



SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL[®] NEWS



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December 2021 Issue

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Awards Evening



We were delighted to welcome back some of our 2021 leavers on the evening of Thursday 25th November 2021 to celebrate their success. Awards were presented to the winners by Mr Cufley, Chair of Governors and Ms Spivey, Headteacher for students' effort in individual subject areas, for outstanding GCSE results and also for progress. Some of the 2020-21 Senior Prefect Team concluded the evening with an uplifting speech about their time at Springfield and congratulated the whole year group on their efforts during an exceptional time.

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher



From the Headteacher



Despite the ever changing circumstances of recent days, I hope that all members of our school community are looking forward to and able to enjoy a well-deserved Christmas break, in whatever form that may take. If we have taken anything from the pandemic it's the adage that 'the only constant in life is change'; and learning to accept and adapt to change, however challenging, is an important part of life. A huge thank you to the students, staff and parents who have continued to demonstrate resilience, optimism and, importantly, kindness as we have navigated the unusual cadence of the autumn term 2021. In particular I would like to extend my thanks to colleagues who have taken on a range of extra duties and demands, including the extensive cover of absent colleagues, in order to keep the school open.

There have been many positive highlights to the term including being able to welcome our Year 11 Leavers (2021) back to school to collect their prizes and certificates at our annual Awards Evening. We had been unable to run the event last year; and although this year it was limited to staff and students only, it was a very enjoyable event. As I said to the students during the occasion, the fact it was a smaller affair meant that it felt very relaxed and intimate, and staff were able to spend time really thinking about the individual students and their accomplishments. Our congratulations and best wishes again to the prize winners and their year group; we wish them every success for the future.

I hope that you enjoy reading Springfield News and seeing some of the many examples of how our students have been applying their energy and creativity to their learning and extra-curricular activities. Year 11 students have recently been applying themselves to their first round of mock examinations, which we always aim to be a reassuring and formative experience for students. Results will be shared early next term; we wish them luck and ultimately that they achieve the best grade of which they are capable.

As you will be aware, we have a brief 'staggered start' to next term to allow us to test all pupils once on-site for COVID-19 before they return (in addition to them self-testing at home as usual). We know that families know how important it is to reduce transmission in the school environment (and elsewhere) and this is an important measure to try to keep students and staff well such that school can function as far as possible as usual. We, therefore, thank you in advance for supporting this programme.

Information regarding testing and self-isolation is currently being updated at pace and we would advise that you continue to check the published Government/NHS advice, including:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

and/or to contact the DfE helpline if you have any COVID-19 related queries: 0800 046 8687.

The following revised guidance was received on 15 December:

*The DfE has confirmed that even if **someone has tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 90 days**, if they are identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19 and are exempt from isolation, they are strongly advised to take part in daily testing. If the LFD test is positive, they should also take a confirmatory PCR even if it is within the 90 days. This is a change to the previous position because we know people can be infected with Omicron even when they have had previous covid infection.*

We hope there will be no further national or local restrictions in place next term, but of course if anything changes we will inform parents as soon as possible. However, we would anticipate that the

‘hands, space, face, fresh air’ approaches will remain as significant as ever and we value parents encouraging and reminding their children of the importance of maintaining these at school and elsewhere. As you are no doubt aware, news, information and features are published on the school’s website on a regular basis (as well as via Twitter and Facebook) and I would encourage you to visit from time to time to find out more about what is happening at the school.

I wish you a happy Christmas and New Year.

With kind regards
Ms S F Spivey
Headteacher, Springfield School
CEO, The De Curci Trust

LFD Testing

As published in our letter to parents dated 6th December 2021 the LFD testing schedules have been finalised. A copy of the overall schedule is shown below. Individual year group schedules are listed in our letter to parents dated 14th December (<https://springfield.uk.net/index.php/school-life/letters-to-parents>). Students should wear uniform when coming onto school site for their LFD test.

	Xmas Holiday	Term Starts				Home LFD Test		
Date:-	Mon 03 Jan	Tues 04 Jan (am)	Tues 04 Jan (pm)	Wed 05 Jan (am)	Wed 05 Jan (pm)	Thurs 06 Jan (am)	Thurs 06 Jan (pm)	Fri 07 Jan
Year 7		Remote Learning	Year 7 On-site LFD Test	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons
Year 8		Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Year 8 On-site LFD Test	Remote Learning	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons
Year 9		Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Year 9 On-site LFD Test	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons
Year 10		Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Year 10 On-site LFD Test	Remote Learning	On-site lessons
Year 11		Year 11 On-site LFD Test	Remote Learning	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons	On-site lessons

House News



As the Autumn term comes to a close I am delighted to announce that across all 5 Houses students have earned 31,878 house points! This has been achieved as a result of a gigantic effort from all students, both in lessons, and at home. A proportion of these House points have been awarded for participation in House competitions, such as the Duolingo Challenge, the Tutor Group Music Competition, the Christmas Postcard Competition and many more. This term alone 77 Headteacher Awards have been distributed

amongst the Houses, that is 1,540 House points! Do not worry if you haven't managed to compete in a House competition yet, there will be lots of new House competitions in 2022, which means there are lots of opportunities to win more House points. Although the race for the House Cup is very competitive, I am pleased that so many of you are collecting House points. Keep up the fantastic work, have a fantastic Christmas, and see you in the new year.

Mr Singleton, Head of Woolf

Congratulations to all members of Woolf House who have collected enough House points to secure the top spot going into our final week before Christmas. As a team we have collected 6,762 house points so far this year! Our top 5 House point achievers are Elodie R 11F - 73, Matthew W 7S - 74, Daniel S 7G - 75, Oliver G 8S - 76, JA 8S - 126. Well done! So far this year pupils of Woolf house have been awarded 12 Headteacher's Awards, that is a superb effort since the start of September. I am incredibly pleased with all of your efforts so far this year, if we can keep this up we will win back the House Cup! Have a wonderful Christmas.

Mr Singleton, Head of Woolf

Congratulations to Woolf House who are just in the lead with the highest House points over taking Ayrton!



Congratulations to all those involved in the House competitions this term. A special mention to those in 7P and 8L for their efforts in the music and computing House competitions. Ayrton are in joint second place at the moment so make sure you keep working hard to achieve extra House points so we can catch up with Woolf. 35 of you have achieved 50 house points or more which is amazing! Keep up the excellent effort. Special mentions to Penelope Andriunaviciute (9P), Olivia Cobb (7P) and Dexter Turner (7P) for achieving 100 House points already! There are plenty of exciting House competitions coming up in the new year, so get yourself involved where you can. Have a lovely Christmas break!

Miss Woolgar, Head of Ayrton

A big congratulations to all those in Constantine who have taken part in House competitions this term. I also want to say well done to those who have achieved 100% attendance in both House Week and up until now. For a small part of this term, Constantine were in first place but we have recently dropped into joint second. Make sure that you continue to work hard in every lesson to ensure that we can bump ourselves back up to first place! So far, 41 of you have achieved 50 house points or more and 4 of you have achieved over 100 House points: Freya Shergold (7F), Thomas Burton (8R), Lewis Cooper (7F) and Cameron Trotter (7F). I wish you all a happy and safe Christmas this year. When you return in January, keep an eye out for the upcoming competitions - it would be great to see so many of you involved!

Miss Burrows, Head of Constantine

Well done for all pupils that entered the House competitions. Keep working hard to gain as many House points as possible. Well done, there are 14 pupils who have now achieved over 50 House points. Special mention to Jessica Morton (9S), Frances Harding (7E) and Salma Namer (7E) for receiving the most House points so far. Lots of exciting House competitions coming up in the new year, so get involved. I hope that you all have a lovely, restful Christmas.

Mrs White, Head of Franklin

Congratulations to all those involved in House competitions this term. It has been great to see so many pupils getting involved with House competitions and as a House winning the MFL 'Duolingo' challenge, well done! This term 26 have achieved 50 plus House points which is great! Keep up your excellent efforts! I would like to give a special mention to Allyza Gonzales (9G) for achieving 144 House points this term, this is a fantastic effort, well done! In the new year there will be plenty of new and exciting House competitions taking place so please make sure that you get yourselves involved with them. Finally, well done for all your efforts this term, I hope you have a lovely Christmas break and I will see you in the new year. Merry Christmas!

Mr Green, Head of Moore

Music Competition

During the month of October 2021 the Music Department ran a House competition which took place in lessons during House week. Classes completed a 'Teaching Gadget' listening quiz and pupils scores contributed to a class total. Well done to pupils in all tutor groups for their listening quiz answers. All top scorers in each tutor group were awarded House points and all pupils' scores counted towards their class totals. The following tutor groups received extra House points for being in the top three of their year group, based on an average point score of the pupils who were present for the quiz in their Music lesson.

Year 7 - 1st Place - 7P, 2nd Place - 7G, 3rd Place - 7F

Year 8 - 1st Place - 8D, 2nd Place - 8L, 3rd Place - 8G

Mrs Latif, Head of Music

House Reps

We are pleased to announce our House Rep team as shown in the table below. Photographed are our House Captains for 2021-22.

