



SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL[®] NEWS



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October 2021 Issue

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GCSE RESULTS 2021

We were glad to be able to congratulate our Year 11 leavers on 12th August when they collected their results and to wish them well for their next steps.

The school's provisional results indicate a very good performance by the year group as a whole, and some truly impressive individual achievements. Notably, 54% of students achieved a strong pass (grade 5 or above) in *English and mathematics*; 75% achieved a standard pass (grade 4 or above) in both, which is the minimum entry requirement for the majority of A Level/Level 3 courses. 19% of students achieved the highest grades of 9/8 in Maths, and 15% of students achieved the highest grades of 9/8 in English. Well done to all of the students! (Grade 5 is approximately equivalent to the former grade B, and grade 4 to the former grade C.)

Other notable successes this year include students' performance in Science: over 90% of students achieved a grade 5 or above in Biology, Chemistry and Physics; of these students, 12 achieved a grade 9 in Biology, 11 achieved a grade 9 in Chemistry and 14 achieved a grade 9 in physics – outstanding! History also showed a strong improvement this year with 61% of students achieving a grade 5 or above.

CONT...



The coveted GCSE grade 9 is designed to be more difficult to achieve than the former A* grade. This year, overall, 129 grade 9 GCSEs across the subjects (8% of all grades) were achieved by Springfield's students - an excellent achievement, beating last year's record of 106 grade 9s!

It has, of course, been another extraordinary and challenging year for students across the nation. This year, following the cancellation of exams, grades have been awarded through a process of teacher assessed grades against a national standard; these have been approved and awarded by the examination boards. (The Government is not publishing performance data for any schools or colleges this year due to the varying impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.)

On Results Day Headteacher, Sara Spivey, stated, "Our students have demonstrated remarkable determination and positivity during what has been a very turbulent time for everyone. It has been a pleasure to be able to see them again today and to hand over their well-deserved GCSE grades. They should be proud of all their achievements at Springfield. I'd like to thank the teachers and other staff who have supported the students throughout their time at the school; they have worked tirelessly to ensure students are all able to progress onto further education and training, and we look forward to learning of their future achievements. Well done to the whole Springfield community!"

Miss Kelly, Deputy Headteacher



THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL

Iona Davies

"The teachers were incredible and that really helped."

For her GCSEs Iona achieved: Nine 9s, one 8 and one 7.

What Next? "I am going to study History, English Literature and Maths at Peter Symonds Sixth Form College."



THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL

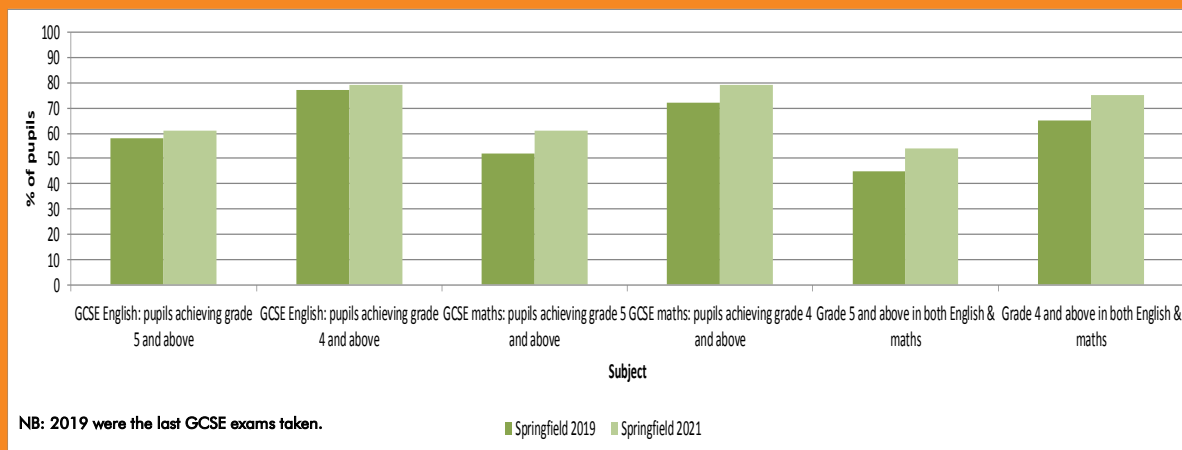
Denys Tkachuk

"My experience at Springfield was wonderful. The teachers were supportive and I liked working with other pupils"

For his GCSEs Denys achieved: Nine 9s and two 7s.

What Next? "I hope to study Chemistry, Biology, Maths and possibly Physics at Peter Symonds College"

2019 v 2021



THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Eleanor Duffy

"I had great, supportive teachers and I had a really rewarding time at Springfield."

For her GCSEs Eleanor achieved: Ten 9s and one 7

What Next? "I am going to study English Literature, Geography and History at Bishop Luffa Sixth Form"

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Jack Rogerson

"Everyone was really helpful. The teachers were willing to lend a hand and I had my friends' help too."

For his GCSEs Jack achieved: Seven 9s, two 8s and two 7s.

What Next? "I will be studying Maths, Further Maths and Physics at Havant College."

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Samuel Shute

"All the teachers were helpful and supportive, especially whilst I was home learning during lockdown."

For his GCSEs Sam achieved: Eight 9s, two 8s and one 7.

What Next? "I will be studying Maths, Further Maths, Computer Science and Physics at Portsmouth College."

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Hana Abu-Gusseisa

"I had a pretty incredible time at Springfield. I did not expect the time to go so fast and I did not expect to reach this place. This is down to the support of teachers and friends."

For her GCSEs Hana achieved: Ten 9s and two 8s.

What Next? "I am going to study Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry at Havant College"

From the Headteacher



Welcome to our first edition of Springfield News for the 2021/22 academic year; I hope that you enjoy reading about the school and what our students have been enjoying this term as we tentatively start to lift some of the restrictions with which we have become so familiar over the last eighteen months or so. In particular, a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 readers and their families; and well done to Year 7 for making such a successful transition into secondary school this term.

Although transition and orientation events for Year 7 had to be moved to the start of the autumn term, students have found their feet very quickly and have made a favourable impression on their staff. Springfield's Summer School, funded by the DfE, was oversubscribed and sixty-four pupils attended for a week in August, taking part in a blend of academic education and enrichment activities. One parent wrote that her child *'certainly benefited greatly by attending! We live out of the area and [name] didn't know anyone before camp started. All of the staff, coaches and kids made her feel very welcome and she is now really excited to start her new school thanks to you all. Thank you for your well wishes and again for an amazing week.'* My thanks go out to everyone involved in making the week so successful for the students, and to the students themselves for engaging so positively with the activities on offer.

