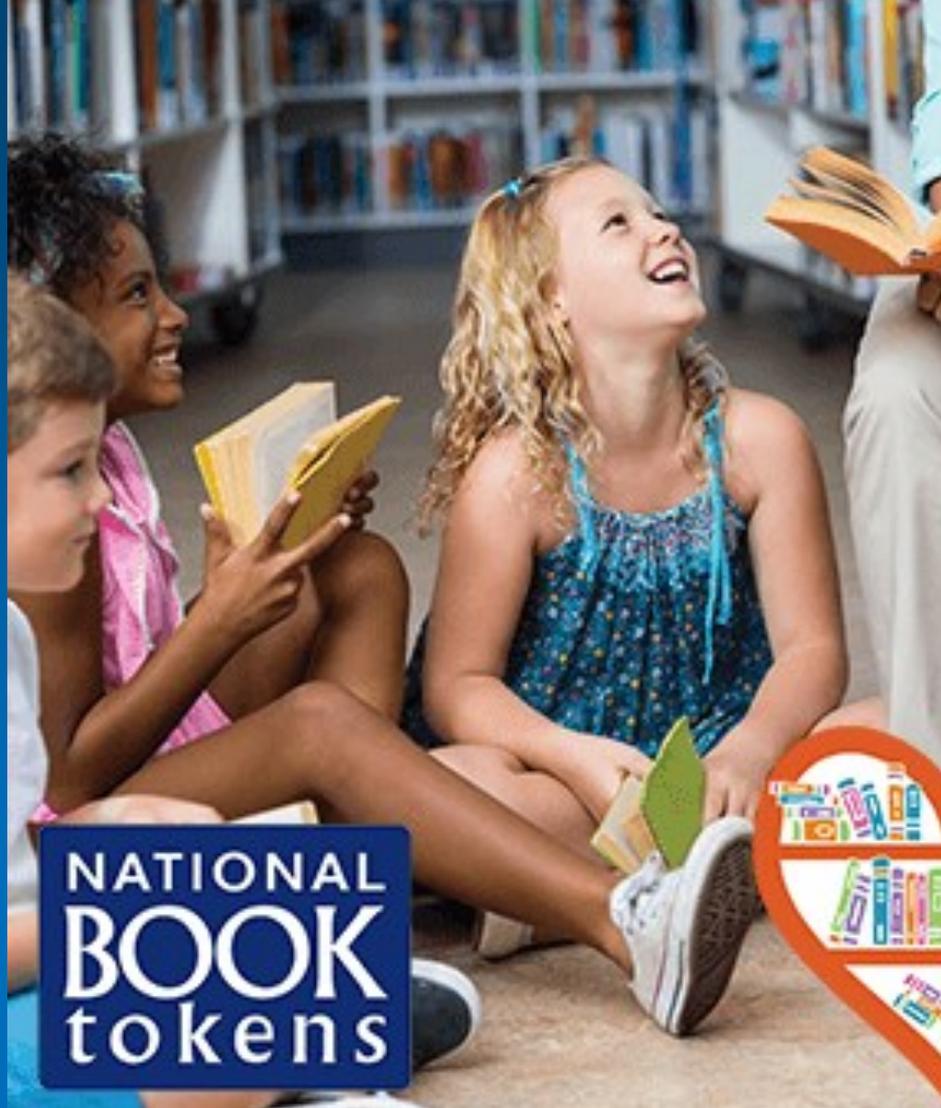
This summer term, National Book tokens are asking entrants to their competition to send them National Book Token designs. Whether it is a school crest doodled in ink, a pencil drawing of the entire class, or something completely different, they want to see it all!

Six weekly winners throughout May and June will get their artwork made into up to 35 gift cards, each loaded with £10 to spend on books!

The closing date for entries is Sunday 13th June 2021. To enter please follow this link:

https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/create-a-national-book-token-for-your-class?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=create&utm_campaign=20210506_schools

Mrs Williams, Librarian



Wäscheleine

My Year 7 class have been drawing and labelling clothes to put on a mini clothes line during their German classes in May. Pupils have also been forming sentences in German that relate to what they wear. This was a fun exercise and also a great learning opportunity.

Amelia Gofton, Dorothy Light, Ivy-Mae Holder and Martha McClenaghan (all 7E) are pictured with some of the items of clothing designed by their class.

Miss McDowell
Teacher of MFL



Employer Engagement

I am pleased to share evaluations from the continuing Employer Engagement Project. Eaton Aerospace and KPMG spoke virtually with our Year 9 Maths classes on 29th April and 6th May. The aim of the lessons was to emphasise the importance and relevance of Maths in the working world.