House Reps	Ayrton	Constantine	Franklin	Moore	Woolf
House Captain	Hallie Colarusso (11P)	Owen Jones (10R)	Sophie Farmer (11D)	Yaqoob Rammay (10E)	Jeanne Kamakoue (11F)
House Vice Captain	Samara Ali (11S)	Maddie Young (10R)	Lana George (11D)	Eva Welch (9N)	Bernie Dyet (11F)
Sports Captain	Mitchell Pitts (8P)	Harry Rudd (7F)	Isobel Child (8E)	Sophie George (7L)	Dilanas Andriunavicius (9F)
Sports Captain	Brooke Cutler (7P)	Bethany Anthony (9R)	Thomas Lines (10N)	Isaac Rebbitt (8N)	Maisie King (9E)
Year 7 Rep	Olivia Cobb (7P)	Harry Webster (7F)	Rylee Wilson (7D)	Martha Lawrence (7L)	Sophia Welch (7S)
Year 8 Rep	Lekshmi Renjish (8L)	Elowen Woodward (8R)	Dorothy Light (8E)	Samuel Steadman (8N)	J A (8S)
Year 9 Rep	Penelope Andriunaviciute (9P)	Leah Jenkins (9R)	Jessica Morton (9S)	Cleo Fleming (9G)	Amelia Eamer (9E)



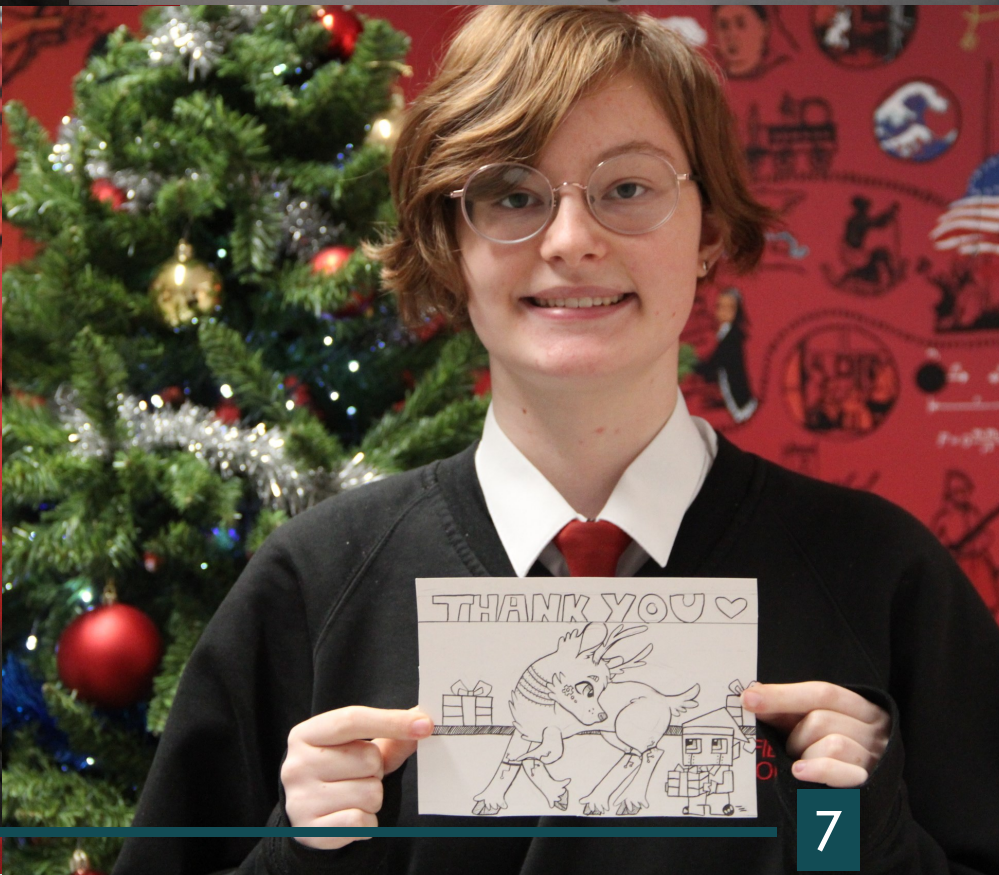
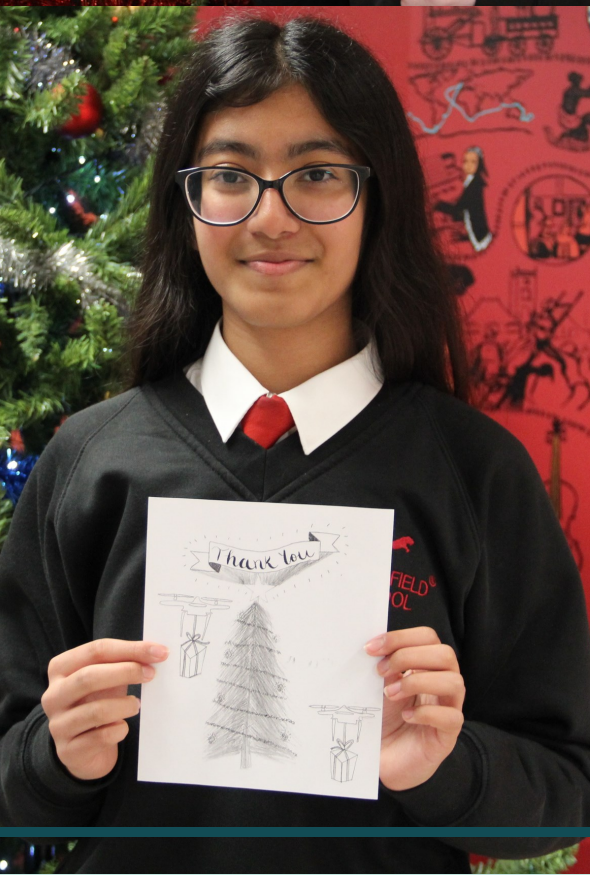
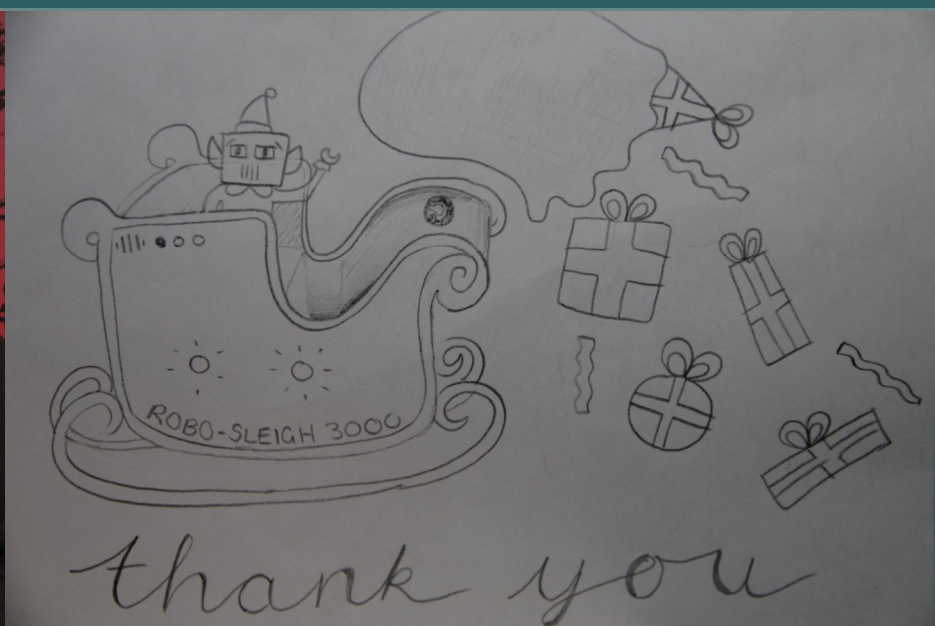
Thank You Card Competition

This year we were impressed with the fantastic selection of thank you postcard pictures created by Springfield students. Students were tasked with designing a thank you card with a 'Futuristic Christmas' theme. I am pleased to announce the winners as follows:

Victoria Clark (8G), Ameera Karim (7S), Taryn Miah (9G) and Evie Smith (10E).

Well done to you all - House points have been awarded. Students had the opportunity to send the thank you post cards to individual members of staff on the last week of term. The post cards were gratefully received.

Mr Singleton, Head of Woolf



Year 11 Mocks

Congratulations go to our Year 11 pupils at the end of a long term. They have just completed two weeks of mock examinations in their subjects, most pupils having a mock exam in both the morning and afternoon slots. As they did in their Year 10 mocks in June, they treated these exams seriously and conformed to the strict rules in the exam halls - good preparation for the 'real' exams in May and June of next summer. As in the 'real' exams they will not know the results of the mocks until some time later - in summer 2022 GCSE results are issued towards the end of August. Similarly, Year 11 will have to wait until Friday 7th January for their mock exam results, issued via their tutors in envelopes.

Whatever their mock results, Year 11 pupils will still have five months before the summer exams so it is important to realise that there is still time for pupils to impact positively on their GCSE outcomes between January and May. Regular attendance at school, attendance at lesson 0 and lesson 6, attendance at workshops in holidays (to be announced) and regular revision at home will all make a difference so that the long wait for the results envelope in August can be anticipated with positivity. As always, Year 11 pupils know that they should not hesitate in asking their teachers for help, support and guidance as the final few months commence. Good luck Year 11 and have a restful Christmas break.

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher



Wellbeing and Workload

You may have noticed that there has been more talk about wellbeing over the last 18 months to two years, as the COVID-19 crisis developed and it affected everybody's way of life. You've probably also noticed how your own wellbeing has been affected by the imposed requirements of others, for instance having to take on a role of helping with home schooling while still carrying out your own job in uncertain and changed circumstances. As trustees and governors we have a duty of care for the wellbeing of the staff at our schools and by implication the pupils who attend our schools. I'm sure we would all agree that for all our pupils to achieve to their full potential they need a school where their and the staff's wellbeing is taken as a priority.

So what is wellbeing? Simply put it is 'how we are doing'. Personal wellbeing, which is the area we are concerned with, is defined as how satisfied we are with our lives, our sense that what we do in life is worthwhile, our day to day emotional experiences (happiness and anxiety) and our wider mental wellbeing. I expect we can all relate to that and think of many occasions when what we do doesn't seem worthwhile because we aren't being given time to relax and consider our roles in a wider context.

