



SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL

NEWS



October 2018 Issue

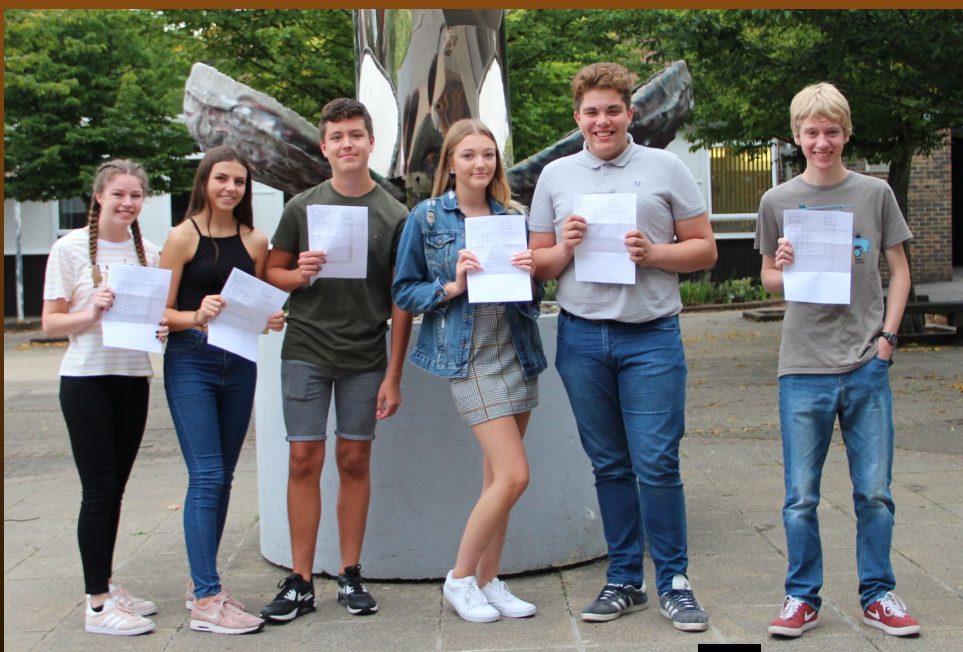
www.springfield.uk.net

SPRINGFIELD OUTPERFORMS LOCAL RIVALS - GCSE 2018

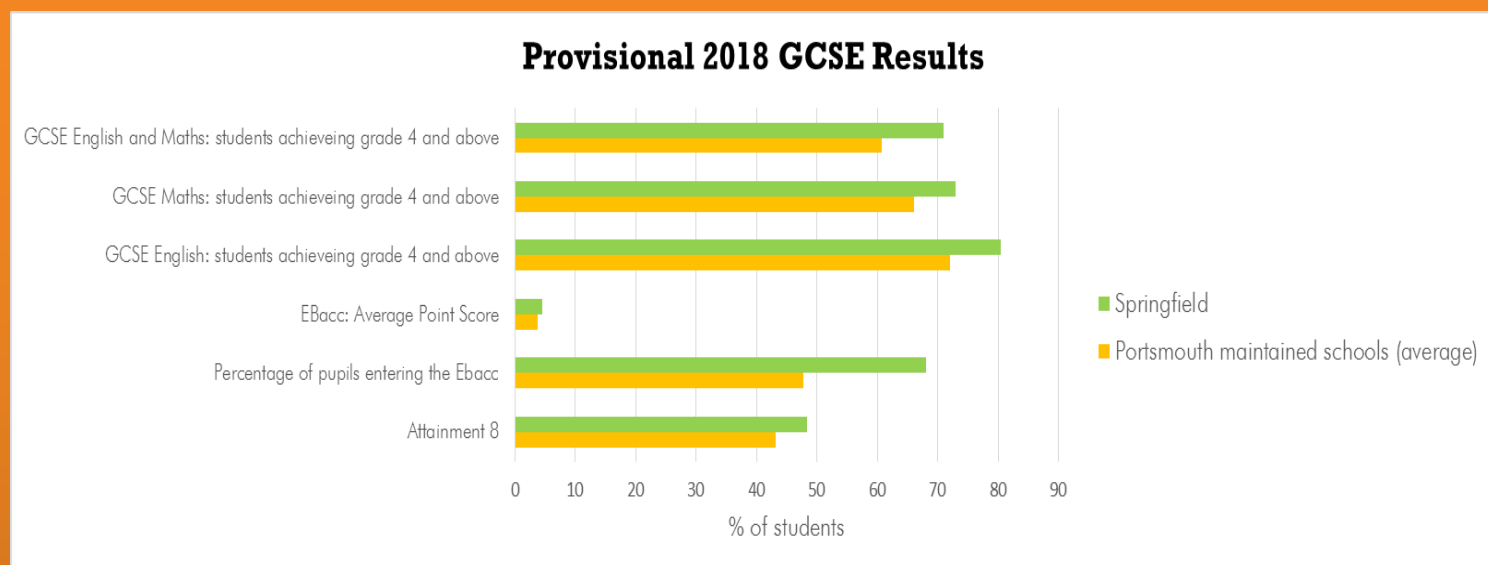
We are delighted that (provisional) figures indicate an improvement on last year's English and Maths (combined) results, with 50% of the cohort achieving grade 5 or above in both English and Maths GCSE; grade 5 is a 'strong pass' approximately equivalent to the previous grade B. Impressively, over 70% of the cohort achieved a 'standard pass' of grade 4 or above in both English and Maths; grade 4 is approximately equivalent to the previous grade C and is the minimum entry requirement for the majority of A-Level / Level 3 courses.