Mr Lomas, Head of Enterprise and PDL






**Employer Engagement Project Evaluation -
Maths: Algebra 29/04/21**

The Results

EBP South asked students to feedback on the impact of their session on algebra. (Gatsby Benchmarks 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6).

Young People

24

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO TOOK PART IN THE ALGEBRA SESSION DURING MATHS






**Employer Engagement Project Evaluation -
Maths: Depreciation & Linear Equations 06/05/21**

The Results

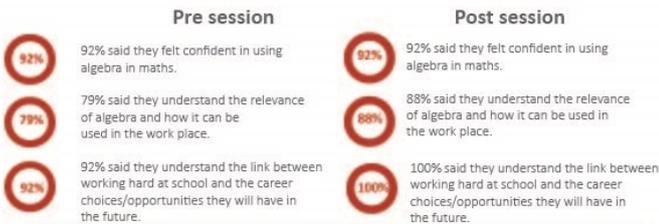
EBP South asked students to feedback on the impact of their session on depreciation and linear equations. (Gatsby Benchmarks 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6).

Young People

28

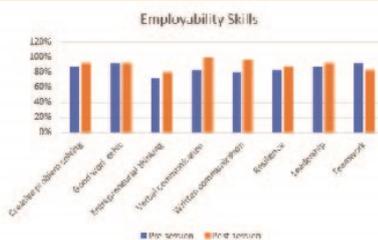
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO TOOK PART IN THE DEPRECIATION AND LINEAR EQUATIONS SESSION DURING MATHS

WHAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

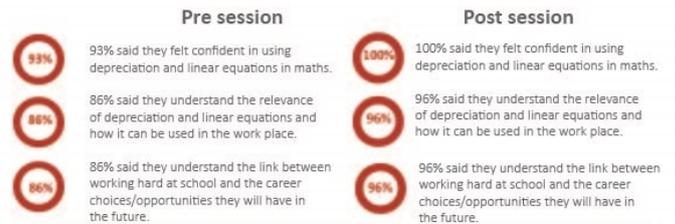


Pre and post results:

I am aware of the employability skills that employers look for (tick all that apply):

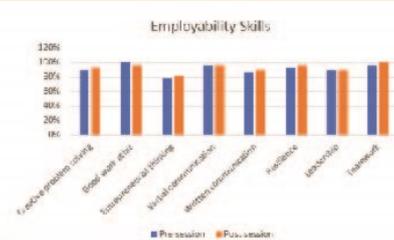


WHAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE SAID



Pre and post results:

I am aware of the employability skills that employers look for (tick all that apply):



WHAT THE EMPLOYER SAID

WOULD YOU DELIVER ANOTHER SESSION?

YES

“It was great to be able to demonstrate how algebra has a real practical application in the work place, and in doing so I hope the students have a better understanding of the importance & influence it can have on our lives. Despite it being a virtual session it was pleasing to feel the positive engagement.”

Mike Kingham, Eaton



WHAT THE SCHOOL SAID

“They really enjoyed the session today. Maths was a little tough for them once we got past the basic algebra part so needed lots of guidance.”

Ms Beasley
Maths Teacher, Springfield School

WHAT THE EMPLOYER SAID

“Working on the EEP was a really rewarding time investment wise and it was great to see the students be so engaged with real-world applications of the maths that they study in the classroom. I'm looking forward to working on this again.”

Chris Sanchez KPMG

We have loved being able to share what we do with the students and show them how the maths they learn about in school is used in our career. The best thing is when it sparks a discussion with the students and really gets them thinking! This has been a great opportunity for us to get involved with and we hope the students got as much out of it as we did.

Katie Burke KPMG



WHAT THE SCHOOL SAID

“My Year 9 Maths class were really engaged with a highly relevant and informative online lesson. As a GCSE Maths teacher, it was really great to see two topics, depreciation and linear equations, so clearly linked and applied to a real-life context. The class gained a lot for this session both in terms of their knowledge for their GCSEs and understanding of how Maths can be applied in the workplace.”

Mr P Dennett
Maths Teacher, Springfield School

“Student, school and employer feedback is valued by the EBP team. It helps us to work with our clients and improve services for them. Through our extensive partnerships and networks with employers we can create opportunities for students to have a wide range of high quality encounters. We hope these opportunities help students to see what they learn in the classroom is relevant and how it will be used in the work place.”