The summer break itself was a very busy period at the school, with GCSE results being published on 12th August, a fortnight earlier than usual; the week of summer

school running for Year 7; visits to the school and SEND department taking place for some learners; on-site lateral flow tests taking place prior to term commencing; and complex repair and upgrade works to the (underground!) central heating system being conducted. Year 11 had experienced a challenging final GCSE year and so it was wonderful to observe their positive reactions as they opened their results envelopes; we congratulate them again on their success and wish them well for the future. We were very pleased with the GCSE results with over 54% of students achieving a Grade 5 (or above) in English and mathematics, and 129 Grade 9s being achieved. Well done to the (former) Year 11 students – we look forward to seeing them at their Awards Event in November.

We have enjoyed being able to extend our extra-curricular offer again and seeing our students taking part in after school sports, clubs, local trips and period 0/6 revision. Year 11 have certainly returned to school determined to focus on attaining the best GCSE results of which they are capable. Formal examinations are anticipated again next summer, but inevitably schools and examination boards have in place contingency measures; changes to this year's specifications are in the process of being published by the examination boards. Since 15 September we have had in post a new Education Secretary, the Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP, and speculation exists as to whether and when a new white paper on education will be released. We will share further information with families should this become available.

CONT...

Thank you to pupils, parents and staff for continuing to support the many changes that remain in place to keep the school as safe as possible as we navigate the challenges of this phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is disheartening to note from key colleagues at the Council that cases are now rapidly rising locally and so we ask again for everyone's vigilance and ongoing support; it is vital that we maintain our systems of control and not become complacent regarding the importance of handwashing, sensible distancing, minimising contacts, good respiratory hygiene and routine (twice weekly) asymptomatic LFD testing. Despite the logistical challenges, we were pleased to be able to offer the School Age Immunisation Service the facilities that they needed to offer eligible students the benefits of vaccination against influenza

and COVID-19. A further link for parents regarding COVID-19 is listed below:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The DfE coronavirus helpline
Telephone: 0800 046 8687
Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm
Saturday to Sunday, 10am to 6pm

I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of Springfield News. We also publish news and information on our website and social media feeds, so please check these from time to time.

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

Welcome to MP

'An 'Outstanding' Rating for Springfield from Portsmouth MP'

We were delighted to welcome Penny Mordaunt, the Right Honourable MP for Portsmouth North, to Springfield on 17 September. Ms Mordaunt was part of an official meeting with Ms Spivey and Mr Cufley, Springfield's Chair of Governors, to discuss and support ongoing building and other developments at the school. Bonnie made sure that she introduced herself towards the end of the official visit, ensuring that our distinguished visitor left smiling and relaxed after a hectic week in Parliament.

Shortly afterwards, Bonnie appeared in an official Tweet: *While on a visit to Springfield school to see their wonderful new science block & discuss more building work I got to meet the youngest staff member: Bonnie, 2 yr ok therapy dog. Helping pupils stay chilled out throughout a very difficult time. Wo-@ofsted rating: outstanding!*

Ms Spivey, CEO and Headteacher



Open Evening

The school opened its doors on Wednesday 29th September to Year 6 pupils and their parents as part of Open Evening. Parents and pupils took a tour of the school, signposted by a number of the school's prefects along the way, which took in all areas of the school. Guests could visit the new Science block where they viewed a number of Science practicals taking place, discuss The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme from the inside of a tent (!) and watch PE skills training in the Main Hall. They experienced live music lessons once they got to the Music area and could immerse themselves in the world of Drama in the school's Studio to name just a few of the displays that were on show. Existing Springfield pupils of all years came to share their experiences of the school and to help on the tour and pupils and parents were able to gain further insight from the staff who were also present.

Parent feedback from the evening:

'The orderly one way system and booking appointment made the visit enjoyable, less hectic and less daunting for a y6 pupil.'

'How wonderful the students were - they were so polite, grown up and positive.'

'I thoroughly enjoyed looking round Springfield, it was organised so well, there was no over crowding. It was so clear and structured. The staff were lovely and the students were so friendly. I had a very positive feel for the school.'

Mr Wharton
Deputy Headteacher





House News



It was an exciting start for all of us in September 2021, not only because we were all back together but because we could get back into competing for the prestigious House Cup. What better way to start the year than with some great House competitions all offering huge numbers of House points for participants and winners. From MFL's 'Duolingo' challenge to music's 'Teaching Gadget listening quiz' there are lots on offer for all students to get involved with and ultimately gather points towards the House Cup. As we look forward to the year ahead, don't forget that if you receive 100 points you will be awarded your House badge, an accolade of which to be proud. We have a number of new exciting roles for members of each House to become a 'House Rep' including House Captain, Sports Captains and Year Reps. I would like to encourage members of each House to get involved with these roles and support your Head of House in securing the House Cup. With over 20 House competitions in the pipeline already for this academic year it would be great to have some support from students in promoting and organising House competitions. We look forward to reading your applications for these roles and seeing all your House competition entries!

Miss Woolgar, Head of Ayrton

Congratulations to Ayrton House who are just in the lead with the highest House points awarded this first half term!



Year 11

As parents and pupils of our current Year 11 will be aware, the government has declared its intention that public examinations will go ahead in the summer of 2022, circumstances permitting. This follows two years of GCSE and A Level exams having been cancelled and schools submitting first Centre Assessed Grades in 2020 and then Teacher Assessed Grades in 2021.

Our current Year 11 pupils, at the end of Year 10, sat two weeks of Mock exams in formal conditions in order to acclimatise themselves to the reinstatement of formal exams and they will, once more, sit mocks in December this year as preparation for the summer series of exams.

In order to try to mitigate the loss of learning that Year 11 went through during national lockdown, the Department for Education have consulted on changes to this year's exams in order to make them as fair as possible.

Changes such as the option of reducing content in the History, Geography and English Literature exams is an attempt to reduce the amount of content pupils have to revise. Asking pupils in Art and Design to produce a portfolio and not sit 10 hour exams is also a move to reduce pressures and allow pupils to produce their best work. In Science and Maths exams, there will be printed formulae and equation sheets to help pupils in their calculations. These steps are welcomed by the profession to ease the pressures on Year 11 and will also be factored into the December mocks as preparation.

(As a footnote for our current Year 10 - the Department for Education have stated that these changes will only apply to the current Year 11 and examinations will revert back to pre-2020 rules and guidelines for the summer of 2023...)

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher



Senior Prefects

The Senior Prefect Team is responsible for supporting and representing the community at Springfield. They help to organise events and address issues relevant to particular cohorts of pupils. Considered as always approachable and willing to take on additional responsibilities, our Senior Prefects aim to improve the school in whatever way that may be!

Of late, the Senior Prefect Team has been focusing on a number of issues relevant to current topics brought together by various Springfield members; including ...

Further Acknowledgement of RSE

The Senior Prefect Team has been working alongside Shannon Reddin (from Enrich, a company 'fine tuned' for the empowerment and protection of all youths) to educate pupils throughout the school about Relationships and Sexual Education. Assemblies, presented by Shannon, have taken place to educate students on the facts. The Senior Prefect Team then followed these assemblies with a tutor session, focused on Year 9 and 10, to consider the different thoughts obtained from the information recently discussed. We thought it was necessary to shine a light on these issues because we understand the importance of the topic and the fact that it is not always discussed enough!