Other high attaining subjects this year (grade 4 or above) include Art – 100%, Biology – 94%, Chemistry - 93%, Physics - 94% and Textiles – 94%. 23% of the GCSE grades achieved by Springfield's students across all subjects were grade 7 (the previous grade A) or above; a striking 12% of these were the highest grades of 9, 8 or A*. Notable successes include the Computer Scientists - 12% of their GCSEs were grade 9; and the Biologists – 9% of their GCSEs were grade 9 and 23% grade 8. We were thrilled that a total of 65 grade 9s were achieved by our students across the curriculum, a testament to the hard work and dedication of students and their teachers at Springfield! (The coveted grade 9 is intended to be more difficult to achieve than the previous A* at GCSE.)

Continued...



The following headlines show some of Springfield's notable successes, including comparative data with all other Portsmouth schools. Springfield also outperformed other, more local, Hampshire schools!



- 71% of the cohort attained a standard pass (grade 4+) in both English and Mathematics
- 50% of the cohort attained a strong pass (grade 5+) in English and Maths
- 33% of the cohort achieved the English Baccalaureate (4+ in English & Maths and in 2 Sciences, History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language)

EBACC SUCCESS

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) comprises a GCSE pass for English, Mathematics, two Sciences, Humanities (History or Geography) and MFL (Modern Foreign Language). Springfield continues to lead the way in terms of EBacc entry, entering more students as a percentage of its cohort than any other (maintained) school in Portsmouth in 2018 (68%). This reflects Springfield's commitment to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum for its students.

Springfield has consistently performed well in the EBacc. For example, in 2017, 71% of students were entered for all elements of EBacc, which was 33 percentage points higher than national (38%); 38% of our students achieved a strong pass (grade 5 or above) in all elements of EBacc, which was 17 percentage points higher than national (21%). In 2018, the average point score (provisional) achieved for EBacc (new GCSE for all EBacc subjects) was 4.5.

DFE PERFORMANCE SERVICE

The Department of Education (DFE) has recently published information regarding the provisional GCSE 2018 results via its performance service website. This information can be very useful for parents of Year 6 pupils who are choosing secondary schools; parents can enter the name of any secondary school and review headline information in a simple format. The link here is for Springfield:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/144192/springfield-school>

Parents can then use the 'Search for another school' link to view other schools' information.

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Springfield School

Olivia Beynon

"The best thing about Springfield was the fact that the teachers were easy to talk to."

For her GCSEs Olivia achieved one A*, one 8 and eight 9s, she is now studying A-Level Maths, Geography and Architecture.

Future Destination - Olivia is planning a career in Architecture.

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Springfield School


Finlay Prowting

"It was great to see my friends everyday at Springfield. The school has good teachers who gave up their own time to help us ."

For his GCSEs Finlay achieved one 7, five 8s and four 9s, he is now studying A-Level P.E., Biology and Business Studies.

Future Destination - "I want go on to do a Sports Degree at University."

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Springfield School

William Forsey

"At Springfield the teachers push you to go further and do better."

For his GCSEs William achieved two 6s, five 8s and three 9s, he is now studying A-Level Geography, Computer Science and Music Technology.

Future Destination - "I would love to pursue a career in cyber security."

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY



Springfield School

Caitlin Collier

"Springfield was challenging but really good!"

For her GCSEs Caitlin achieved two 7s, two 8s and six 9s, she aims to study A-Level Sports Psychology as well as Biology or Maths.

Future Destination - Caitlin wishes to go on to study further at university.

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Welcome to our first edition of Springfield News 2018/19! We have had an extremely positive start to the new academic year, and I hope that you enjoy reading about the successes of our wonderful pupils here at Springfield; they have certainly been busy during the first seven weeks of the term. A special welcome to our new Year 7 pupils and their families; the pupils have transitioned extremely well from their respective primary schools and so far their teachers have only had encouraging things to say about the year group's

good behaviour, enthusiasm and hard work. We have very high expectations for this year group as they move through the school and make their contribution to the community – well done Year 7, and keep up the excellent work!