Evaluating our services is important to EBP South as it feeds into our:

- Quality assurance process
- EBP outcomes for young people
- Matrix accreditation

”

Eleanor Cameron, Careers and Quality Manager

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Eleanor Cameron, Careers and Quality Manager

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Portsmouth Book Awards

Discussion and Voting Event 2021

The School Library Service 'Portsmouth Book Award' is an annual event in which schools across the city are invited to participate. A team of keen readers read a selection of shortlisted titles and vote for the book they consider to be the best paperback fiction book for their age group published in the year 2020. What makes this award special, and particularly valued by the chosen authors, is that it is their readers who make the ultimate decision on the winning book, based solely on the views of pupil judges from schools in the Portsmouth area.

Usually the pupil representatives meet together

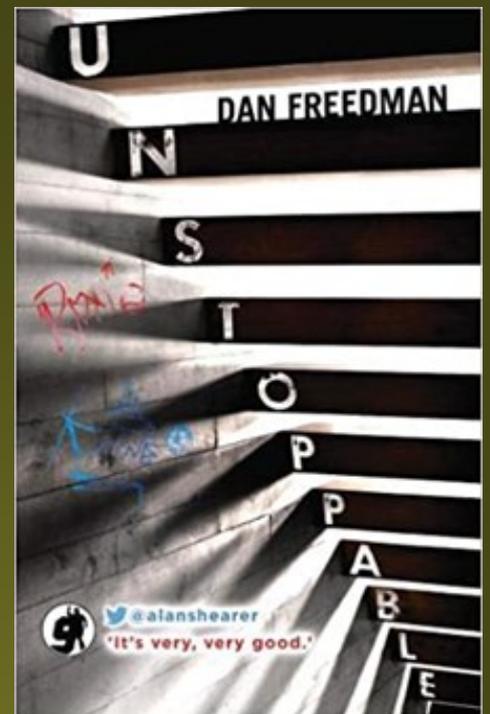
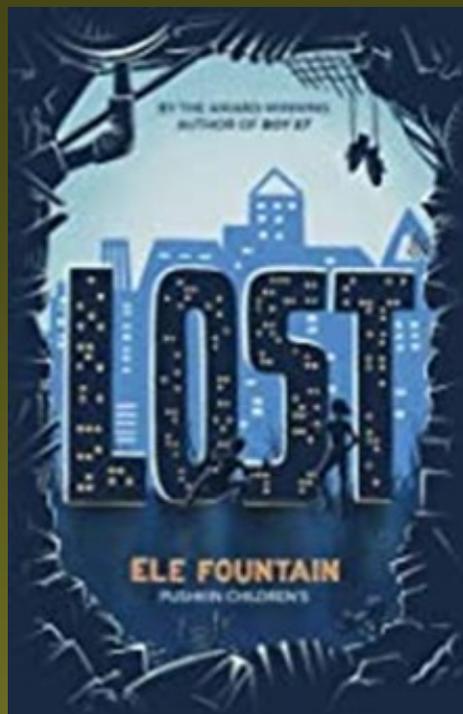
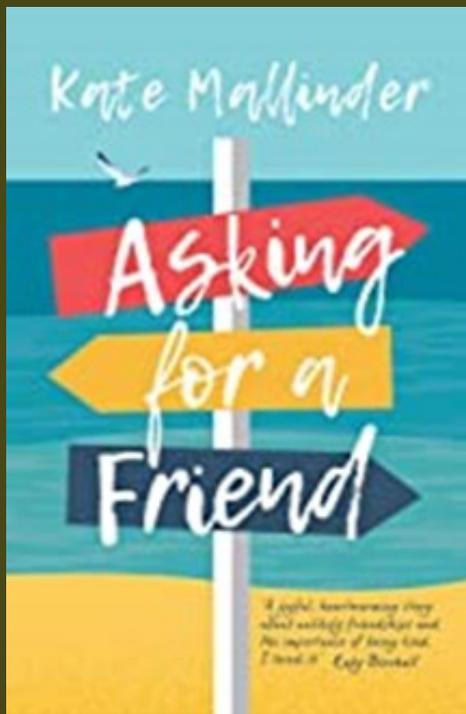
to evaluate the selected books, but like so many other things, due to Covid restrictions, it was not possible to take place in its usual format this year.

That did not deter the Springfield team however, who read all four of the shortlisted titles during lockdown in order to give a fair evaluation of each book. They considered aspects such as whether the beginning drew them in; how the characters developed and if the storyline was a real 'page turner'. They also thought about whether the ending was a satisfying conclusion and if the book was

Continued on page 15



Pictured below from left: Penelope Andriunaviciute (8P), Evie Hyland (8P), Cleo Fleming (8G) and Gerogina Dunthorne (8P)



thought-provoking and gave them cause to reflect upon issues raised.