Planners

In addition, we have been reviewing ideas to improve the student planners and/or how to educate the younger years on how to use them effectively and efficiently alongside daily school life. There are many useful tools in planners that some pupils are unaware of. Therefore, we are thinking about educating younger years and also including them as to the improvement and possible addition to the future of Springfield's student planners.

Friendship Prefects

The senior prefect team have also been planning a new system in which new Year 7s have a select prefect/group of prefects they can talk to about any matter they may not feel comfortable talking to staff about. This will hopefully make younger pupils feel like they have a trusted figure they can talk to within school, a figure with perhaps a bit more experience of current school life.

Eco Club

The last half term has also included emerging plans for the improvement of Springfield's Eco Garden as well as an emerging Eco Club, aimed at Years 7 and 8 with the hope of creating an environmentally-friendly space for all at school to enjoy, whilst also doubling down on encouragement directed towards students to try and make a positive difference to their environment.

Charities

As a team we are hoping to run lots of fun events such as fun runs to raise money for various charities. The charities will be chosen by the students and will help to raise awareness for worthwhile causes.

Other

In order to raise awareness of different cultures, we are putting together a Springfield Community Cookbook, filled with students' favourite recipes. Students will get a chance to try out these different recipes at home and experience food from different cultures.

We are also working together with PDL teachers to help make sure that we learn about important topics such as taxes, mortgages, and life skills as well as making sure that awareness is raised for serious topics like racism, homophobia and sexism.

Erin Buchanan, Assistant Head Girl

Revision Workshops

Teachers of Year 11 Drama, Health and Fitness and Music are offering half term revision workshops next week on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th October in school. Year 11 pupils to whom this applies are already aware of this opportunity. Please find below the programme of workshops for your reference.

time timetable, with only a small number of students and staff on site, there will not be our usual designated trained first aiders in school. Should an incident arise, staff will contact home initially and 999 in an emergency.

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher

Pupils are not required to wear school uniform when attending the workshops and may bring snacks and drinks. We hope that you will ensure your child takes advantage of this extra, free opportunity to prepare for their examinations this year.

Please note that as these workshops are being offered outside of our normal term-



Revision Workshops - October Half Term

Date	Morning session 10am to 12.30pm	Afternoon session 1pm to 3pm
Monday 25th October	Music Mrs Latif (MR2) Drama Mrs Brown (Drama Studio)	Music Mrs Latif (MR2) Drama Mrs Brown (Drama Studio)
Tuesday 26th October	Health and Fitness Mr Green (C08) Drama Mrs Brown (Drama Studio)	Drama Mrs Brown (Drama Studio)

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Springfield is committed to promoting and protecting emotional wellbeing and mental health in our whole school community.

We strive to create an environment which has a whole school approach in providing excellent support, understanding and intervention for all individuals in order to maintain their positive wellbeing and mental health. We put wellbeing at the heart of our school to ensure successful learning.

Our aim is for all our students to have the support they need to build lifelong coping skills and thrive.

We make this happen by:

- Understanding the different types of emotional and mental health needs across the school and have systems in place to respond appropriately
- Actively promoting students emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Having a positive culture which regards emotional wellbeing and mental health as the responsibility of all
- Developing the curriculum and teaching, learning and assessment methods to optimise mental health and wellbeing, recognising neurodiversity, while maintaining academic standards.

Student wellbeing is paramount for a safe and effective school. Addressing mental health issues can improve the overall wellbeing and happiness of students alongside improving the attendance and achievement of our students.

Aims:

- To create a culture that promotes and supports the health and wellbeing of all students
- To ensure all staff are able to support students in their mental health and wellbeing by alerting key members of staff and directing students to them with the support of outside agencies
- To support students in regular physical exercise
- To encourage students to make positive lifestyle choices
- To offer a programme of extra curricular activities to support students' wellbeing
- To provide information and raise awareness of mental health issues through the year offices, tutor programme and PDL lessons
- To equip students with the skills to support their own mental health
- To develop relationships with outside agencies and support groups
- To meet with parents and students to develop a positive relationship and an open dialogue
- To deliver non-judgemental support to any student experiencing a mental health issue
- To make regular contact with students who are absent due to mental ill health
- To ensure students with mental health issues are treated fairly and without judgement
- To encourage students to talk to a mental health first aider, teachers, support staff, a counsellor, GP and/or anyone else they feel comfortable with.

Mrs Brown, Head of Achievement (Year 11)

Useful Mental Health and Wellbeing Apps



Headspace

A meditation app that acts as a personal guide to health and happiness



MoodKit

Uses CBT principles to help with low mood and anxiety



MoodGym

An online cognitive behaviour therapy programme for depression and anxiety



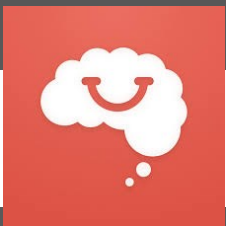
SafeSpot

Aims to provide young people with access to coping strategies and resources to help better cope with difficult situations



Calm

Meditation techniques to aid with stress and sleep



Smiling Mind

A meditation programme developed by psychologists and educators to help bring mindfulness into your life



Happime

Free app that helps to raise self-esteem, self confidence and happiness levels in children and young people



Kooth

online mental wellbeing community
Free, safe and anonymous support



What's Up

Utilising some of the best CBT methods to help you cope with Depression, Anxiety, Anger, Stress and more



Childline

A counselling service for children and young people up to their 19th birthday in the UK provided by the NSPCC



MindEd

An online learning and advice resource for anyone interested in, or concerned about, the mental health of children and teenagers.



Young Minds

This is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional well-being and mental health of children and young people.



Frank

Provides facts, support and advice on drugs and alcohol



The Paper Birds

Drama Workshop

Year 11 Drama students engaged in a fantastic workshop led by Kylie from Paper Birds Theatre Company on Friday 1st October 2021. The students took part in a range of activities to help develop drama based on the theme of celebrity. They explored different approaches to the theme and different performance styles, focusing on moving their drama away from the naturalistic and making it more stylised. This work will directly impact their component 1 devised pieces where they have to create their own original drama. The students were enthusiastic and produced some outstanding pieces of drama.

Mrs Needham, Head of Drama



Drama Club

Unfortunately owing to the ongoing COVID situation we are unable to do a whole school production this year. However, this has given us the opportunity to start a Year 7 and Year 8 Drama Club (every Thursday at 3.15pm), and also an enrichment group for Year 9 on Tuesdays after school.

Both groups have got off to an energetic start with lots of drama games (with Eastenders Zip Zap Boing as a firm favourite!) The pupils have also taken part in lots of spontaneous improvisation exercises, including Answer the Telephone and Black and White as well as improvised performances such as slow motion Disney stories and adverts for Poundland! If you need more drama in your life then these clubs are for you.