During August we celebrated with our Year 11 pupils as they received their hard earned GCSE results. Families will recall that this was the first year that the vast majority of subjects were assessed by the new, more demanding GCSE (graded on the 9-1 scale). The introduction of the new GCSE has been considerably demanding for teachers and pupils, with significant changes being introduced rapidly to the content, challenge and style of examination. A salient example is the Drama GCSE: whereas pupils previously achieved most of their marks through the assessment of their final performance piece, now the majority of marks are achieved through a terminal written exam. Similar changes have been made across the spectrum of subjects. We were, therefore, very pleased with our pupils' achievements across the board, in particular the increase in the percentage of our pupils achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics this year. More details regarding the GCSEs can be found on pages 1 to 3.

Over the summer holiday the estate team and other staff were busy making improvements to the school campus including refurbishing the pupil toilets in B-block and Drama, redecorating the main hall, constructing an additional bicycle store for pupils and creating new group and 1:1 teaching rooms in our curriculum support/SEND area. Thank you to all the staff involved in making these and other site improvements on behalf of the school community.

Thank you to the many pupils who supported our bustling Open Evening on 3rd October and acted as outstanding ambassadors for Springfield. I always tell prospective parents that the best advocates of our ethos and accomplishments at Springfield are our pupils, who are always extremely honest and keen to talk about their experiences of secondary school life. I have been delighted to receive a number of very positive emails from visitors thanking our pupils for hosting the evening so well. A special mention to Hadi Abu-Gusseisa whose presentations in the Science department were so impressive during the evening that the teaching staff nominated him for a Headteacher's Award.

I hope that you enjoy reading about our wonderful pupils' achievements in this edition of Springfield News and remind you also to follow our regular news updates on the school's website.

Kind regards, Ms Spivey



HOUSE NEWS

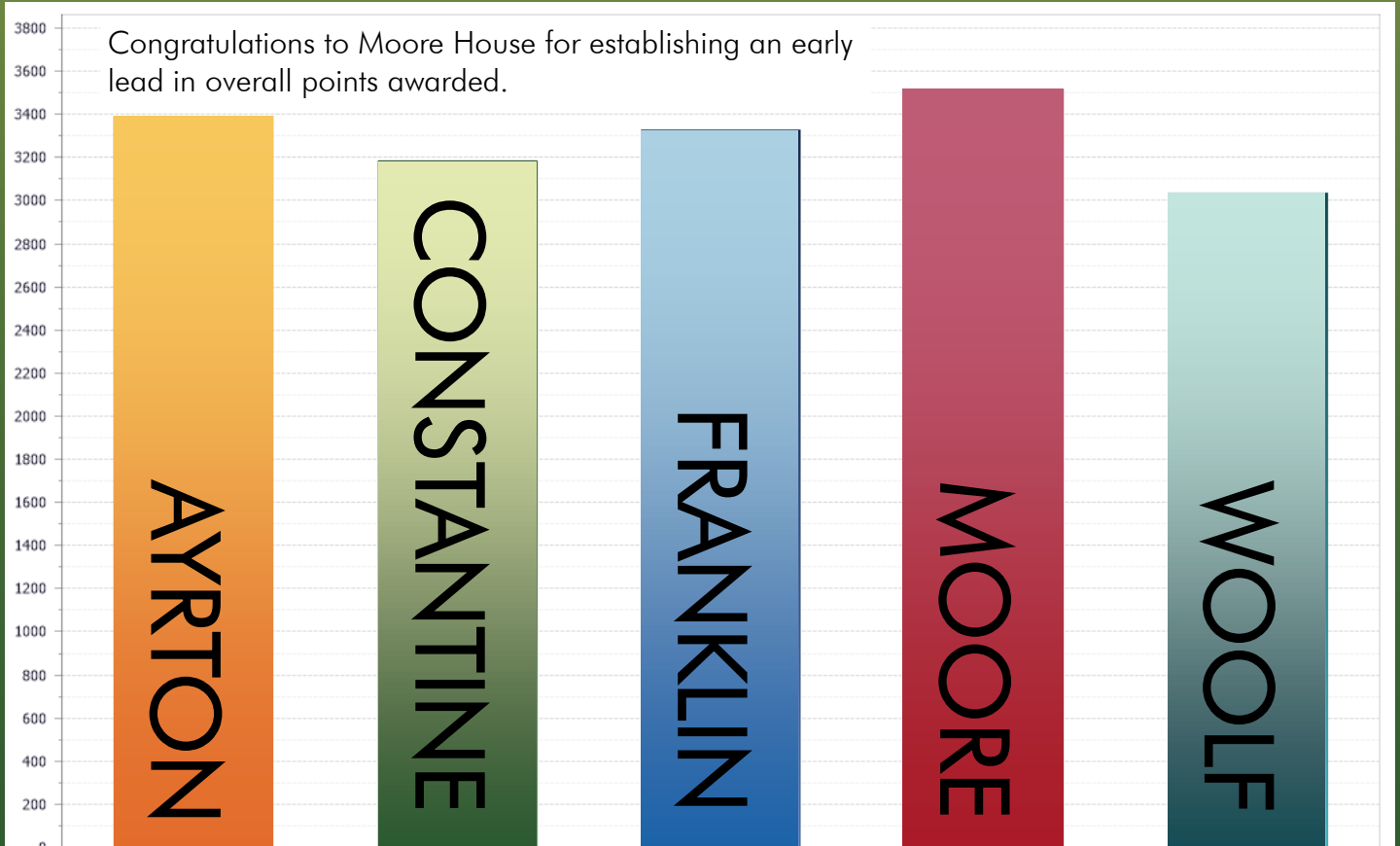


October saw the very first Springfield School House week. Over this week pupils competed for House points in a number of events and activities. One of these events included House football. Pupils played against other Houses and were rewarded for taking part with House points. Well done to everyone who played.