The judges met in the Library for an In-house Discussion and Voting event on 18th May. There was a lot of lively debate, ably led by Miss Sillince from the English Department, and it was interesting to hear the differing views that were expressed in an insightful, considered way by the Year 8 pupil judges:

Penelope Andriunaviciute
Georgina Dunthorne
Cleo Fleming
Evie Hyland

Each had their own particular favourite from this year's shortlisted titles, which were:

'Lost' by Ele Fountain

'Unstoppable' by Dan Freedman

'Invisible in a Bright Light' by Sally Gardner

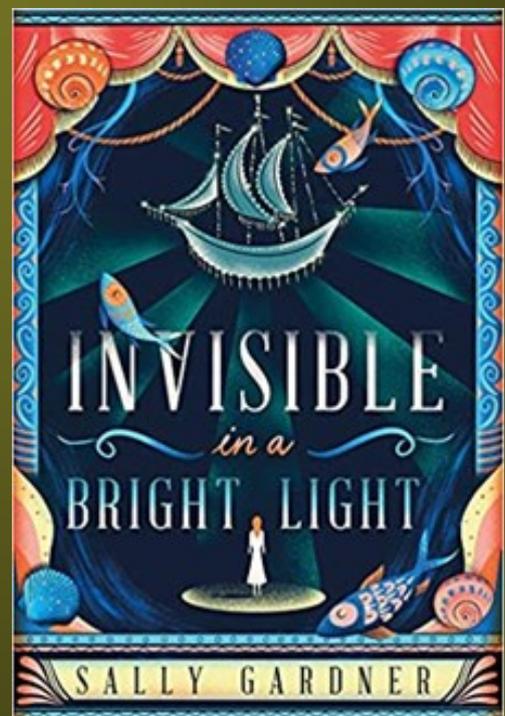
'Asking for a Friend' by Kate Mallinder

The votes were fairly evenly spread, but the most popular book chosen by the Springfield team was 'Invisible in a Bright Light'. Their votes have now been submitted to the School Library Service and it will be interesting to see

if this is reflected in the votes from other schools when the overall winner is announced at the (virtual) Celebration event on 9th June.

There are copies of all the books in the library, subject to availability, so in the meantime, why not read them for yourselves and decide on your favourite?

Mrs. Williams
Librarian



Signs of Spring

We were impressed with the entries to the 'Signs of Spring' Photography House competition set last half term. We are pleased to announce the joint winners - Eva Welch, 8N - Moore and James Wilkinson, 9D - Constantine for their vibrant portraits of Spring plants. All entrants will receive House points.

Mr Toghill, Head of Art commented 'Well done to all the pupils who have submitted their images for the House competition 'Signs of Spring'. They have managed to capture the fresh, vibrant, floral images that we associate with the start of Spring. The winning entries were chosen for their creative use of viewpoints. Eva's glass sphere photograph provides a reflective window for us to view the yellow flowers. James has managed to capture the blossom from Portsdown Hill and has used the diagonal shape to cut across the frame of his picture, the blues are very striking. The next photography challenge is on the theme of 'Reflections'. I can't wait to see the range of images submitted. Good luck!

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration



James Wilkinson (9D)

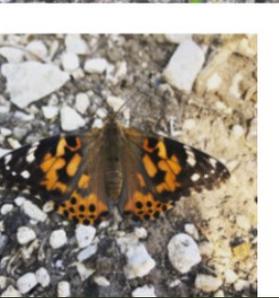
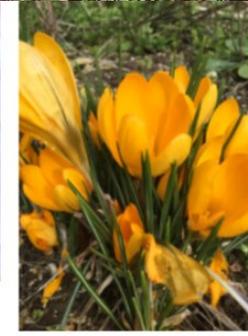


Eva Welch (8N)

Runners Up...