Mrs Needham, Head of Drama



Crops and Finance

The school conservation area has produced a bumper crop of eating and cooking apples this year. Mr Lomas' PDL class has been working hard to harvest them. Students picked the fruit and have bagged them and priced them and sold them to staff. On Friday 15th October, the students who harvested and sold the fruit went to the local shops to purchase an educational board game with the money they had raised. It was the pupils' responsibility to work out how much money they needed, how much change they would get and how to spend any surplus. This was a valuable lesson for students' understanding of finance and life skills.

Bailee Down (10R) commented "We had a lot of fun picking apples from our conservation area in September and October. We worked together as a team. We have researched the price of apples then put them in bags to be sold in the school. Any leftovers will be made into apple crumble with the help of the kitchen staff."

Mr Dennett
SEND Coordinator



Yom Kippur

What are we celebrating in Religion, Ethics and Philosophy this half term?

Over the last half term, there have been numerous religious festivals celebrated by people all over the world. In this article today, I am going to share with you one of the most important Jewish festivals celebrated last month alongside Rosh Hashanah, known as Yom Kippur. In early September of this year (6-8th September 2021) Jewish people celebrated the start of the new year and the creation of the world. Jews believe that God judges a person's good and bad deeds from the last year and then decides what the next year will look like for them. God makes his final judgement on Yom Kippur (15-16th September 2021), which means Day of Atonement. On this day, Jews will spend much time in the Synagogue (their place of worship) praying for forgiveness for any of the wrongs they have done. So, what has this got to do with life at Springfield, I hear you ask?! Just as Jews spend Yom Kippur reflecting on the year just gone, we too, here at Springfield, encourage our students and staff to reflect on their time in school and how they can become a better version of themselves. This could mean trying to avoid distractions in lessons, or taking more time to listen to other peoples' opinions, but above all, it is about appreciating what we all have and using our gifts and talents to make Springfield the best school in which to work and study. I wish everyone a happy and successful year ahead!

Miss Houghton, Religion, Ethics and Philosophy



Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to:

Daisy Ashcroft (11E), Penelope Andriunaviciute (9P),
Maeesha Begum (10D), Thomas Christopher (10F)
Olivia Cobb (7P), Lewis Cooper (7F),
Georgina Dunthorne (9P),
Allyza Gonzales (9G) (not pictured),
Isabelle Haines (9L), Talia Jeffery (9P),
Leah Jenkins (9R), Jude Leaves (9P),
Lyndon Moore (7P), Jessica Morton (9S),
Tyler Otamere (9D), Lilly-Mae Purtill (9N),
Elodie Renshaw (11F), Freya Shergold (7F),
Noah Stephens-Glazier (10D),
Cameron Trotter (7F) and Dexter Turner (7P)

The listed students all received a Headteacher's Award this half term. The awards were given in recognition of exceptional work and achievements in a range of subject areas or outstanding contribution to Open Evening. Students were presented with their certificates by Ms Spivey (pictured right and on page 11).

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





Welcome

This term we have welcomed some new members of staff to Springfield. To help you to put names to faces we have compiled some profiles. Let us introduce some of our new colleagues:

Mr Hurt, Teacher of English

Where did you train?

The University of Portsmouth.

What is your favourite topic to teach?

I can't choose - both English and Media!

What would you like to achieve in a year's time?

To have a successful year teaching, and guide my Year 11 students through their GCSE exams.

Favourite educational quote:

'Education is the passport to the future.' Malcolm X



Mr Payne, Teacher of English

Where did you train?

Sheffield Hallam University.

What is your favourite topic to teach?

Macbeth in English, the newspaper industry in Media Studies.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time?

To be the most loved (and feared) member of the English department.

Favourite educational quote:

'He who laughs most, learns best.' John Cleese



Mrs Bungshy, Teacher of MFL

Where did you train?

University of Southampton.

What is your favourite topic to teach?

Everything related to French language.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time?

Consistent good results/high pass rate for my Year 11 GCSE students and to instil a love of learning French for all year groups.

Favourite educational quote:

'There is no excuse for not trying.' Barak Obama



Mrs Kay, Food Technician

Where did you work previously?

I've come from Portsmouth College in the SEND department working with special needs young adults.

What is the favourite part of your new job?

I'm really enjoying everything!

What would you like to achieve in a year's time?

To have the kitchen rooms all sorted and organised.

Favourite educational quote:

'If you fail to prepare, be prepared to fail!'



Mr Dennett

Special Educational Needs Coordinator

I joined Springfield just over nine years ago as a Learning Support Assistant - it really doesn't feel that long ago! I spent two years supporting pupils in class with their learning; it was during this time, I decided working in a school and with young people was something I would like to continue as a career. I started an Open University Degree in Psychology and soon after, I was successful in my application for Springfield's first ever Pastoral Manager post! I enjoyed working with a broader range of pupils with a broader range of needs. This role gave me loads of invaluable experience working with a variety of external services, allowing us to ensure all our pupils got the best support available to them.

Throughout my life I have always had a love for mathematics and working in school is an ideal opportunity to share my passion for the subject with others. I added a few additional Maths courses into my Open Degree and began training, at Springfield, as a Maths teacher and was awarded my Qualified Teacher Status in 2019.

In 2021 I applied for the position of Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and was successful. Since the beginning of September, as SENCO, I have been working hard to ensure all our pupils, especially those with additional educational needs, have access to excellent provision across the school. Over the next few years I will be working tirelessly to continue and develop outstanding SEND provision at Springfield School.



ECTs

From September 2021 the Government has reformed the way that newly qualified teachers are inducted

in schools. Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) are now called Early Career Teachers (ECTs). One of the biggest reforms that has been made is the introduction of the Early Career Framework (ECF). The ECF means that all new teachers will now receive development, support and training over two years rather than one, as well as benefiting from the support of a dedicated mentor during this time to facilitate the sharing of experience and best practice. We have four ECTs at Springfield, working in the Modern Foreign Language and English departments including Miss Sillince who has kindly offered to share what her experience has been like.

What have the first few weeks of term been like?

The first few weeks at Springfield as an ECT have been a wonderful whirlwind of meeting and getting to know all my new classes, getting to grips with the new schemes of work I will be teaching, and finding my feet as a new Year 7 Tutor. There has been lots to learn as every day brings a fresh challenge, but it has been a great experience so far and I'm looking forward to continuing to develop my teaching practice as the year goes on.

What has been the biggest challenge moving from trainee teacher to Early Career Teacher?

Personally, I have found the biggest challenge moving from trainee teacher to Early Career Teacher is learning to trust your own instincts. I often compare training to teach to learning to drive: as a trainee teacher you are guided by constant feedback and there is someone beside you to put their foot on the brake for you if a problem should occur. Of course, as an ECT there is still regular support and feedback, but you also need to be confident in your decisions whilst being prepared to apply the brakes independently if necessary, which is definitely something that comes with time and experience.

Describe the training and mentoring you have had so far and how this has supported you?