Mr Peachment
Head of Constantine



HOUSE POINT SUMMARY



CONSTANTINE



21st September marked the birthday of The Right Honourable Lord Learie Nicholas Constantine. Baron Constantine was a West Indian cricketer, lawyer and politician who served as Trinidad's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and became the UK's first black peer. He was an advocate against racial discrimination; in later life he was influential in the passing of the Race Relations Act in Britain. Constantine House is proudly named after him.

Mr Peachment, Head of Constantine

WELCOME TO NEW COLLEAGUES

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:

Mrs Ware, Head of Design Technology

Where did you train? Portsmouth University to gain a BA Hons in 3D Design, Chichester University for my PGCE and Masters modules, Millais School for the NPQML and most recently the London College of Fashion for a Millinery qualification.

What is your favourite topic to teach? I enjoy teaching all elements of the design process.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? The best GCSE results ever in Design and Technology!

Your favourite educational quote? 'Everybody is a genius but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.'



Mrs Wines, Leading Practitioner - Design Technology



Where did you train? UWE Bristol and schools in Somerset and Devon.

What is your favourite topic to teach? Year 11 practical exam as I get to see the students feeling so nervous and focused first thing in the morning, yet by the end of the day they are so proud of the dishes they have produced, but most importantly of themselves.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? My food teaching philosophy is that I want to teach every child how to cook five different dishes. Then they can feed themselves healthy, tasty meals for the whole working week.

Your favourite educational quote? 'I facilitate thinking, engage minds, I listen to questions, I encourage risk, I support struggle, I cultivate dreams.'

Mrs Laffey, Teacher of Science

Where did you train? Imperial College and the London Institute of Education.

What is your favourite topic to teach? Chemistry.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? A great set of Year 11 GCSE results.

Your favourite educational quote? 'Imagine your face on results day.'



Miss London, Teacher of English

Where did you train? Oxford Brookes University and the Oxford Academy School.

What is your favourite topic to teach? 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' novel.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? I would like to be a more confident and experienced member of the English team.

Your favourite educational quote? 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.' Nelson Mandela.



Mrs Ayton, Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Where did you train? Prospect School in Havant - it is a special school for boys aged 11 to 16 who have social, emotional and communication difficulties including those with Autism.

What is your favourite topic to teach? I enjoy teaching Religious Studies as it enables students to respond to a range of fundamental questions concerning the meaning and purpose of life.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? I hope to develop my role in the SEN department and help improve the lives and futures of the students I teach.

Your favourite educational quote? 'The beautiful thing about learning is that no-one can take it away from you.'



Miss Bartlett, Teacher of English

Where did you train? University of Chichester - MA (Hons) English with media, University of Portsmouth - PGCE and University of Southampton - Masters in English

What is your favourite topic to teach? English, with Media as a close second.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? To run the Great South Run (it's been 17 years since my last one).

Your favourite educational quote? 'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.' Maya Angelou.



Miss Leighton-Goodall, Teacher of Science

Where did you train? University of Portsmouth and my first degree is in Environmental Chemistry from the University of Edinburgh.

What is your favourite topic to teach? Evolution because it is an awesome piece of scientific detective work.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? To have passed my NQT year.

Your favourite educational quote? 'Your best 'teacher' is your last mistake.' Ralph Nader.



Miss Rudd, Teacher of ICT

Where did you train? I trained at Southampton University.

What is your favourite topic to teach? I teach IT, Computer Science and DT but my favourite topic is spreadsheets.

What would you like to achieve in a year's time? This year I'd like my GCSE groups to be exceeding expectations and have a team put together for a coding competition.

Your favourite educational quote? 'To the uneducated, an A is just three sticks.' A.A. Milne.



FOOD CLUB

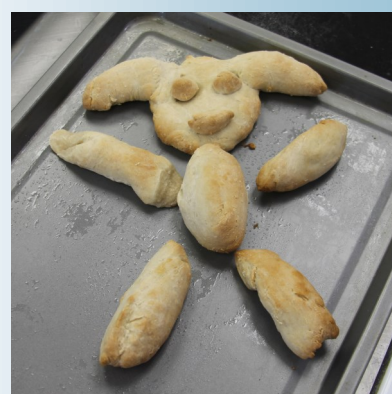
Food club, which is held on Thursday evenings in C06 with Miss Wines and has been extremely popular this half term; in fact so popular that it has a waiting list! Students have made a range of sweet and savoury dishes including chocolate tiffin, pizza and flapjacks. The noise in the first session was incredible - 20 very excited students who were looking forward to cooking!