Congratulations to the runners up:
Lekshmi Renjish, 7L
Joseph Donachie, 7P

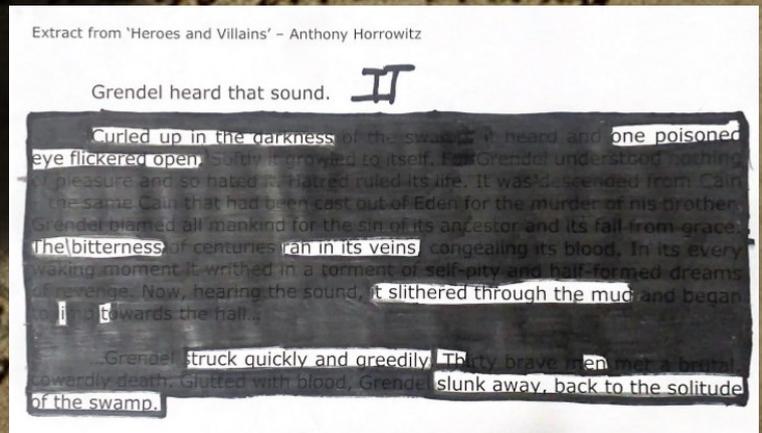
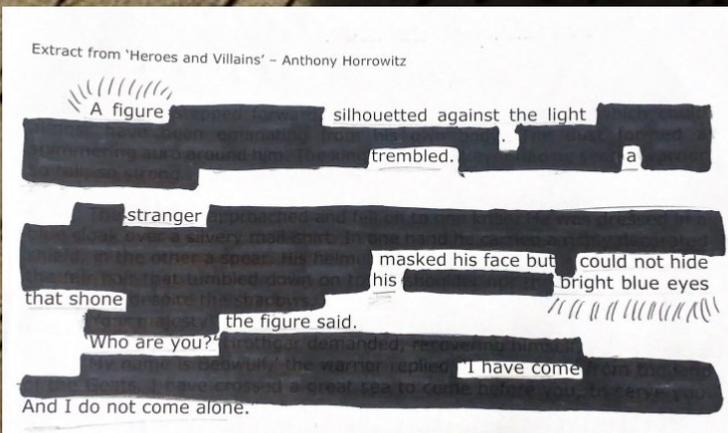
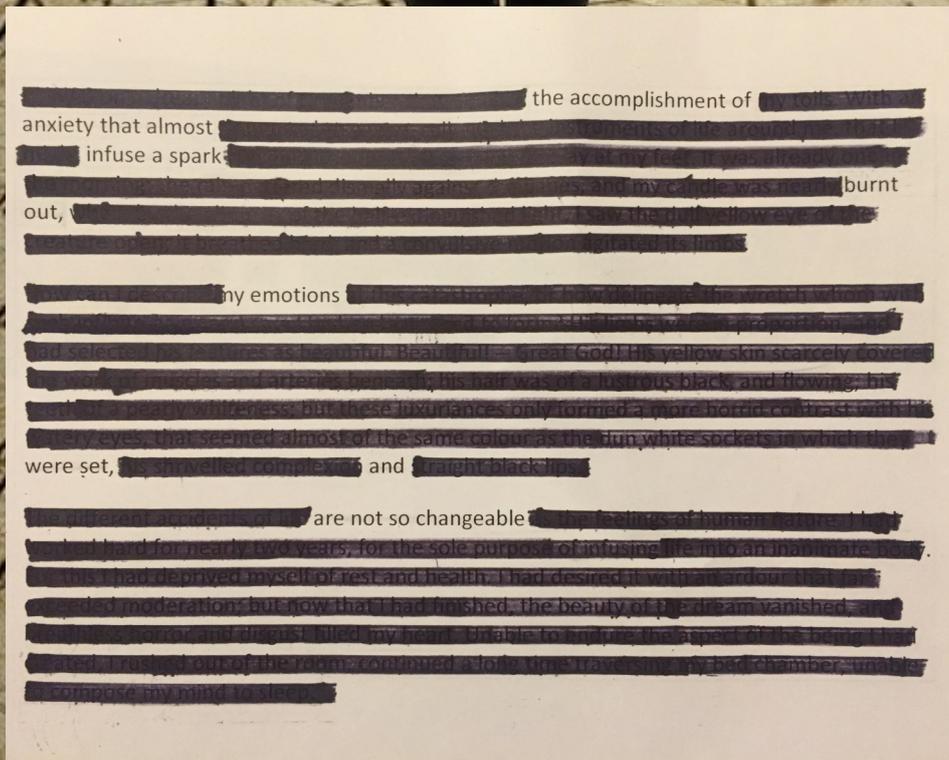
Special Mentions:
Elowen Woodward, 7R
Jada Miah, 7R
Liam Ellis, 8R
Imogen Likely, 8D



Black Out Poetry

In English, Year 7 have been studying a unit of work called 'Villainous Poetry' this term. Whilst studying a selection of poems, Year 7 have been encouraged to consider why the poets may have written/structured their poem in a particular way. Therefore, 7E created their own blackout poetry to practise this creative skill themselves. Blackout poetry is when you take a written piece of text from a book, newspaper, or magazine and redact words, in order to come up with your very own poetry; here are some of 7E's great examples!