This, I think, is where workload comes into the equation. It goes back to the point at the beginning, when your children had to stay home, due to the pandemic, then suddenly your workload increased as you had to organise them for home schooling and ensure their technology worked so they could partake in remote learning. Teachers' workload also increased as they had to adapt lessons for the new way of working, as well as teaching on-site. When, eventually, all pupils were allowed to return to school, it was to schools with many new restrictions in place in order to try to control the spread of COVID-19. So as well as teaching, staff workload is again increased by requests from government to organise on site COVID-19 testing and vaccinations etc.. Parents are also still impacted as after the

initial on-site tests these now generally have to be done at home, and of course if pupils test positive, then they have to stay at home!

As a governing body we have been very aware of the issues and set up a working party to look at wellbeing and workload and how we could help in improving the first by reducing the second. To be an effective governing body we need the school to provide us with information on the school and its running. As you will know, collecting and presenting information in a way that is meaningful can take time. We are looking at this so that our governing body only asks for the information it requires to do its job. We are also looking at when we meet. As most governors work the evening is best for them, but that has the effect of increasing the working day for those staff that need to attend our meetings. Surprisingly, this is an area that has seen some benefit from technology and on-line meetings, as now staff and governors can participate from wherever they happen to be. We would still like to meet in person but will probably go for a mix of approaches in the future.

Which brings me on to my last point. We have found that while remote learning and meetings can work, the relationships built up by actually getting together do suffer. This is true for the whole school community. Staff and pupils mix in different ways when they are on trips and doing extra curricular activities and it is these relationships that can feed back into the classroom to the improved wellbeing of all.

Finally can I make a plea for all to consider the workload of staff. We do not want to stop you contacting us, but please do check first to see if the information you require is online. The school aims to put out information as quickly as possible and if it isn't there then it's probably because we haven't yet received it. This way, hopefully, we can improve the wellbeing of the whole school community.

Chris Batstone, Vice Chair of Governors

Farewell to Mr Lomas

After 14 years at Springfield school and 34 years in teaching it is time to 'hang the boots up' and retire gracefully into a new chapter. There have been many changes in the school and local area in that time but some things don't change - such as pupils thinking that they have some superhuman 'Marvel' type of powers when they are on a pushbike (and now of course an electric scooter) but also the industry and persistence of many staff that has always made me feel proud to belong to such a community. The importance of teamwork was instilled in me during my early days at Springfield with the mantra 'do your colleague a favour' ringing in my ears. So many staff have proved to be great role models for pupils to aspire to over the years leading to the majority of them believing they can 'aim for excellence'. Many alumni have gone on to be young leaders and real change-makers after Springfield. In order to do this they have had the chance to see life 'beyond Portsdown Hill' and really leapt forward just like the young lion represented by their school symbol. The words from a senior advisor I used to work with has been proved to be true 'you can often learn more outside the classroom than in it'. Although confidence in this respect has been knocked in recent years I would urge you all to request the opportunity of seeing how things

are done in other schools, other cities, other countries even other continents. This helps to create the all-rounder I have always wanted Springfield pupils to become. It makes them more confident, less worried about change, more open minded to other ways of doing things and if that is a legacy I leave behind after 14 years of working with them, then I'll take that and stroll into the sunset a happy person.

I don't do golf or gardening or DIY so you may see me popping up here and there taking part in various enrichment events around the region, rather like 'splat the rat'. I hope to remain nimble and capable enough to pop through a range of different holes to support the learning of young people into the future. So not so much of a goodbye as 'au revoir' from me. 'May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm on your face'. Thank you to all the wonderful people I have had the pleasure of working with over the years. Best wishes.

John Lomas
Head of Enterprise and Personal Development Learning



Eco Club



Molly Firth (11G), who, as part of her role as Deputy Head Girl has been assisting Miss Hughes with the Eco Club this term comments:


"This half term has been the start of our new Eco club, which takes place every Tuesday after school. Year 7 students have had the chance to make use of the conservation area, DT rooms and Science labs. Over the last couple of weeks, the students have been making their very own bird feeders by upcycling old tin cans, ready to fill with bird seed and hang up in the conservation garden. They also made their own fat balls from bird seed and lard which have been a real hit with the birds!"

Longer term we would like aim to turn the conservation area into a more useable space. Over the next few weeks we will be moving on to upcycling old tyres into planters to brighten up the conservation space and get ready for planting flowers for pollinators in the spring.

Miss Hughes
Teacher of Science



Ethics and Philosophy Club



The Ethics and Philosophy Club has been meeting for a whole term and we have had much to deliberate and discuss. We have contemplated the role and future of artificial intelligence in our society which was inspired by a new Dan Stevens' film 'I'm Your Man'. Students imagined a world where robots had a more significant role than they do today and shared their views and opinions about the prospect.

We have also explored and discussed the questions how to live life? How did we get here? Is there life after death? Does money make you happy? Furthermore, we have been very fortunate to have had a presentation by Freya Scowen (8N) on conscientious objectors, namely Desmond T Doss (Hacksaw Ridge). Freya explained the story of Doss and presented us with an account of his trials and tribulations before posing philosophical questions to debate.

With the club being student led, they have decided they would like to watch and discuss a philosophical film once a term. We are looking forward to sharing views on 'The Truman Show' - and of course enjoying lots of popcorn!

New members welcome, the club runs on Tuesdays at 3.05pm in B21.

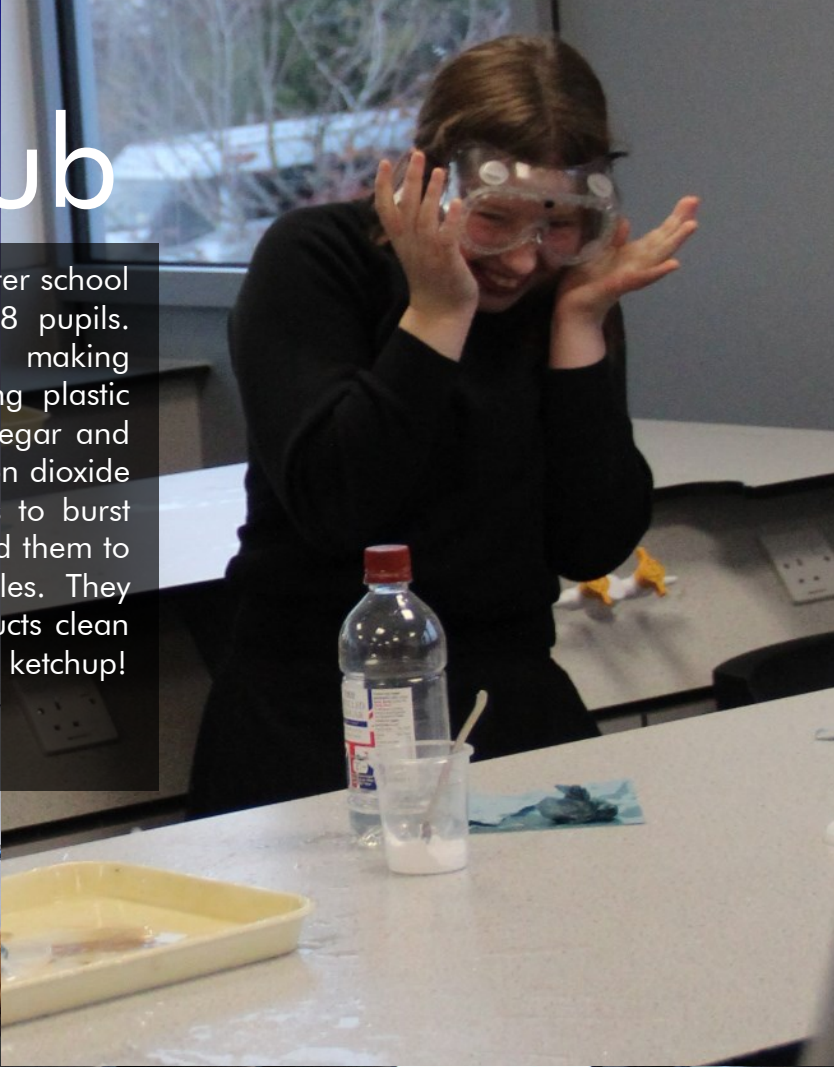
Miss Forrest, Teacher of Ethics and Philosophy