"The Tiffin was amazing because it tasted like chocolate and biscuits together in one big mouthful."
Izzy, Year 8.

"It's quite noisy and hot but good fun." Isabel, Year 8.

Next term we will be continuing to cook a range of sweet and savoury dishes, including Christmas themed recipes.

Miss Wines, Teacher of D.T.



The Food Preparation and Nutrition students and Miss Wines would like to thank the parent who generously donated a class set of measuring spoons to the school.

We really appreciate this practical gift, thank you!

YOU SPEAK DEBATING CLUB

I have attended every week of the You Speak Debate Club so far - it is so much fun and I have learnt lots. Each session we learn how to debate properly; so far we have learnt the difference between informal and formal debates. I like informal debates the most because they are more relaxed. One of the topics we debated was whether whips should be used on horses, but we talk about lots of different topics - some more serious than others.

On many occasions I have argued a point I do not agree with myself. I have found this really good practice in understanding other people's points of view. I feel that this is definitely a good course if you want to be a lawyer, like my friend Ruby though I would recommend this club to anyone who likes expressing their feelings about different topics and are able to accept other people's points of view.

Mia Polak, 7P



UNLOC

student voice
academy

Pictured below some of our 'You Speak' debaters.



'You Speak' is a twelve week course run by UNLOC Student Voice Academy.

It is a great opportunity for pupils to learn how to debate, express themselves and gain confidence.

For more information about the programme please follow the link:

<http://www.studentvoiceacademy.co.uk/you-speak/>

YEAR 11 UNIVERSITY FAIR

On Wednesday 17th October, a group of Year 11 students visited a University Fair at Highbury College. Students had the opportunity to speak to staff from universities regarding courses, possible routes into employment, and pathways from college courses. The feedback from pupils was extremely positive:

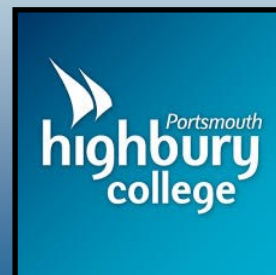
'It gave me an insight into plans for after college.'

'It was very helpful and showed a variety of courses available.'

'It gave me new ideas and a wider perspective.'

'The fair helped me make up my mind about university.'

Miss Lawrence, Pastoral Manager, Year 11



We were delighted that once again a large number of Springfield leavers participated in the Pompey in the Community [National Citizen Service](#) (NCS) scheme this summer. The interest was really high from Springfield this year, with it being one of the top schools in the city for the number of students completing the programme. The 40 ex-pupils together contributed 2,400 hours of social action to our city and received a combined £49,000 worth of investment of government funding to support their further personal, social and skill development! Congratulations to Jack Ancell who has been accepted onto the South East Regional Youth Board for NCS where he will continue his NCS journey by engaging with other NCS graduates from the South East region to complete further social action projects, develop his leadership skills and have his say on positive action within NCS and his local community.

NCS provides young people aged 16/17 (Year 11 & 12) from all backgrounds the opportunity to take on new challenges, learn new skills and make a difference by getting involved with their local community. It includes a residential week at an outdoor activity centre, a further residential week within the local community and 2 weeks of voluntary work (completing 60 hours towards a Social Action Project); all of which run through the summer holidays after students have completed their GCSE exams.