Miss Sillince, Teacher of English



HPV Vaccination

HPV vaccines are used to produce antibodies to prevent HPV from infecting cells in the body.

Having the HPV vaccine was actually rather simple on the day. We were shown a PowerPoint explaining how the vaccine would work and what it was meant to do which was both useful and interesting. At my allocated time slot, just after break, I went to the room where they are doing all of the vaccinations and there was a nice little seating area where friends and I could have a chat while we waited. I decided to go last to let people who were a little bit nervous get it over and done with. But there really was no reason to worry. When it was my turn, I stood up and walked over to the nurse. I sat down and told her which arm I would like the injection in, just in case it was a bit numb afterwards. The actual experience of having the injection was surprisingly quick. Just seconds later and I was done. The weirdest thing was that when she injected the HPV liquid I felt it trickling down my arm. It was a strange sensation but it didn't hurt a bit.

After approximately 15 minutes my arm started to ache and became quite sore in the place where the vaccine was administered. Around an hour later, I started to feel a little bit of a knot in my stomach and some friends were saying they felt a little sick. We had been told that there may be a few side effects but they were not bad or long lasting. I continued for the rest of the day as normal and by the evening the only symptom I had was a slight headache.

So, overall, the HPV vaccine was worth the time and was really simple to have done. Though I would say make sure you eat plenty and drink lots of water to prevent the headache from getting too bad.

Amelia Eamer (8E)



"Syringe and Vaccine" by NIAID is licensed under CC BY 2.0

My Amazing Puppy

Rhubarb and Custard Pupdate...

Our Christmas charity money sponsored two Canine Partners puppies Rhubarb and Custard. Please see below their 'Pupdates'.

Mr Lomas
Head of Enterprise and PDL



myamazingpuppy.org.uk

Welcome to your Rhubarb Pupdate



Hello

We hope you and your loved ones are keeping well. This year has continued to bring everyone further challenges, but we are thrilled to see some light on the horizon and to have made it through such a difficult year. We are more grateful than ever to you, our wonderful supporters. The journey starts with our puppies and as a My Amazing Puppy sponsor, you are supporting their vital first steps. Thank you!

Your sponsored puppy is still working hard to become an amazing assistance dog. We are still currently providing virtual training for our puppies over video calls whilst the restrictions continue to ease. This has been working really well, even though trying to keep a puppy who is a little ball of energy in view of the camera is no easy task! Our trainers and puppy parents are now video call experts! Our puppy parents will have either 1-2-1 training sessions or sessions with a few people at a time to simulate puppy classes. But don't worry, our puppies still have plenty of time to play, rest and relax in between their training.

Spring in their step

Now that the snow has finally melted and the sunshine has reappeared, our puppies are enjoying the warmer weather. Spring brings a whole heap of new smells and experiences for our puppies. Lighter nights and longer days can only mean one thing, more long walks in the park and extra play time whilst basking in the sunshine! Our puppy parents have put away the snow boots in exchange for some wellies and are getting out and about to train our puppies in their local areas (socially distanced of course). The park is the perfect place for our puppies to practice their recall skills off lead. Sometimes it can get a little distracting with other dogs playing, people to say hello to and the odd squirrel running about, but this is perfect for our puppies to learn to come back when called - even if they need to be shown a treat for some encouragement! It's important that the puppies respond to their names when called so they are always ready to come running back to their partner in the future. It's not all work though and the puppies always have a good long play with other dogs before being called back - they have great fun on their walks!

There's more information on the other side... turn over to find out what your puppy has been learning!

Canine Partners, registered charity in England and Wales (803688) and Scotland (SC039056). A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 2318166. Registered office: Mill Lane, Heyshott, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9ED.



sponsor a puppy. Transform a life.



Rhubarb

Rhubarb has been settling in well with his puppy parents, Claudia and Jordan. Rhubarb has already lived up to his laid-back nature and made himself at home. After some exploring and a lot of running around and sniffing, he has quickly found his favourite spot in the house. He stretches out under the window each day behind Jordan's desk and has a snooze while soaking up the sunshine. He especially loves it when Jordan leans back and give him a scratch behind the ears. Claudia and Jordan recently introducing Rhubarb to his satellite trainer, Michael, over video call. Michael is making sure that they are comfortable using video calls to start some basic obedience training, although Rhubarb still can't quite work out where Michael's voice is coming from.