The training and mentoring that I have received so far has been really great. I am lucky to have a fantastic subject mentor in Jo White and an equally fantastic ECT mentor in Clare Kavalieris,

both of whom are very knowledgeable about best practices in teaching and are armed with a range of strategies to overcome any obstacle that may arise in the classroom. Discourse around these strategies is embedded in the weekly mentor meetings where we discuss the expectations of the ECF, and in the regular CPD sessions that are provided by a team of experienced colleagues. Additionally, both Jo and Clare are incredibly supportive and are there to listen just as much as they are there to advise. This has been a great help, particularly in this first half-term whilst getting to grips with the expectations of being an ECT.

Why did you choose to go into teaching and is it what you thought it would be?

I've worked in many different job roles but the roles that allowed me to work with young people have always been the ones I've enjoyed most and have made me feel the most fulfilled. Having worked with children and young people aged 4-18 for the past 9 years as a teaching assistant and youth theatre director, teaching felt like the natural next step in my career progression. Although I had heard that teaching could be tough at times, I don't think you're ever prepared for how much time and effort goes into each lesson; I certainly took that for granted when I was at school! But you also hear that it is one of the most rewarding professions and that is something I certainly agree with.

What have you found the most rewarding?

Teaching is an endless source of reward, but I have really enjoyed taking on the role of a Tutor and learning more about the pastoral elements of education. My tutor group are in Year 7 and being able to watch them settle into their first few weeks of secondary school and get to know each of them individually has been a very rewarding role.

What encouragement could you give to others considering a career in teaching?

For anyone considering a career in teaching, my advice would be to just go for it! It is a job where no two days are ever the same and - although there are some days that are more challenging than others - you really are making a profound impact on society as a teacher, and there is a great sense of personal achievement that goes along with that.

Ms Robertson, Assistant Headteacher

Road Safety Reminders



We are fortunate that so many of our students are able to travel independently to and from school either on foot or cycling. I want to ensure that all students remain as safe as possible at all times and that other road users and pedestrians are given due consideration for their own safety. Our Home School Agreement states that parents/carers should ensure their son/daughter travels to and from the school site safely (including ensuring their son/daughter wears a helmet if they choose to cycle). Road safety general reminders:

- Students should not use a mobile phone whilst walking or cycling as this can be a significant distraction and could lead to an accident.
- Remain vigilant at all times, stopping, looking (both ways) and listening when crossing a road
- Cross roads at designated crossings or where you have a clear view both ways up and down the road.
- If walking, use the pavement and avoid walking in the road.
- Be considerate of other road/pavement users (e.g. make space for someone pushing a pram).

Further advice for cyclists:

- Ride decisively and keep clear of the kerb.
- Look and signal to show drivers what you plan to do, make eye contact where possible.
- Avoid riding up the inside of vehicles, as you might not be seen. If a vehicle is indicating to the left hang back at the junction to reduce the risk of a collision.
- Always use lights after dark or when visibility is poor. Wear high-visibility and reflective clothing and accessories at all times.
- Wear a correctly fitted cycle helmet that is securely fastened and conforms to current regulations.
- Your local council can help you plan your journey by providing maps showing dedicated paths and routes.
- Where possible, try to maintain a safe distance when you cycle, for example when waiting at crossings and traffic lights.
- Where using bikes (private, docked or dockless) wash your hands for at least 20 seconds or sanitise your hands before and after cycling.
- For more safe cycling advice please follow this link - <https://www.think.gov.uk/cycle-safety/>

Thank you to all students for following this simple guidance and thank you to parents for supporting this. Further information on road and cycle safety can be found here: <https://www.think.gov.uk/>
Stay safe!

Year 11 Book Reviews

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

Miss Hughes, Teacher of Science

The Extinction Trials, S. M. Wilson

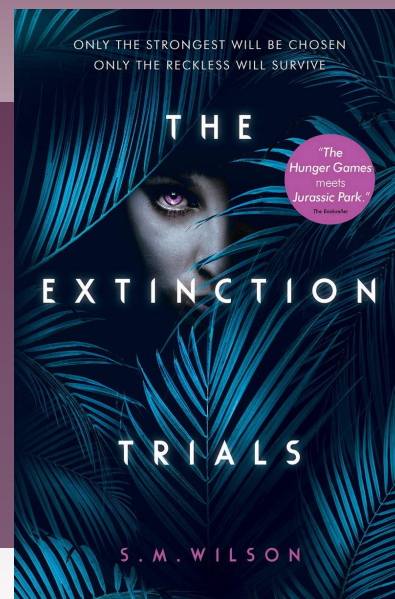
Age: 11+

★★★★★

Dystopian Fiction

CW: mentions of death and violence

For fans of the hunger games and dinosaurs, The Extinction Trials trilogy is set in a bleak dystopian world where the past mixes with the future. I recommend this book if you want an adventurous fantasy book that contains high stakes and a Jurassic world.



Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children, Ransom Riggs

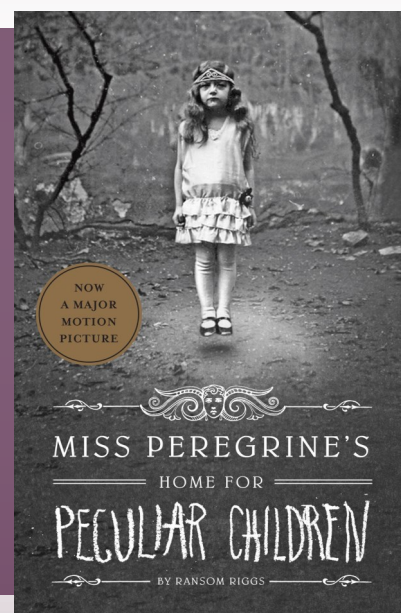
Age: 12+

★★★★★

Fantasy, thriller, supernatural

CW: swear words, mild violence, monsters

Any fan of Tim Burton's work is sure to love this book, with the eerie atmosphere accompanied with vintage photos, what isn't there to love? As Jacob discovers a deserted island with ruins of an orphanage, it becomes clear that the kids here were more than peculiar children; they were dangerous. Through the shadows of the past, Jacob learns about their spine-chilling life with the possibility that they might be very much alive.