Mr Lomas, Head of Enterprise and PDL

INTEGRATED EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

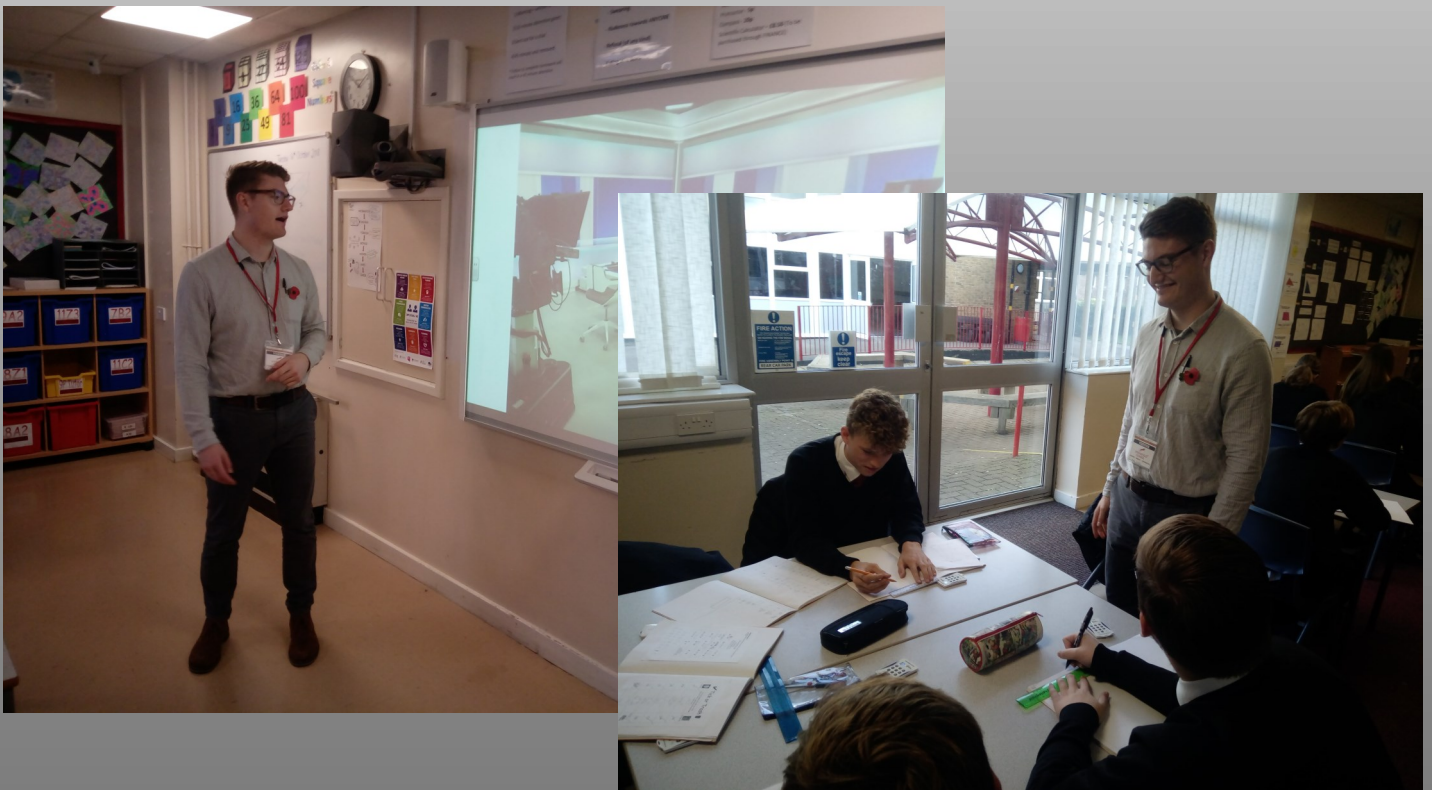
There is no doubt that many pupils find GCSE Maths a challenge. Algebra makes up a sizeable chunk of Higher Tier Maths with many unsure how it is relevant to the workplace.

Year 10 GCSE Maths pupils at Springfield School were able to benefit from the expertise of BCI Digital of Havant on Tuesday 16th October. You can see below Alex Snell from that company showing pupils how screen resolutions can depend upon algebra. Pupils all use screens, they want to go for jobs that pay well and are aware that Artificial Intelligence can be a threat as well as an opportunity. What better than to see how algebra can be a key to unlocking such opportunities for them in the future. This film clip explains the concept well: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6Rp-uo6HmI>

Almost 60% of the 56 pupils who took part indicated by anonymous polling that they did not understand how algebra could be applied to the work place before the session. After the session with Alex, 81% had a better understanding of the link between algebra and the work place.

This is the first in a series of learning experiences arranged in association with Education Business Partnership to enrich an overcrowded curriculum; through time it is hoped to provide these to a number of schools in the Solent region. For example, once the project is fully developed a Maths teacher would be able to book such a session on algebra from Alex for their GCSE classes at a mutually convenient time. Other sessions from different employers covering more subjects are planned for the future. Watch this space!