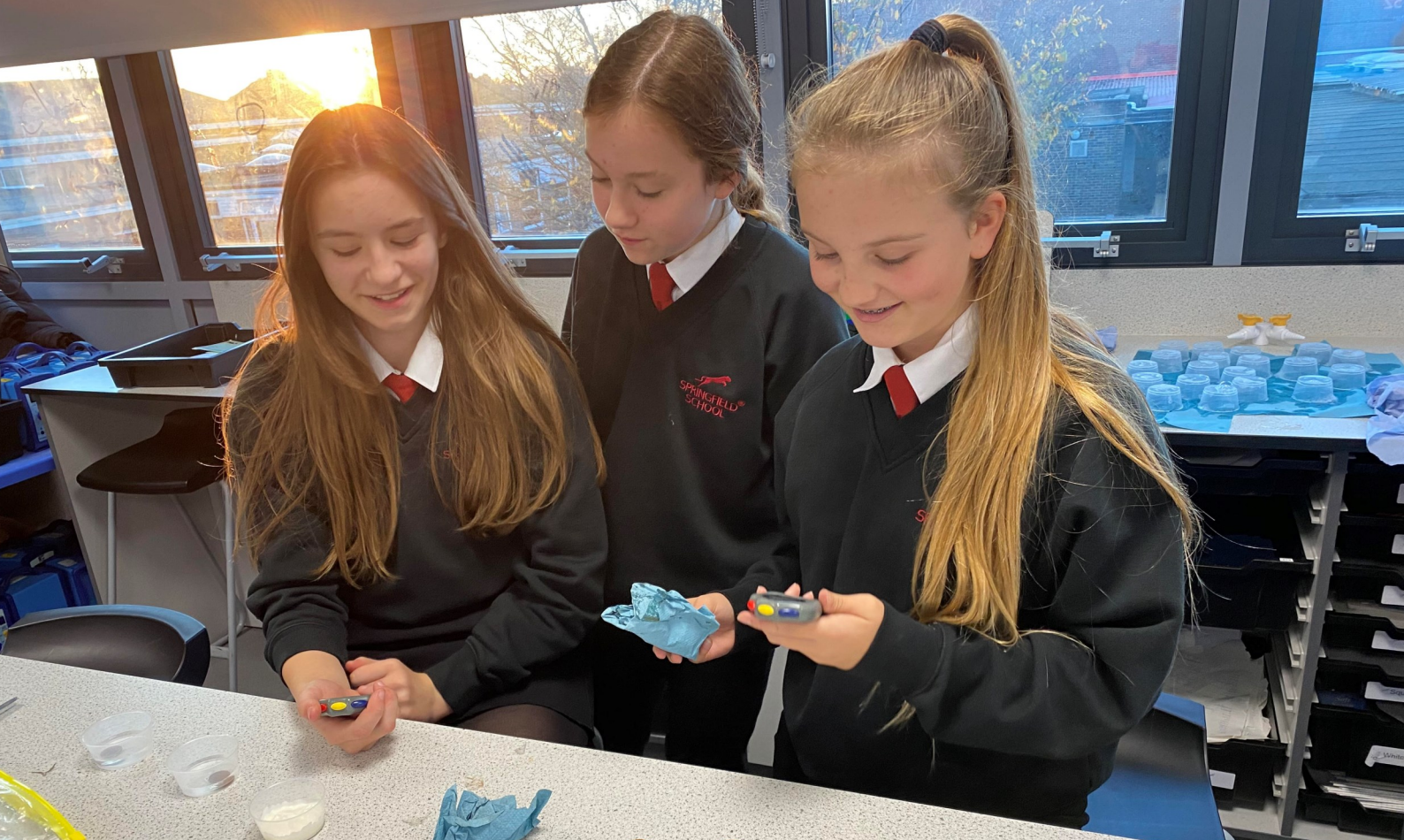


Science Club

Science Club takes place every Tuesday after school in A13 and is currently open to Year 8 pupils. Some of the fun experiments include making vinegar and baking powder rockets using plastic containers. The reaction between the vinegar and baking powder causes a build up of carbon dioxide which results in the lid of the containers to burst out. Pupils also made airzookas, they used them to shoot air across the table and put out candles. They also experimented which household products clean pennies the best. The winning product was ketchup!

Miss Bryant, Teacher of Science





Duke of Edinburgh's Award

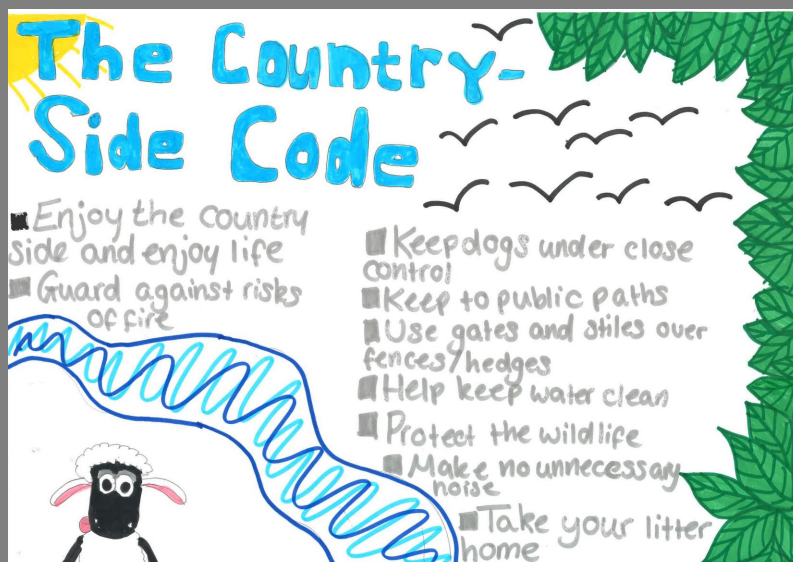
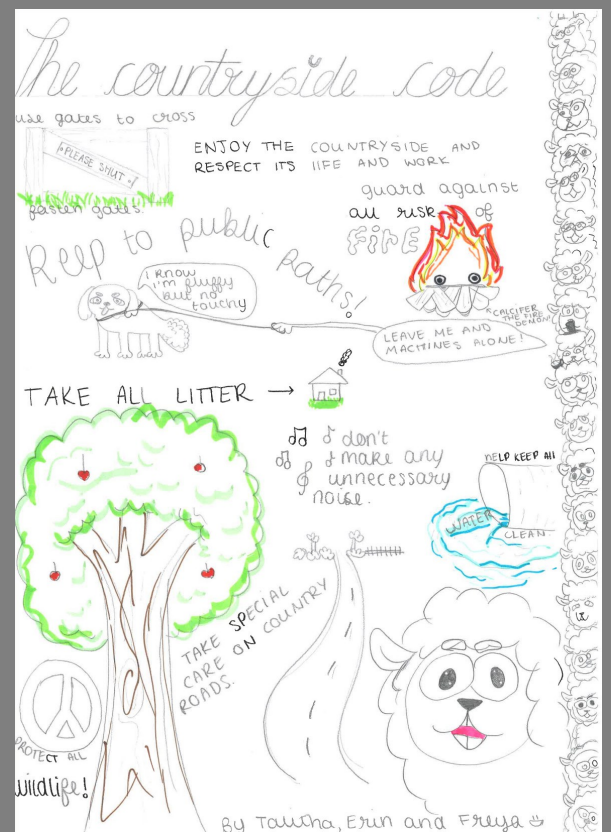
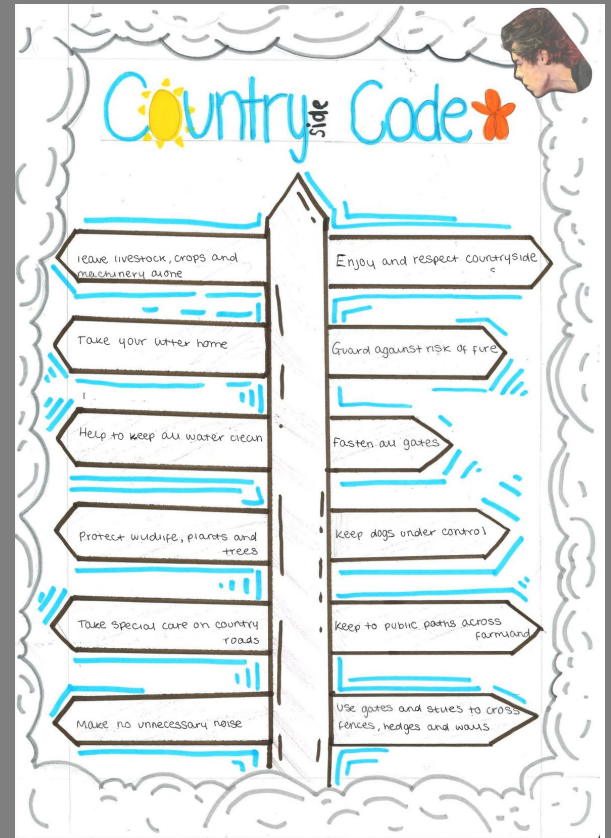
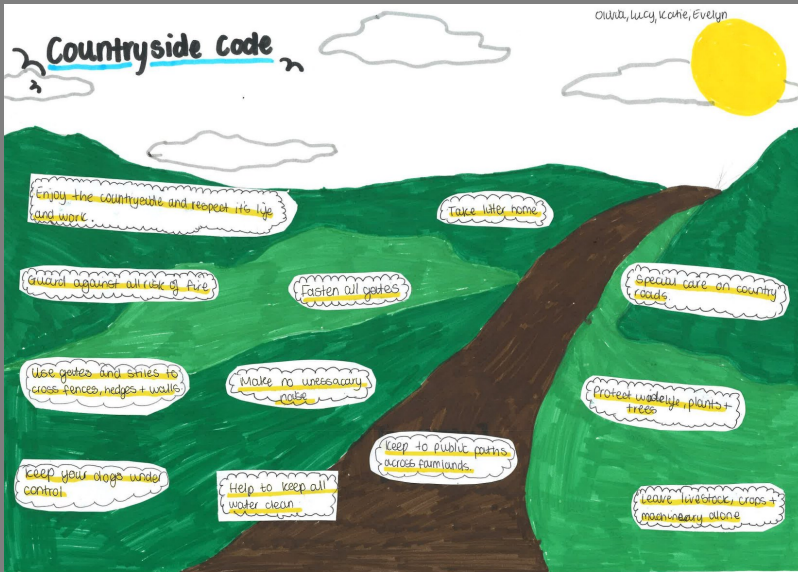
Over the last year it has been a little quiet at the top of B block without our DofE group after school sessions or getting ready for an expedition. Now that most restrictions have been lifted we are delighted to commence again. We began the expedition training in earnest (including learning how to read a map, what kit to bring, how to put tents up and cook a substantial meal). Students will soon be getting ready for their day walk and expeditions which will hopefully take place at Purbrook Heath, the South Downs and the New Forest later in the year. Students are also enthusiastically organising their activities for the three sections (Skills, Volunteering and Physical), some of which include beach cleans, joining the school football team and working in local charity shops.

Mrs Whitelock, DofE Coordinator



During the weekly Duke of Edinburgh's Award session students also designed posters listing the countryside rules. Please see below a selection of some of these. Well done to the students who designed the fencepost poster - this was the winner!

Mrs Whitelock, DoE Coordinator



Season's Greetings

Well done to Year 10 Photography students Gwyneth Collins (10N), Amelia Couch (10N), Louis Davis (10N) and Ruby Gofton (10E) who designed our fantastic Springfield Christmas e-card this year using 'drawing with light' techniques. Students have been awarded House points for their efforts.