The Henna Wars, Adiba Jaigirdar

Age: 13+

★★★★★

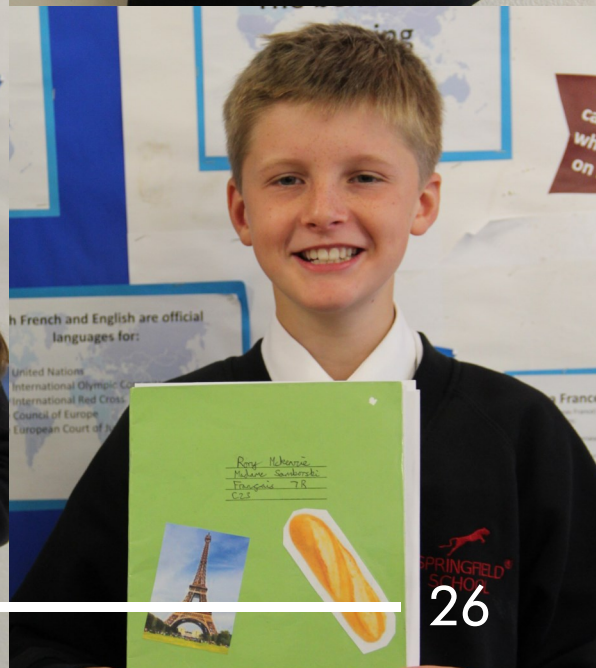
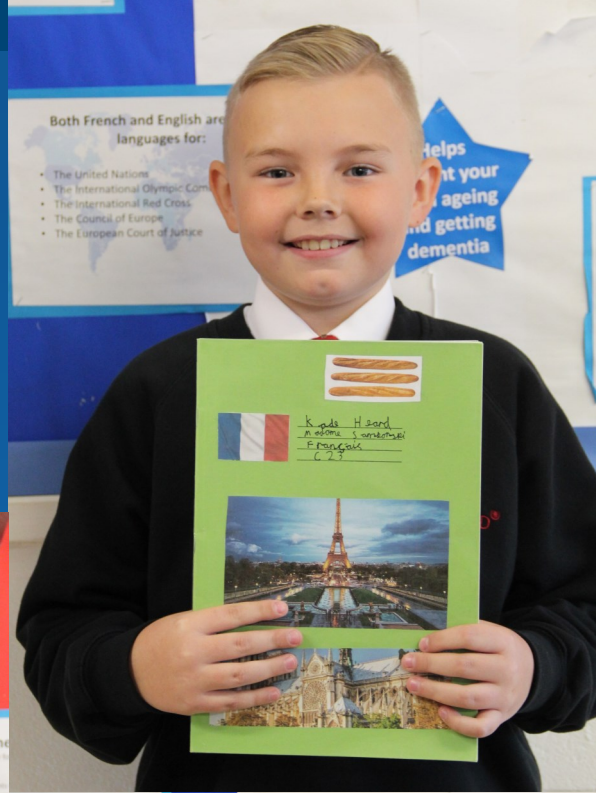
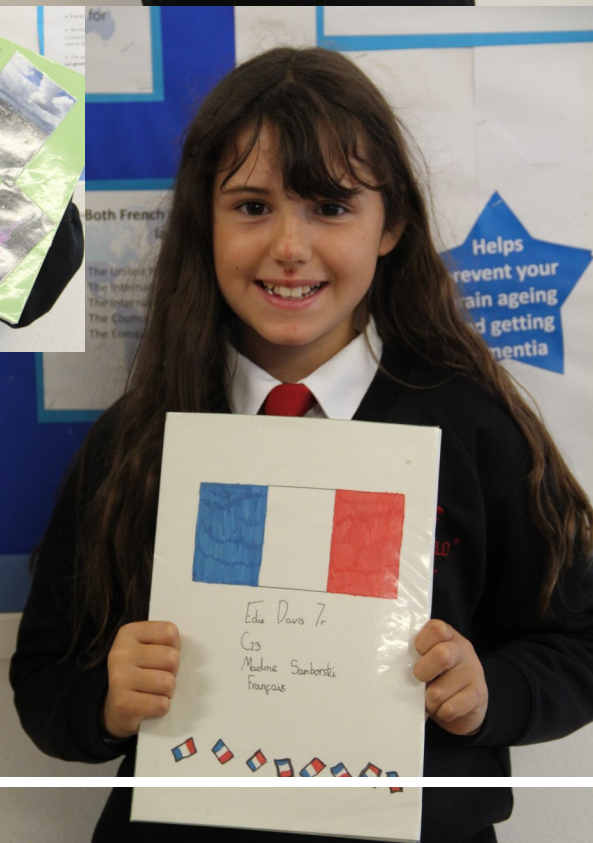
CW: Instances of racism, homophobia and bullying
In short, this book is amazing. The diverse representation is brilliant, and, more often than not, I forgot that the characters weren't real. I highly recommend this book if you want a soft romance with messages of hopefulness and speaking up for yourself.



Book Covers

Mrs Samborski invited me to meet with her French class 7R on 6th October 2021. Students were busy making colourful covers for their French text books using their newly learned French vocabulary and knowledge about French culture. A selection of these great designs (and their creators) are pictured. Well done 7R!

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration



Religion, Ethics and Philosophy Survey - The Results

During Open Evening three of our Religion, Ethics and Philosophy students conducted a survey on people's beliefs about God. The students invited Year 6 students to nominate if their beliefs were atheist, theist or agnostic. The Springfield students explained these terms to the Year 6 students which encouraged some interesting conversations.

Miss Forrest, Teacher of Religion, Ethics and Philosophy



Take part
in our religious
survey...



Theist

A belief in God or
gods



Atheist

A belief that there
is no God or gods



Agnostic

Undecided

PE - Return To Clubs

The pupils are enjoying the return of activities such as football, netball and rugby in PE lessons. Over the past year it was an almost constant request to be able to play these sports which were halted with the then restrictions in place. The students are now able to access the broad and balanced sporting curriculum which has been a previously noted Ofsted strength of PE at Springfield.

It has also been great to see, over the past two months, our pupils having the opportunity to return to extra-curricular sports clubs. It has been a long wait for all since March 2020. When anything stops for a long period of time there is some apprehension as to how it will go as we restart. However, instantly our students have grasped the opportunities on offer and attended our clubs in great numbers. In our first week alone we had over one hundred and fifty pupils attend an after school sports session. Currently we have eleven different sports clubs running and have completed various sporting fixtures in Years 7 to 11.

Well done Springfield, it has been great to see so many of you enjoying PE and sports clubs again.

Mr Snook, Head of PE



Sporting Success

Football

Congratulations to the Year 10 boys' football team who made it to the third round of the National Cup! Well done to the Year 11 boys' football team for beating Mayfield 3-2 in their first competitive fixture for 18 months. The boys played well and showed an excellent team spirit. Two goals from Kai Kaberry (11L) and one from Riley Mann (11E), with assists from Josh Bowman (11N), Sam Grears (11L) and Kaelum Dugan (11S) capped a great performance, along with a brilliant penalty save by Oscar Stanley (11E). Well done to all involved.

Mr Peachment, Teacher of PE

Netball

Well done to the Year 8 netball team for competing in their first ever netball festival for Springfield School. The girls showed pride, determination and sportsmanship as they competed for the first time together, and for some their first time playing a full game of netball. The team played a mixture of Hampshire schools in fast-paced 8-minute games and showed great teamwork throughout the tournament. A slow start saw us narrowly lose to Priory School as we scored just after the whistle had blown but the girls came back in the second match against Trafalgar A team to win 3-0. Overall, the girls showed great resilience and came 4th in the tournament. Well done girls and I look forward to more tournaments and games to come!