Rhubarb loves playing in the garden with Claudia and Jordan's daughter, Katie. His favourite game is Puppy Ping Pong. Katie and Claudia stand at either ends of the garden and take turns calling his name, when he comes bounding over to them he is rewarded with his favourite treat, and lots of cuddles. Rhubarb is already getting the hang of it, although he gets so excited he hasn't quite figured out how to put his brakes on yet and often goes flying past Katie. This game is a great way for Rhubarb to start learning his name, practicing his recall and creating that essential bond with his puppy parents - and having lots of fun in the process of course.

We hope you've enjoyed hearing about Rhubarb, and how he is getting on. It has been a challenge to adapt to these new conditions, but our training team and puppy parents are all working very hard to make sure that your puppy learns everything they need to know to become an amazing assistance dog and transform someone's life. Thank you for following Rhubarb's journey.

Best wishes

My Amazing Puppy Team
myamazingpuppy@caninepartners.org.uk



PupFacts

Breed	Labrador x Golden Retriever
Age	3 months
Favourite toy	A ball on a rope
Favourite food	Sprats
Character	A laid-back boy who takes everything in his stride



Welcome to your Custard Pupdate

Hello

We hope you and your loved ones are keeping well. This year has continued to bring everyone further challenges, but we are thrilled to see some light on the horizon and to have made it through such a difficult year. We are more grateful than ever to you, our wonderful supporters. The journey starts with our puppies and as a My Amazing Puppy sponsor, you are supporting their vital first steps. Thank you!

Your sponsored puppy is still working hard to become an amazing assistance dog. We are still currently providing virtual training for our puppies over video calls whilst the restrictions continue to ease. This has been working really well, even though trying to keep a puppy who is a little ball of energy in view of the camera is no easy task! Our trainers and puppy parents are now video call experts! Our puppy parents will have either 1-2-1 training sessions or sessions with a few people at a time to simulate puppy classes. But don't worry, our puppies still have plenty of time to play, rest and relax in between their training.

Spring in their step

Now that the snow has finally melted and the sunshine has reappeared, our puppies are enjoying the warmer weather. Spring brings a whole heap of new smells and experiences for our puppies. Lighter nights and longer days can only mean one thing, more long walks in the park and extra play time whilst basking in the sunshine! Our puppy parents have put away the snow boots in exchange for some wellies and are getting out and about to train our puppies in their local areas (socially distanced of course). The park is the perfect place for our puppies to practice their recall skills off lead. Sometimes it can get a little distracting with other dogs playing, people to say hello to and the odd squirrel running about, but this is perfect for our puppies to learn to come back when called - even if they need to be shown a treat for some encouragement! It's important that the puppies respond to their names when called so they are always ready to come running back to their partner in the future. It's not all work though and the puppies always have a good long play with other dogs before being called back - they have great fun on their walks!

There's more information on the other side... turn over to find out what your puppy has been learning!

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Custard

Custard has been settling in well with his puppy parent, Rowanne and Jo. Custard has a lot of energy and has spent his first week running around exploring his new home. Rowanne and Jo have quickly discovered his tail will never stop wagging and have managed to catch a few items Custard's tail has sent flying. His satellite trainer, Sally, is making sure that Custard, Rowanne and Jo are happy over video call, and they are starting to learn basic obedience like 'sit', 'wait' and 'lie down'. Custard is still getting the hang of 'sit' as he finds it difficult to get his bottom on the ground as his tail is wagging so much - he's just too excited! But practice makes perfect and this teaches him to be calm, focused and not too fidgety.

Custard loves to explore and especially loves the garden, there are so many new smells to discover and things to see. This week he discovered Rowanne and Jo's cat. He is not quite sure what it is yet, but has been following it around the garden at a safe distance to investigate further - even managing to squeeze behind the shed! Custard loves to play in the garden and one of his favourite games is to play tug with his rope toy. This is a very important skill to learn as it will start to develop the skills that will eventually mean Custard can open doors, drawers, and even help to take shoes off. After a long day of playing and running around Custard loves nothing more than curling up with his favourite colourful cow toy and snoring away on Jo's feet. He needs to be well rested for all the playing in store tomorrow.

We hope you've enjoyed hearing about Custard, and how he is getting on. It has been a challenge to adapt to these new conditions, but our training team and puppy parents are all working very hard to make sure that your puppy learns everything they need to know to become an amazing assistance dog and transform someone's life. Thank you for following Custard's journey.