Mrs Millington, Teacher of Art and Photography



The Great Big Lesson for Climate Change

Geography students took part in 'The Great Big Lesson for Climate and Nature' live from COP 26 on 5th November 2021. They were informed about factors which influence climate change, the effects already seen across the world and some ways leaders are already looking at trying to mitigate the effects. Thanks especially to Matthew, the main presenter. Well done to 8z1 for taking part.

Miss Whitelock
Head of Geography



The Great Big Lesson for Climate & Nature

LIVE FROM COP26!

FRI, 5TH NOVEMBER

at 9:00 AM (GMT)

LIVE ON  YouTube

AIMHI
EARTH



WORLD'S
LARGEST
LESSON

YOUTHTOPIA

eden project

Nature
4Climate

CAMBRIDGE
ZERO

The Girls' Network

On Tuesday 9th November, several Year 10 pupils participated in a mentoring and revision skills workshop hosted by The Girls' Network. The session started with a chance for pupils to catch up with their Network mentors. Then, pupils explored different types of revision, revision myths and ways to do effective and active revision, as well as the importance of looking after themselves in the lead up to, and during their mock exam period. The following link was one of many shared, and offers ideas for revision strategies and memory techniques that all pupils may find useful.

<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/skillshub/?id=296>

Mrs Latif, Head of Music



Live Music Performance



Pictured above: Yann Feltham (10G), Georgia Barber (10D), Harrison Pine (10N), Harvey Hinchliffe (10E), Emily Ralston (10R) and Owen Jones (10R)

Year 10 GCSE Music pupils have been enthusiastically rehearsing for their second live event this term. After some lively performances at the school Open Evening in October, the Year 10 rock band have been invited to play at a concert organised by the Portsmouth Music hub in December. The musicians have worked well together to build up a diverse range of repertoire, and can often be heard playing classic songs such as 'Don't Stop Believing', 'Everybody Wants to Rule the World', 'Hold the Line' and 'Let it Be' in the Music department. I am sure we will be hearing more from them in the future!

Mrs Latif, Head of Music

STEM

A student is working on a lamp project in a workshop. The student is using a yellow and black power tool to shape a piece of wood. In the background, there are various workshop items, including a wooden structure, a sign that says "to get Cosy", and a sign that says "Hardwood". The student is wearing a dark jacket and is focused on their work.

Design and Technology Project

During the Autumn term students within the B04 provision have been working extremely hard on a 'Recyclable Lamp' project with Mrs Allen, Teacher of Design and Technology. Students have been using different types of machinery as well as hand grafting their own individual designs. The students used a wide range of imagery to create a fully functioning lamp with all sorts of individual designs. Students gained skills in wood work as well as electronics as they had to cut their frames to size, decorate them, install the LED bulbs and wire them up. B04 students were assisted by myself and Miss Matthews (Lead Teaching Assistant) as well as the highly skilled Design and Technology Technician, Mr Stoner. This was a great experience for students to engage with their peers and develop their social skills.

Science Lessons

The B04 morning students were lucky enough to attend some practical Science lessons in our new refurbished A-Block. The students studied the topic 'chemical changes' during the Autumn term and were able to use a variety of equipment in class. One experiment that was a favourite was burning different types of metal to see the chemical changes when heated using a Bunsen burner.

Mr Sawyers, Higher Level Teaching Assistant

PE at Springfield

Physical activity has long been known to be very beneficial to all of us and through Physical Education we learn various aspects of sport and physical participation to help us lead a healthy lifestyle. At Springfield we aim to make pupils increasingly independent in this pursuit. This is achieved by the pupils having a broad breadth of sporting experiences in their early years to widen their understanding of the extensive world of physical activity. We teach pupils to warm themselves up safely for exercise, to be a part of setting up the lesson and tasks, to reflect on their performances technically, tactically, physically and mentally as well as using this reflection to peer coach their fellow pupils to aid greater progress. Pupils are able to further explore any of the available sports at any of our numerous sports clubs after school.

As pupils progress through the school, in core PE they get the opportunity to start refining their sporting likes and can choose a sporting pathway for their PE sessions. Pupils also have the opportunity to opt for our Sports Studies package in an exam-based course. Here we offer two courses -

NCFE Health and Fitness AQA GCSE PE. Both courses have a Level 2 rating which pupils can take forward to their next stage of education. Our Health and Fitness course will see pupils complete one exam, one piece of coursework and experience practical sporting sessions, although there is no grading for these activities. Our GCSE PE course includes two Year 11 exams, a piece of coursework and pupils will participate in and be graded in a wide range of sports which will be moderated at the school by an external AQA moderator.

Our Year 11 Health and Fitness pupils have recently completed their delayed exam and are working through their final coursework. Our Year 11 GCSE PE pupils have completed their coursework and we are, over the next month, finalising their practical grades in preparation for moderation. Then it is all eyes ahead for the final exams.

We wish all our pupils good success and a long healthy active lifestyle.

Mr Snook and the PE Department team



Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to:

Reggie Batchelor (8G), George Clarke (8E), Leon Dewis (8S), Charlie Boswell (8R), Cleo Fleming (9S), Allyza Gonzales (9G), Rosie Hollins (9G), Erin Kaberry (9F), Kylie McGrady (9S), Taryn Miah (9G), Olivia Pasterfield (9G), Ellenore Walsh (9P), Eva Welch (9N), Oliver Cheeseman (7R), Edie Davis (7R), Hayden Thompson (7F), Rudy Williams (7F), Lucy King (7D), Joseph Blake (10S), Freya Norum (10F), Denise Papuc (10P), Emily Ralston (10R), Darcie Rudd (10N), Ben Nash (10G) and Myles Turner (11S)

The listed students all received a Headteacher's Award this half term. The awards were given in recognition of a range of reasons including exceptional work, exemplary behaviour, commitment, enthusiasm, resilience, good results and achievements in a range of subject areas. Students were presented with their certificates by Ms Spivey.

Please note that due to GDPR some of the winners' names are not listed and some photographs are not shown in this newsletter.

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration





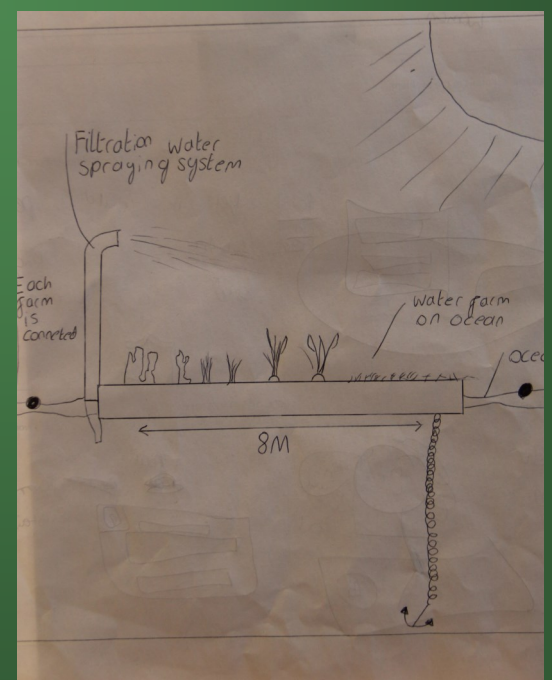
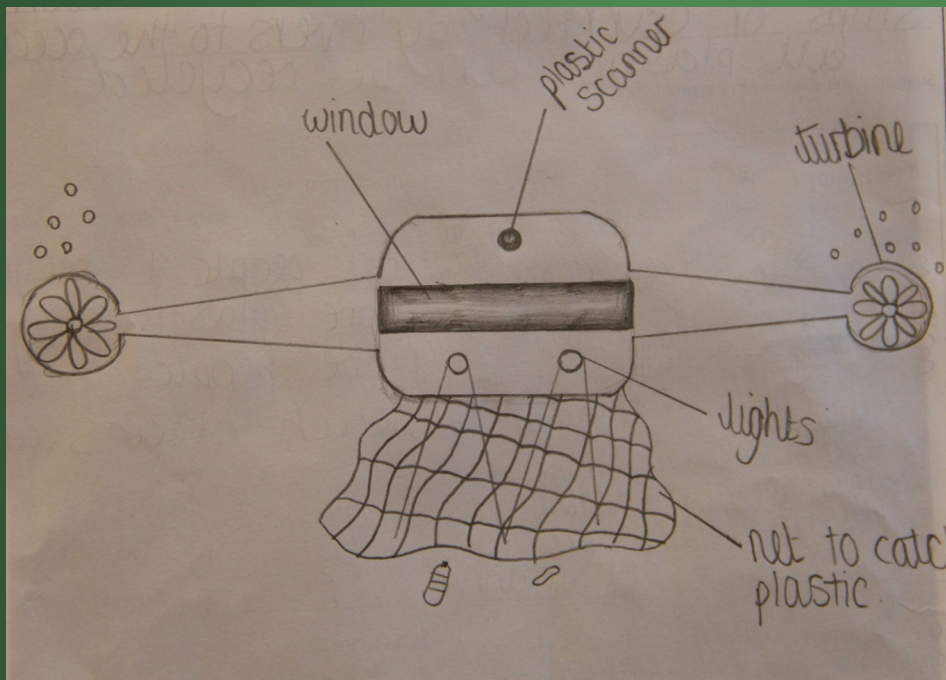
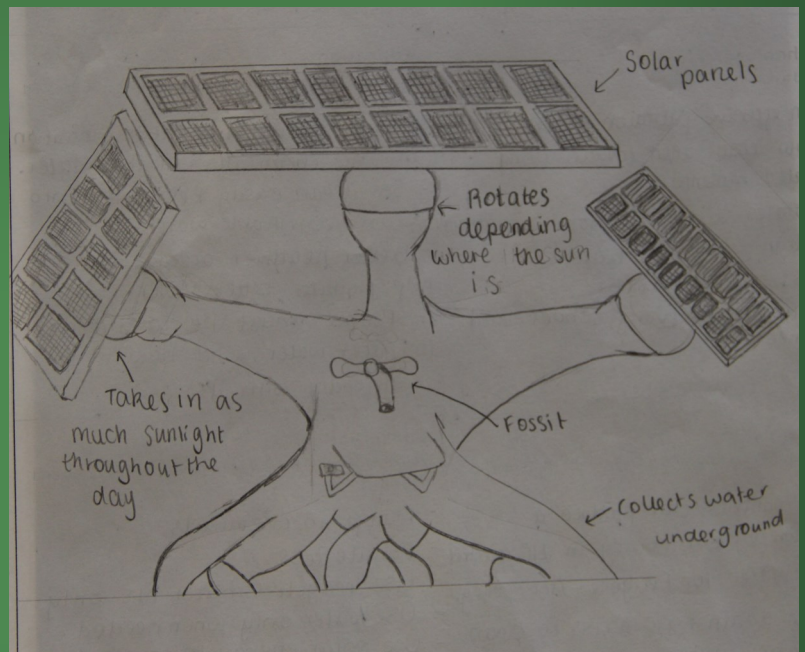
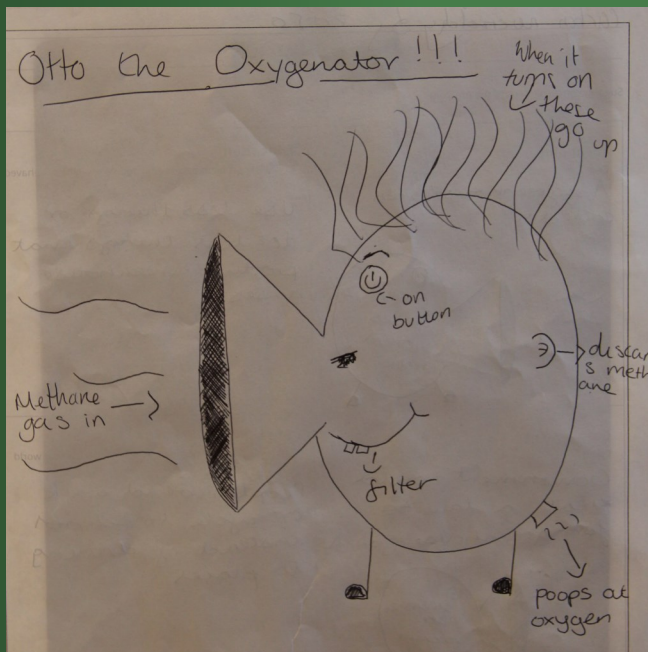