Miss Woolgar, Teacher of PE



Pictured above:

Livia Rudman (8D), Larsa Namer (8D), Martha McClenaghan (8E), Anjali Patel (8E), Skye Ellis (8E), Phoebe Boiling (8N), Erin Jenkins (8N) and Dania Karim (8N)

Paper Outfits

My Year 9 GCSE Textiles students have been creating some imaginative outfits whilst exploring using different fabrics such as newspapers, magazines and bin liners. They used the methods of paper manipulation and construction. I am so impressed with their original and unique ideas and I am pleased with their progress so far. I look forward to the final finale.

Mrs Davé, Teacher of Textiles



Future Wall Competition

Students were set the task of creating their own future wall, based around the concept of the Future Wall inside Springfield's reception. The entries have been original and creative. Many students mixed their artistic and ICT expertise with the skills of showing historical change and chronology. It has been great to see so many wonderful entries this year.

A massive well done to the finalists:

Belle Curry (7G)
Lily Grech (7F)
Ben Hughes (7R)
Ethan Lewis (7N)
Matilda Watts (7G)

Esme Fitch-Ballard (7L)
Dexter Harris (7E)
Cora Jepson (7D)
Molly Richards (7S)
Megan Woolley (7P)

Congratulations to Cora Jepson (7D) and Ben Hughes (7R) who have been chosen as the overall winners of the Future Wall Competition 2021. Well done to everyone who took part.

Mrs Jackson, Head of History

Cora Jepson (7D)



Ben Hughes (7R)

Modern Foreign Languages

"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way."

After many years working as a Head of Year at Springfield, the opportunity to embark upon a new challenge arose and I started as Head of Modern Foreign Languages at the beginning of this academic year.

I have always been passionate about languages and the opportunities that speaking another language can bring, and hope to foster a love of languages in our pupils while developing the knowledge, understanding and skills required to ensure the best possible outcomes for all.

Pupils sometimes ask why they have to learn a language. The reasons are many and varied: Languages are a life skill. They teach you communication skills and adaptability and learning how to interact with speakers of other languages means you are less likely to be stuck in one mode of thinking. It can help you see

things from a range of perspectives, develop your problem-solving skills, and make you more adaptable, resourceful and creative.

Languages teach you cultural awareness and give you the edge in the job market; there is a global market for jobs. It is not necessary to be completely fluent in a foreign language to be an asset to any potential employer. Knowing how to meet and greet people from other countries and cultures is a valued skill.

Most importantly, language learning develops the skills of memory, attention to detail, noticing, pattern-finding, creative thinking and reasoning, skills that are transferable across the curriculum.

We want our pupils to value languages and the departments employs a range of strategies to ensure pupils learn in an enjoyable and inclusive environment. We keep our curriculum up to date, and driven by robust academic research, and pupils can expect to use a number of different resources to support their learning. Our KS3 curriculum is built around 6 discrete topics, during which key language is recycled in a number of ways to support recall



and retention and to build confidence. The early focus is on speaking and listening – mimicking how we acquire our first language. The KS4 Curriculum follows the AQA syllabus, and is driven by the same research, with regular practice of key examination skills. Throughout their languages journey, pupils will encounter authentic texts, and develop their cultural awareness and an appreciation of diversity in our world, recognising that “English is not enough”.

I am really proud that we are also able to support our pupils in gaining qualifications in more than one language. Our pupils with a first language other than English often take a GCSE in this; in recent years, we have successfully entered pupils for Chinese, Arabic, Polish, Russian, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Turkish. This year we are able to add Tamil to this list. If you wish to know whether a qualification in another language is available, please do contact me. It is also possible for pupils to study a second foreign language should they wish; for example, we have recently supported pupils’ independent study of Spanish.

This year we are able to offer extracurricular activities; watch out for KS4 revision weekends which we are launching after half term. To support our GCSE pupils, we are running Period 0 from 8am. French (Foundation and Higher) runs on Tuesdays, and German (Foundation and Higher) on Fridays. We are also launching language competitions. October saw the inaugural Duolingo Challenge, where pupils competed to earn the most experience for their house. November will see the launch of our Spelling (Year 7), Translation (Year 8) and Conjugation (Year 9) Bees, all of which are designed to aid recall with an element of fun and competition; watch this space for updates.

Please do support your child in their language learning: the very best support that you can

give is your enthusiasm and encouragement. If you have the time to spend a few minutes sitting alongside and going through the words they have to learn, this would be incredibly beneficial too. If you are unsure about pronunciation then you just say the English – you’ll be able to recognise if your child is saying the correct foreign word back to you. Showing a positive attitude to other languages and cultures will go a long way to keeping your child interested in learning languages; encourage your child to have fun with languages:

- Read comics and books in another language, look at interesting language websites, or learn a song in another language.
- Challenge each other to find words in your first language that come from other languages.
- Watch films and television shows in other languages with subtitles.
- Learn the language alongside your child – there are lots of ways to learn a new language (or refresh one you learned in school) without digging out the old grammar books.

I have also included a list of useful websites, many of which your child will be familiar with already.

If you have any questions about languages at Springfield, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Useful Websites

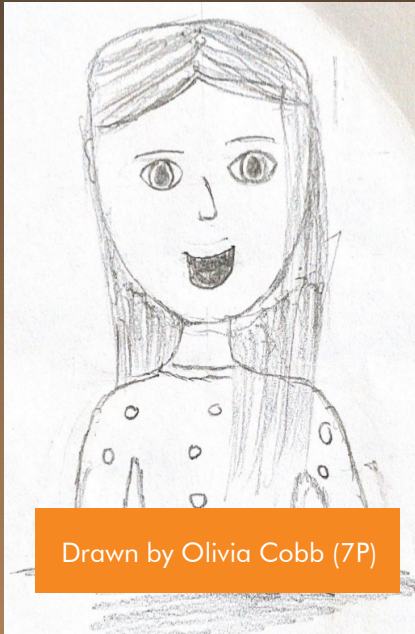
<https://www.duolingo.com/learn>
<https://quizlet.com/en-gb>
<https://www.language-gym.com/>
<https://www.languagehut.com/en-gb/>
<https://www.sentencebuilders.com/>

Ms Creighton, Head of MFL

Tutor Portrait

This term we challenged tutor groups to sketch a portrait of their tutor. Below is a selection of some of the great drawings I received. Can you guess who the Tutors are? Answers will be published in the next edition.