Best wishes

My Amazing Puppy Team
myamazingpuppy@caninepartners.org.uk



PupFacts

Breed	Golden Retriever x Labrador
Age	3 months
Favourite toy	A colourful cow toy
Favourite food	Fish chew
Character	An energetic boy whose tail never stops wagging

Whitsun

Whitsun, or Pentecost as it is also known, is celebrated 50 days after the death and resurrection of Jesus is remembered and ten days after his ascension to heaven is remembered. It is an important feast day among many Christian denominations including Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches. This year, Whitsun fell on Sunday 23rd May, 2021. Much of the story is revealed to us in the book of Acts in the Bible, where the Holy Spirit descends down onto the disciples of Jesus. This marks the birth of the

worldwide Christian Church. Last half term Year 7 studied Christianity, including how it began and how it became the most followed religion in the world. As part of this, Y7 looked at why Pentecost is considered to be one of the most important feast days in the liturgical calendar, as it was when the disciples started to spread the word of God, just as Jesus had asked them to do.

Miss Houghton
Teacher of Humanities

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We would love to hear from you about any achievements or stories of particular interest relating to Springfield pupils. Please email us at: contact@springfield.uk.net



The Girls' Network

A group of Year 10 pupils took part in a workshop on 21st May to learn about a mentoring programme facilitated by an organisation called The Girls' Network. The scheme pairs up each pupil with a local professional to act as their personal mentor. The mentor will work with pupils over several months to support them in many aspects, such as academic progress and general well-being. Other aims include helping pupils to build their self-confidence, access careers advice and explore aspirations to set and achieve their own goals.

Pupils learned that The Girls' Network engages with over 1,200 girls across the country, including about 100 pupils in Portsmouth. They found out how they can apply to be part of the Network, which they could continue to call upon for support and advice long after they have left Springfield.

Mrs Latif
Head of Music

The Girls' Network 
Unlimited futures for all young women



Mr Dennett's Brain Teaser



The answer to last edition's brain teaser:

Four years ago, Alex was twice as old as Jake. Four years from now, Jake will be $\frac{3}{4}$ of Alex's age. How old is Alex? The answer is **12**.

This edition's brain teaser:

If you toss a coin ten times and it lands heads up every time, what are the chances it will land heads up if you toss it

TRACK AND TRACE

The school will be closed over half term. Should your child test positive for COVID19 over the holiday, please follow all advice from the NHS/Track and Trace service for your child, household members and 'contacts'. (Please note that positive LFD tests must always be confirmed by a PCR test.) Should you be advised that your child was infectious when attending school, please inform the school as soon as possible by telephoning 07999 709188 between 08:45 and 09.15. [Kindly note that this number will be operational for the first six days of the half term holiday only (29th May to 3rd June) and that the school will not respond to text messages.] Where necessary, school staff will make best efforts to identify school based 'proximity contacts' and email those pupils' families with the Public Health England advice for them to self-isolate for 10 days. Generally people are considered to be infectious from 48 hours before the onset of COVID19 symptoms; but we would always advise families to take appropriate medical advice on their circumstances before contacting the school.



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CALENDAR

FIRST DAY OF TERM - MONDAY 7 JUNE 2021
PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY - MONDAY 21 JUNE 2021
LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 23 JULY 2021

SUMMER HOLIDAYS - MONDAY 26 JULY UP TO INCLUDING WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

JUNE

Monday 7 to Friday 11 June	House Assemblies
Wednesday 9 June	Portsmouth Book Awards Virtual Celebration Event
Monday 14 June to Friday 18 June	Springfield Sixth Form Week
Friday 18 June	Year 10 Progress Reports Issued
Friday 18 June	Year 11 Leavers' Event
Monday 21 June	Professional Closure Day
Monday 21 June to Friday 25 June	Year 11 Virtual Work Experience Week
Tuesday 22 June to Friday 25 June	Year 10 Mock Exam Week 1
Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July	Year 10 Mock Exam Week 2

JULY

Thursday 1st July	Year 10 Remote Parents' Evening
Monday 5 to Friday 9 July	House Week
Monday 5 to Friday 9 July	Year 6 Parents' Induction Week TBC
Monday 5 July/Tuesday 6 July	Year 6 Induction Days TBC
Tuesday 6 July	Year 8 Awards Event TBC
Wednesday 7 July	Year 9 Progress Reports Issued
Wednesday 7 July	Tutor GoogleMeets
Thursday 8 July	Year 8 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 8 July	Year 10 Awards Event TBC
Friday 9 July	Year 7 Progress Reports Issued
Friday 9 July	Year 9 Awards Event TBC
Tuesday 13 July	Year 7 Awards Event TBC
Thursday 15 July	Year 9 School Leavers Boosters
Friday 16 July	Years 7, 8 and 9 Activities Event TBC

Please note all above dates are correct at publication, but could be subject to change.
Please check the website/study planners for up-to-date information.