Tutor Time Learning

Personal Development Learning during tutor time...

Over the last three weeks during Personal Development Learning tutor sessions, 9G have been looking at some of the global issues being discussed at COP26. They were given a set of global problems to choose from and then had to work in pairs to think of some realistic solutions to these issues. Here are four of the final designs which address plastics in the oceans, too much CO2 in the atmosphere, food and water shortages.

Mrs Whitelock, Tutor of 9G



Bebras 2021 Competition Results

Well done to the students who took part in the Bebras 2021 competition.

Below are the top ten scores in each year group. The maximum score possible was 200 points. Students who scored in the top 50% and above received House points. Our top scorers in each year group will also receive an additional 5 house points.

Miss Rudd, Teacher of Computing

Year 7	
Joseph C 7S	172
Archie L 7E	162
Sam S 7P	
Ameera K 7S	161
Salma N 7E	157
Daniel S 7G	
Benjamin H 7R	151
Alsafah S 7E	146
Oliver C 7R	145
Matthew W 7S	141

Year 8	
Rosalyn B 8S	129
Edee A 8S	125
Oliver G 8S	
Tim L 8D	123
Zachary S 8D	
J A 8S	118
Louis R 8D	117
Isabelle S 8N	114
Leon D 8S	109
Thomas B 8R	108
Rebecca M 8R	

Year 9			
Eva W 9N	135	Erin K 9F	
Max D 9E	129	Kieran P 9F	114
Luca R 9E	123	Samuel A 9S	
Bethany S 9S		James C 9N	113
Maisie K 9E	118	Ellenore W 9P	
William M 9L	115		

What is Bebras?


Bebras is an annual competition held in over 50 countries and it is designed to get students excited about computational thinking and problem solving. We have run this competition annually. As well as the international competition, we also reward students with House points and certificates for doing well in each year group that takes part.



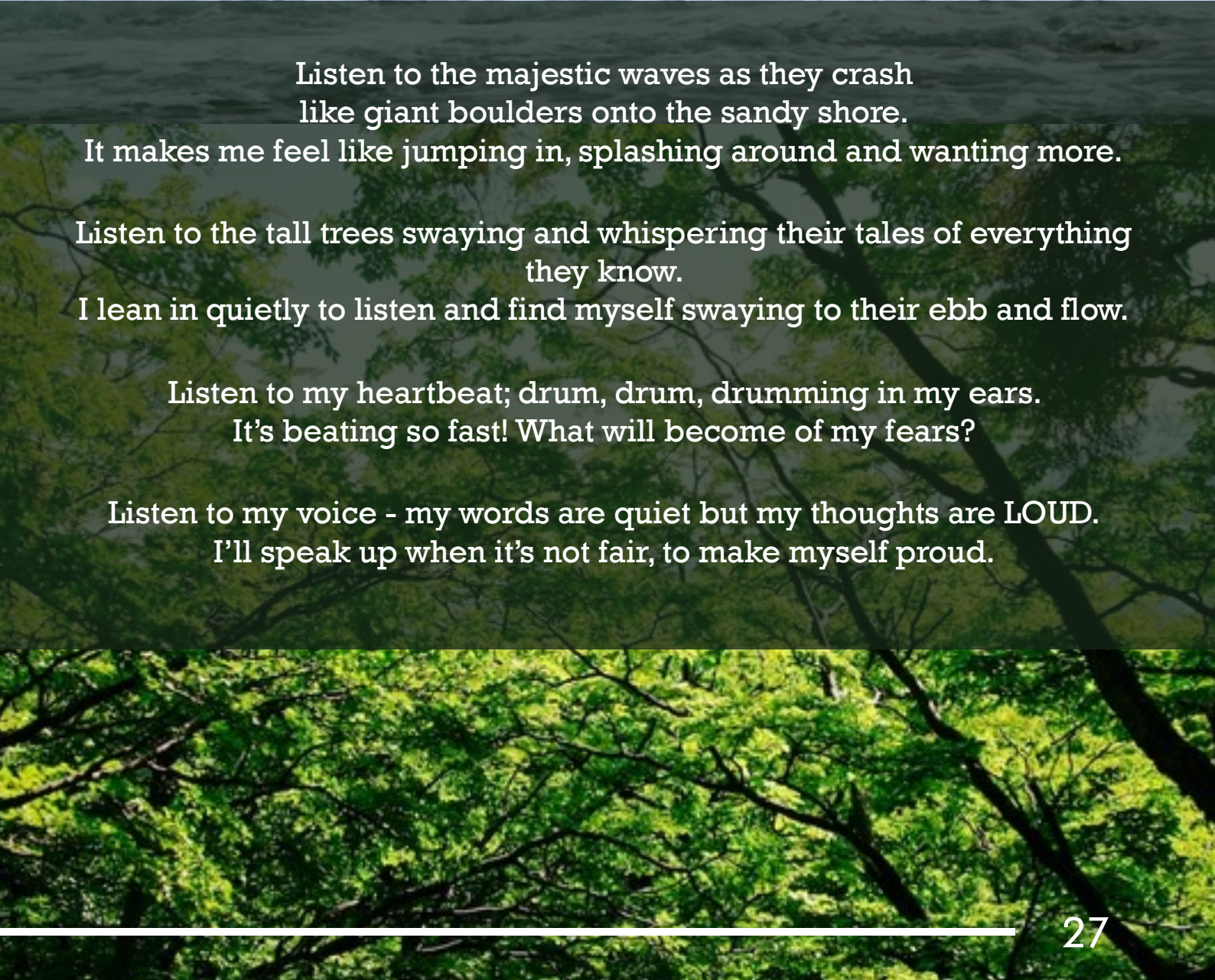
Listen

Year 8 pupil Isabelle Rowberry has written this beautiful poem for her English homework. The task was to write a poem using the title 'Listen'.

Mrs Tillings, Teacher of English



Listen to the majestic waves as they crash
like giant boulders onto the sandy shore.
It makes me feel like jumping in, splashing around and wanting more.



Listen to the tall trees swaying and whispering their tales of everything
they know.
I lean in quietly to listen and find myself swaying to their ebb and flow.

Listen to my heartbeat; drum, drum, drumming in my ears.
It's beating so fast! What will become of my fears?

Listen to my voice - my words are quiet but my thoughts are LOUD.
I'll speak up when it's not fair, to make myself proud.

Alumni News

2021 leaver Maddy Brown has recently been selected for the Junior GB Artistic Swimming squad. The squad is selected from athletes across the country who are under 18. These athletes will make up the Great Britain travelling squad during the season. To be selected in the national squad, athletes must complete some basic tests at their clubs which is submitted and then some are invited to attend a four day trial process. When they attend the trials, they will be selected on a number of physiological, technical and psychological factors, as well as other elements such as compatibility and work ethic. Maddy will continue to train almost on a daily basis with her home club Reading Royals Artistic Swimming club, but will now have to attend regular training sessions and camps in Bristol which is the home of the GB Artistic Swimming Squads. As a school we have been following Maddy's artistic swimming progress over the years and this is a real achievement which is due to Maddy's determination and dedication to the sport - a huge congratulations to Maddy on your success. For more information about the GB Artistic Swimming team please follow the link:



<https://www.teamgb.com/sport/artistic-swimming/3dkebZKvrFoQFgTNT8hzb7>

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration



Welcome

We were delighted to have a visit from our school therapy dog Bonnie's new foster brother this month. His name is Clyde and he has aspirations to one day become a therapy dog as well.