Mrs Norum, Support - Marketing and Administration



Drawn by Olivia Cobb (7P)



Drawn by Aaliyah Miah (7R)

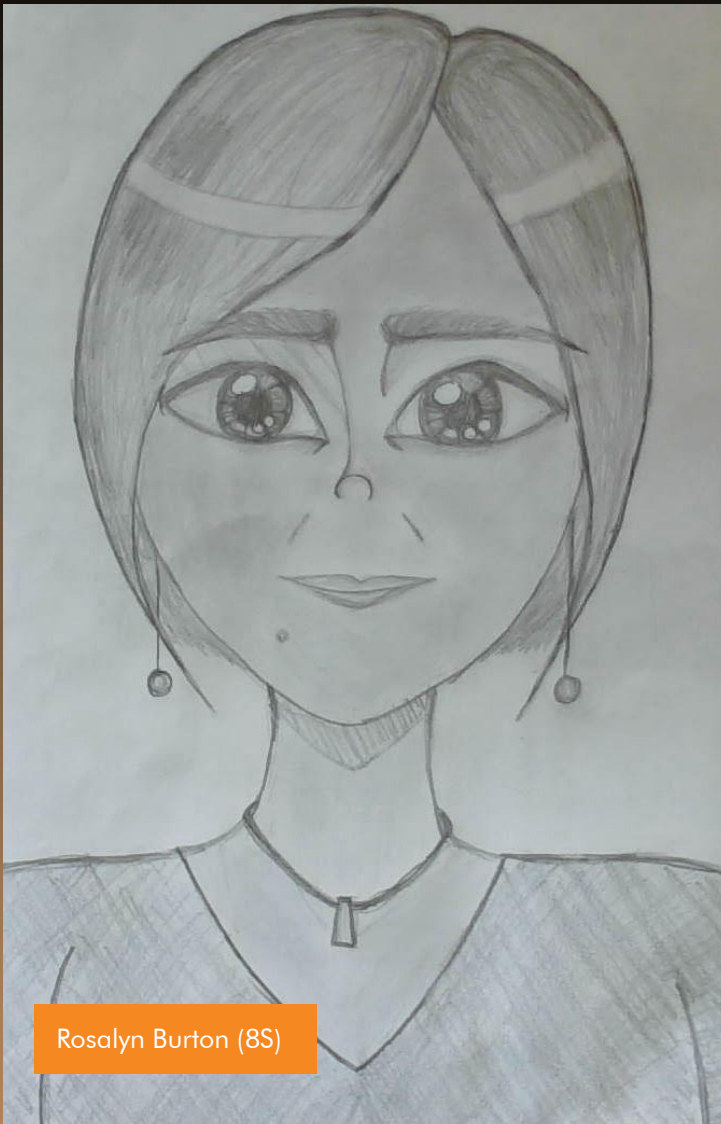


Drawn by Madeline Young, 10R



Drawn by Evie Smith (10E)

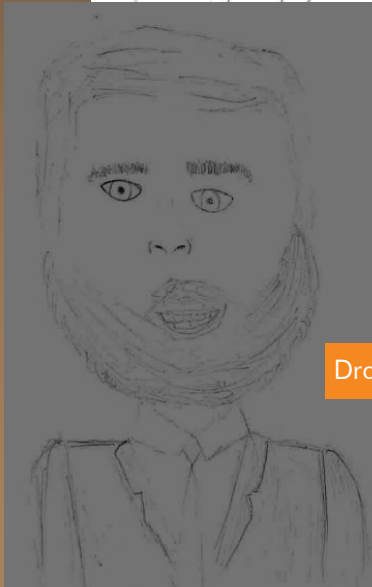




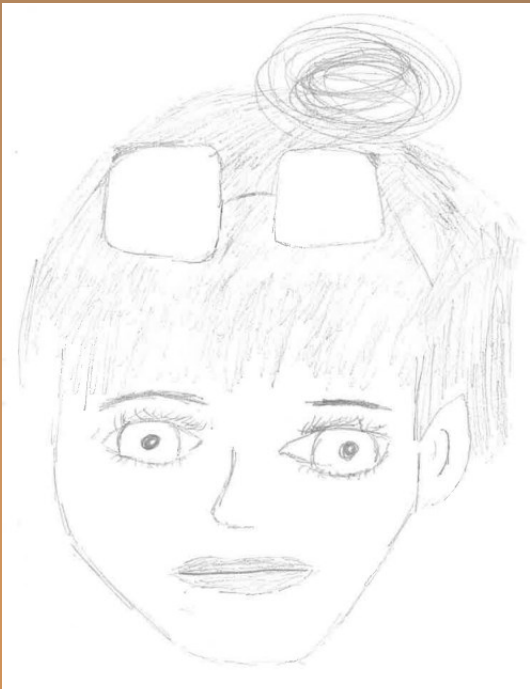
Rosalyn Burton (8S)



Drawn by Reggie Dugan (9G)



Drawn by Isabel Mitchell (7F)



Drawn by Connie Robinson (7L)



Drawn by Bethany Psaila (11L)



Drawn by Tim Lehota (8D)

Mr Kerr's Brain Teaser

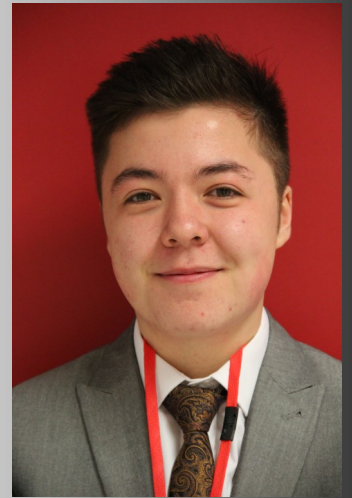
The answer to last edition's brain teaser:

If two hours ago, it was as long after one o'clock in the afternoon as it was before one o'clock in the morning, what time would it be now? **9pm**

This edition's brain teaser:

Which numbers are missing from the grid?

<input type="text"/>	7	2
3	<input type="text"/>	8
4	7	<input type="text"/>



A polite reminder to parents:
If your child is unwell or has a medical appointment and is unable to attend school please telephone the school's absence line as soon as possible to report this. There is an option to leave a message.



02392 381185

A

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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



CALENDAR

PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY - MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER

FIRST DAY OF NEW HALF TERM - MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2021

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS - FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER 2021 TO TUESDAY 5 JANUARY 2022

NOVEMBER

Monday 1 November	Year 11 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 4 November	Year 11 Subject Parents Evening (Remote)
Monday 8 November	Professional Closure Day
Monday 8 to Friday 12 November	House Assemblies
Friday 19 November	Year 10 Focus Day (Health, Wealth and Happiness)
Thursday 25 November	Year 11 Leavers' Awards Published
Monday 29 November to Friday 3 December	Year 11 Mock Exam Week
Monday 29 November to Friday 3 December	House Week
Tuesday 30 November	Year 10 Progress Reports Issued

DECEMBER

Wednesday 1 December	Year 9 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 2 December	Year 8 Progress Reports Issued
Friday 3 December	Year 7 Progress Reports Issued
Monday 6 to Friday 10 December	Year 11 Mock Exam Week
Monday 6 December	Year 8 Subject Parents' Meeting (Remote)
Wednesday 15 December	Year 7 Panto Trip (afternoon)
Friday 17 December	Charity Non-Uniform Day

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.



Don't forget
to follow us on
Facebook and Twitter