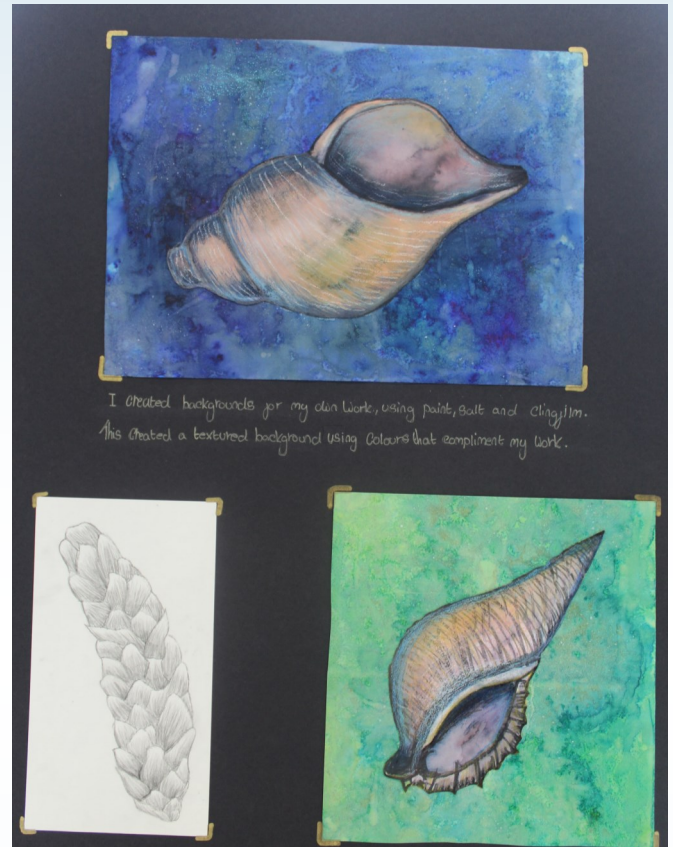
Mr Lomas, Head of Enterprise and PDL

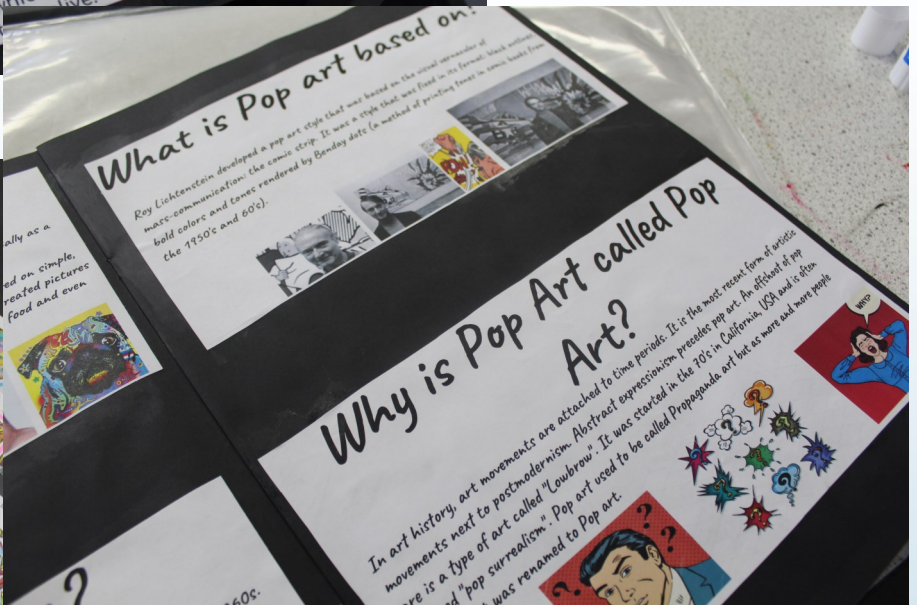
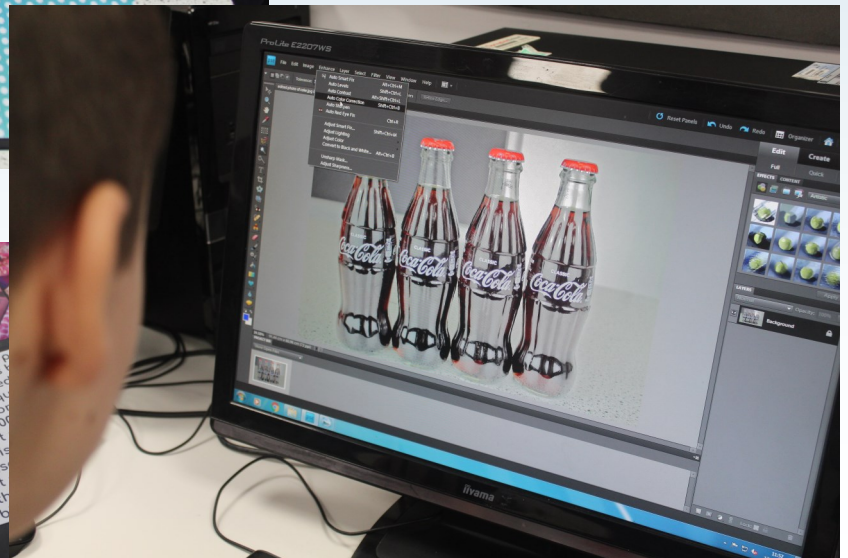


ARTWORK

We are delighted to showcase some superb artwork produced this academic year from Year 10 using the theme of Natural Forms and Pop Art.