GET IN TOUCH

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

Don't forget
to follow us on
Facebook and Twitter



@spfldUK



Charity News

A time to count our blessings and think of others.

It can be tempting when, in times of uncertainty and stress, we put ourselves first before others. What this time of year teaches us is that we should be looking to help communities.

At school students have been able to benefit from the expertise of new charities such as the National Stroke Association as well ongoing relationships with charities such as The Samaritans. The charities we work with ensure our students' mental health is supported. During lessons students have been informed how to stay safe and they have also been made aware of the issues around diversity and what constitutes as harassment. It was refreshing to see Year 11 prefects take a lead in this important area this year.

As a school we try to keep supporting others and have kept the close relationship with the charity 'African Adventures' by exchanging letters between Year 9 English classes and The Walk school in Nakuru, Kenya. Sometimes traditional methods can work alongside newer, electronic communication.

We now reach that time of year where we all need to look after each other. We are in a position to make telling contributions to local, national and international charities. Looking back over the years that we have been raising money for charities, there have been nine charities that students like to support. These are African Adventures, Age UK, British Red Cross, Canine Partners, Clic Sargent (now called 'Young Lives vs

Cancer'), Headway, Rowans Hospice, RSPCA and Teenage Cancer Trust. We wish to be caring and generous by donating our non uniform day money (on the last day of the Autumn term) to some of these charities. The selection took place using a democratic process with tutor groups voting for their top four. As well as this, students will be looking closer to home and will donate dry food items to make up a Christmas Hamper of support for the Portsmouth Food Bank on the last day of term.

We hope that these contributions will make a difference, even if we are only one piece in a jigsaw of support that charities need to be effective. It is this community support that becomes embedded in every Springfield student's mind set as they move forward.

May I wish you all a restful Christmas and a happy and purposeful new year.

John Lomas
Head of Enterprise & Personal Development Learning

Competition Winner

Hi! I am Will and I won a competition in a national gaming magazine called '100% Gaming'. The competition was to find a YouTuber for the magazine's channel, the prize also included a Nintendo Switch and a few other things. The competition was to submit a video explaining why you would be good as a YouTuber.

I decided to enter the competition and submitted a video. I was told it was clearly the best out of 250 competitors. It is mind boggling that I now represent a gaming magazine! The very first video has come out and the amount of attention it has got is amazing. I get recognised all the time! My videos are all about gaming with a goal - positivity and most importantly MONEY (just kidding) - it is about putting a smile on peoples' faces - that is my main goal. I think what makes me stand out from the other YouTubers is I like to include a funny skit at the beginning which people know me for (even before I won the competition). I hope to pursue this type of content creation as a career in the near future.

If you would like to see the videos I post for '100% Gaming' please visit the channel on YouTube called 'WillSteadyShot'

Thank you for your time - steady, shot!

William Morris (9F)



Year 11 Book Reviews

Year 11 Prefects have put together as recommendations some more book reviews for younger students. Please see below some of these great reviews.

Miss Hughes, Teacher of Science

Fallen, Lauren Kate

Age: 12+

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Genre: Romance, supernatural.

CW: Mental illness, injury, death.

An indulgent read that is the first in a series of dreamy, dark romances about fallen angels and cursed love. There is an element of mystery as you follow Luce (the main character's) budding relationship with Daniel and her emotional trauma from past events, as well as the supernatural that has begun to follow her. If you liked Twilight and other similar romances you will love this. There is even a film!



The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

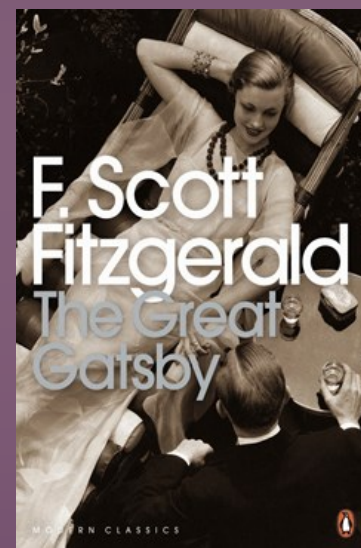
Age: 11/12 +

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Genre: 1920s, classic, historical fiction.

CW: Mild violence and drinking.

This book is a great introduction to classics. It is an outstanding depiction of 1920s society narrated by Nick Carraway. It exposes the flaws and devastating secrets of the so-called 'roaring twenties', which are contrasted with magnificent parties and characters that are so vivid you become engulfed as a reader. The book follows Nick's experiences with Gatsby and the mystery that enshrouds him while still encompassing the nostalgic feeling of adventure within New York. Overall this is a magnificent piece of Fitzgerald's (and it's only 115 pages!).



Dead Man's Cove, Lauren St. John

Age: 9+

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Genre: Mystery.

If you're looking for a cute but meaningful mystery full of adventure and found family, this is the book for you. The main character, Laura, the 11-year-old orphan detective moves to Cornwall to live with her uncle, makes some new friends (including an adorable dog), and, of course, lands herself in a full-on crime mystery. A winner of the Blue Peter Book of the Year award, it's a great read - and the first in a five-part series!



Acts of Kindness

Ms Byerley, Head of Achievement for Year 7 set the students the task of making random acts of kindness. My tutor group, 7L (pictured on the right), contacted the Rowans Hospice to see if we could help them. They asked us to make gold stars for their tree of remembrance and red hearts for their terminal patients to hold. Here are the students with the stars and hearts that we made.



Mrs London, Teacher of English

Army Band Experience

Harvey Hinchliffe (10E) took part in a music workshop offered by Portsmouth Music Hub on Saturday 27th November 2021. Pupils from Portsmouth schools were invited to join the Army band for a day of music making at St Mary's church. Harvey is really interested in joining a military band, and was delighted to spend the day in the shoes of an army band percussionist, playing the drum kit alongside professional musicians. Here is a video link to one of the pieces performed in the concert they held that evening.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcJTzoHSboc>

The hub staff were impressed with Harvey's skills and determination and said he did brilliantly as you can hear!

Mrs Latif, Head of Music

Football

Congratulations to the Year 10 boys' football team who made it all the way to the 4th round of the National Schools Cup. The team has played excellently in the previous rounds, winning relatively comfortably. Unfortunately, their progress was finally halted by a very impressive team from Bournemouth. In a fantastic game of football, Springfield managed to battle back to 3-3 after being 3-1 down in the first half. Sadly, the away team managed to get the breakaway goals late on to take them through to the next round. However, an excellent effort by all and it was great to see the team grow in quality through the rounds.

Mr Snook, Head of PE

Cricket

The PE department are looking for girls in Years 7 and 8 and 9 and 10 to come along to our girls' cricket practices on Monday evenings. It is indoor softball cricket and it is easy to learn and pick up if you are a beginner. We also have matches to get involved in in February for those who are interested. See the PE department if you have any questions or just turn up after school on Mondays with your indoor kit.

Mr Snook, Head of PE

Under 13s EFL Girls' Football Cup Tournament Runners-up

A huge congratulations to the Under 13s girls' football team who came runners up in the EFL Girls' Football Cup Tournament consisting of 15 schools in the local area. The team started off the day in the group stages seeing them compete against 4 other schools. Thanks to the excellent defending and goalkeeping from Edee Abery (8S), Isabella Tea (8L), Imogen Fitch-Ballard (7D) and Lola Archbold (7G) the girls kept a clean sheet throughout and scored 25 goals across the 4 matches. Superb goals from Isobel Child (8E), Georgia Psaila (8E), Daisy Boswell (8R) and Sophie George (7L) saw us cruise into the semi-final where we faced Bohunt School's A team. Springfield took an early lead but Bohunt scored in quick succession. A hat-trick from Daisy Boswell secured us a 4-1 win and sent us through to the final! Springfield faced Priory in the final and looked to complete their unbeaten run. They were unlucky in the final but the girls played excellently all day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

Miss Woolgar, Teacher of PE

Pictured below the Under 13s girls' football team. Back row from left: Imogen Fitch-Ballard, Georgia Psaila, Isobel Child, Isabella Tea, Edie Abery and Daisy Boswell. Front Row from left: Lola Archbold and Sophie George



Christmas

What is it all about?

"Christmas is a wonderful time of the year where family and friends celebrate with each other. It is celebrated with trees covered in baubles and bright lights, stockings hung over the fireplace, presents gifted to family and friends, a delicious roast dinner shared with loved ones, advent calendars and snuggling next to the fire with hot chocolate and a blanket wrapped around you. On the night before Christmas, Father Christmas also delivers gifts to children who have behaved over the past year. So be good!"

"It's not just about the gifts, it's about celebration after all. Many religions celebrate this for more than one reason. I think we might know the main one about Jesus the Son of God, who came to earth for all people. His birth is symbolised through the visits of the wise men and the star of Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph both had a strong faith in God, despite the difficulties they faced. Buddhists may also celebrate Jesus as a "Bodhisattva", which is one who forgoes their own benefit to help others and has compassion, kindness and love for all beings."

"Christmas is a very special holiday for Christians. It is a holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ who, according to the Christian religion, is the Son of God. The name is a joining of 'Christ' and 'mass' which means - coming together for Christ."

"A traditional Christmas is about Jesus' birth and how Christians remember him by going to special church services such as Midnight Mass. Now not everyone marks the day in this way as some use it as a time to give gifts and make people laugh. Whether traditional or modern, the celebration is often about spending time with others and giving gifts big or small."

"Everyone knows the Christmas story – it has to be the most famous story in history; baby Jesus, 3 wise-men, a big old star, the Virgin Mary. It was a miracle! But do you ever wonder if, as we get older, we forget the real meaning of Christmas. I suggest a Christmas Challenge to bring back the real meaning of Christmas.

Whilst you're off enjoying your mince pies and watching Home Alone (for the 75th time) I challenge you to perform a random act of kindness. This could be something small; pay someone a compliment, give chocolate to a neighbour or make your parents a coffee in bed. Basically, put yourself out there to make someone (other than yourself) feel happy. You can do it. It will make you feel good too!"

"Christmas has changed in some ways because now it is often more about shopping and presents, rather than religion. Now we have the religion of shopping! However, Christmas is still the same as families come together to spend time with each other. Presents and food, tinsel and sparkles, movies and drinks, family and friends, Santa and street lights, sounds nice doesn't it...Welcome to December. If that sounds amazing, well...that's Christmas for you."

"Where did Christmas come from? It's no surprise that Christmas was originally a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus but surprisingly the Bible doesn't mention the date or the time of year He was born. So why December 25th? Well, it's 3 days after the winter solstice - the last day before the sun starts to ascend - the end of darkness and the beginning of new life."

"You have just woken up and instead of celebrating with your family it's spent in the trenches - well that's how it has been during times of war including WW1 and WW2. One snowy Christmas day despite being on opposite sides, the Germans started singing Christmas Carols and so the British joined in too and then they played football together! Even during terrible times the Christmas Spirit reaches everyone."

Feliz Navidad, Joyeux Noël, Frohe Weihnachten, Buon Natale, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year

Orlaith Galloway (7R), Rhian Khatkar (7R),
Aaliyah Miah (7R), Isabelle Rowberry (8S)
Iman Shahmuradi (8L), Freya Shergold (7F)
Callum Woodward (8E)

Senior Prefect Update

Half Term Summary...

Recently, the school as a whole has shown resilience by wearing face masks and following the new coronavirus guidance. However, more specifically, the senior prefect team have shown resilience and leadership skills when we assisted with the Year 9 and 10 assemblies, the topic was sexual harassment and relationships as a whole.

Alongside this, the school cookbook has been completed! The cookbook provides an insight into the different cultures which make up Springfield. It allows students to have fun cooking whilst appreciating the different cultures of their peers, which we believe is extremely important, as all should feel accepted and acknowledged. The cookbook will be available to students via the VLE.

In addition, the Eco Club is now up and running. It takes place every Tuesday after school. During the club students partake in various activities and learn the importance of the environment around us. The teachers running the Eco Club are Miss Hughes and Mr Singleton. If students are interested in joining please see Miss Hughes or Mr Singleton (more information about Eco Club is available on page 11).

In the future we hope to continue to make positive changes within the school. One topic we hope to focus on next is mental health and how we can make the school environment the happiest and safest place for people to be. We are excited to see what the new year brings and we hope you all have a lovely Christmas!

Molly Gears, Senior Prefect (11D) and Alexander Lane, Head Boy (11S)



Tutor Portrait

We are pleased to reveal the identity of the Tutor portraits as detailed in the October edition.

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration



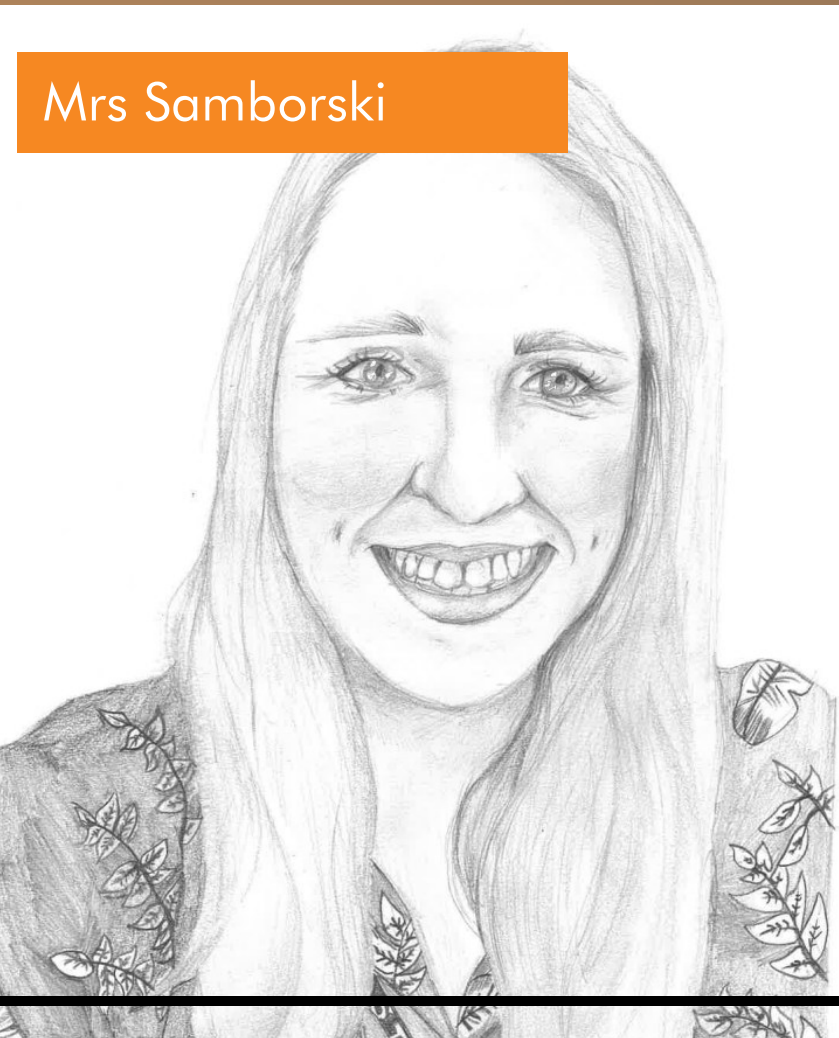
Miss Sillince



Mr Payne



Mrs Zubadi



Mrs Samborski



Mrs Needham



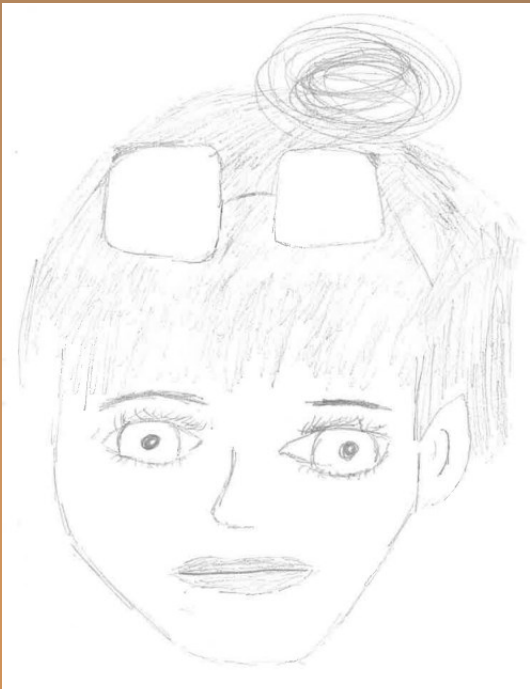
Ms Creighton



Mrs Whitelock



Mr Hurt



Mrs London



Ms Thayre



Mrs Bungshy

Covid-19 Vaccinations

We were delighted to receive the letter below from Solent NHS Trust.



Sara Spivey
Head Teacher
Springfield school
PORTSMOUTH,
PO6 1QY

Solent NHS Trust Headquarters
Highpoint Venue
Bursledon Road
Southampton
SO19 8BR

www.solent.nhs.uk

22 November 2021

Dear Sara Spivey,

I am writing to you to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to you, your teachers and support staff for supporting the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in schools.

NHS colleagues are extremely aware of the pressures and concerns of our education colleagues and intense pressures that have been placed on the school environment for throughout the pandemic. Solent NHS Trust's School Aged Immunisation Team were tasked with delivering an extremely challenging school vaccination programme. It has proved to be agile and swift, and I am delighted that we have now been able to complete at least one vaccination session for every school across Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight.

In addition, Solent has offered additional twice-weekly clinics at our mass vaccination centres, in your areas, for those children who are home educated, at a private school or were not able to get their jabs when our teams visited.

The programme delivery has been incredibly successful, as evidenced by the take-up rate in our area of 50.5%, which is above the national average. The Solent team have vaccinated over 15,000 young people over this 8-week programme.

This accomplishment is no doubt a reflection on how easy and supportive our schools have been to work with, and I would like to extend my personal thanks to you and your teams for that. We look forward to continuing to work with you to support the vaccination programme response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Noyes'.

David Noyes
Chief Operating Officer

cc. Local authority heads of education

CALENDAR

PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY - THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 2022
FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM - TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 2022
HALF TERM - MONDAY 21 TO FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2022

JANUARY

Friday 7 January	Year 11 Mock Results Assembly
Monday 17 January	Year 11 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 20 January	PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY
Thursday 27 January	Year 10/11 GCSE Curious Incident Theatre Trip

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 2 February	Year 10 Subject Parents' Evening (remote)
Monday 7 February	Year 7 Focus Day (anti-bullying)
Sunday 13 February	DofE Walk

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.

Mr Kerr's Brain Teaser

The answer to last edition's brain teaser:

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{0} \quad 7 \quad 2 \\ 3 \quad \boxed{9} \quad 8 \\ \hline 4 \quad 7 \quad \boxed{0} \end{array}$$

It may seem that these equations are nonsense, but there is a situation where they are true, assuming they are, what does $7+6$ equal? Hint. You have probably already used these kinds of calculations today.

This edition's brain teaser:

$$\begin{array}{l} 8-6=2 \\ 8+6=2 \\ 7+6=? \end{array}$$