Mrs Millington, Teacher of Art and Photography



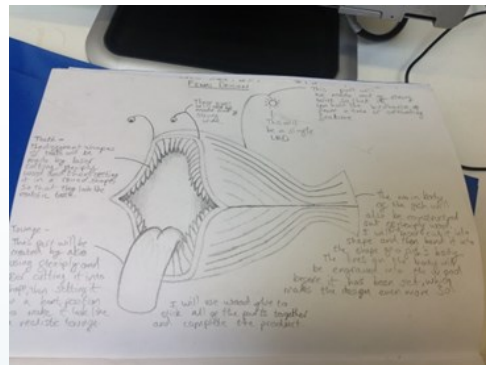
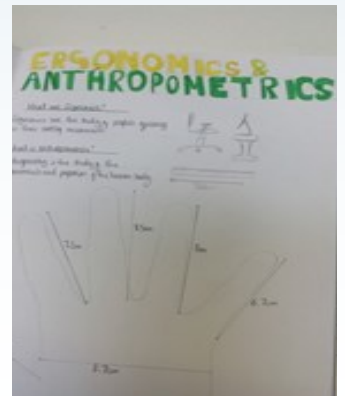
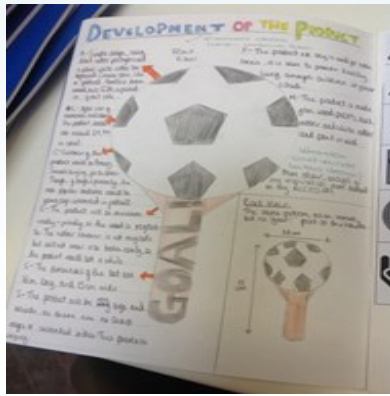
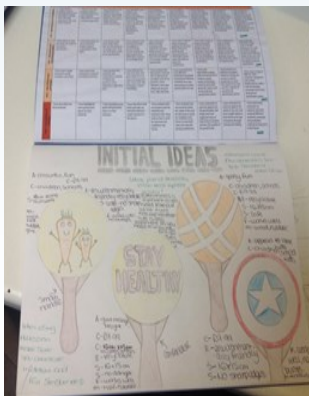


GREAT PRODUCT DESIGN WORK

Congratulations to the GCSE Product Design groups for working so hard and completing the first section of coursework. Well done also to the Year 10 Product Design group for the amazing work on your birdhouse project.

Miss Allen, Teacher of Design Technology

Please see below a selection of the fantastic Year 9 and Year 10 Product Design work:



PRIDDY'S SCHOOL OF MAGICAL DEFENCE

In my spare time I sometimes take part in events in and around Portsmouth. This half term (Friday 26th and Saturday 27th October) my friends and I were at Priddy's Hard Museum in Gosport demonstrating the skills needed to help defend the country against the dark arts! I played the part of Belladonna Nettleweed (A.K.A. Mrs. Hatton) and my specialist subject is potions. I am in the centre of this poster opening a book of magic spells and revealing to my astonished friends what I have discovered!

Mrs Hatton, Teacher of English



BICYCLE SAFETY

Many of our students are fortunate enough to be able to cycle to and from school each day and it has been rewarding to see so many making good use of our new, increased secure storage facilities this term. There is no doubt that cycling remains one of the healthiest and most environmentally friendly forms of transport but it can be dangerous if cyclists do not follow some common sense rules. Whilst we continue to encourage students to cycle to school we also expect them to adhere to the following safety guidelines:

- Always wear a suitable helmet
- When the light fades make sure that you have lights and hi-vis clothing
- Follow the highway code, be aware of other road users and pay careful attention at all road junctions (looking both ways)
- Ensure that your bike has serviceable brakes, inflated tyres and that it is in a 'roadworthy' state
- Cycling is not permitted on the school site and so we ask that cyclists dismount and walk their bicycles to and from the bicycle sheds. Bicycles can be locked in the bicycle racks (sheds) provided, but are left at the owner's own risk.

Students failing to meet the expectations above may not be allowed to bring their bikes onto the school site. We ask parents/carers to reinforce these expectations with their children should they allow them to cycle to school.

Through the Personal Development Learning programme we frequently remind pupils about how to stay safe. This includes guest presenters (e.g. Headspace, PCSOs, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, PCC Road Safety Officers and South Central Ambulance Service) who regularly share their experience and expertise with pupils. Information about the Department for Transport's 'bikeability' scheme can be found via: <https://bikeability.org.uk/>

Happy and safe cycling!

Mr Wilburn, Deputy Headteacher

MISS SCHOOL, MISS OUT!

Portsmouth City Council have recently launched this initiative to raise attendance across the city. Whilst attendance at Springfield remains good we always want it to be even better. Did you know that last year, one in five children in Portsmouth each missed a total of one week of school through

unauthorised absence? That means they not only missed out on lessons but also school clubs, friendships and school trips, leaving gaps in their learning which could limit their future options in life.

If children understand the importance of regular attendance from an early age, it helps them to maintain that attitude throughout their school life and into their work life.

**WHAT
COULD THEY
BECOME?**



What is authorised and unauthorised absence?

Any term-time absence must be approved by the school's Headteacher. This is called authorised absence. At the Headteacher's discretion, absence may be authorised for genuine illness or for reasons of religious observance. Check the school website to be sure you understand our policy on authorised absence.

Any absence not approved by the head teacher is an unauthorised absence. Unauthorised absence includes time off for shopping, birthdays, holidays, visiting relatives, getting up late and days out.

School attendance - penalty notices

It's a legal requirement that children have access to education. If a child misses 10 half-day sessions, the equivalent of a full week's school, through unauthorised absence in one term, parents can be issued with a penalty notice. Penalty notices are issued per parent per child and are £60, payable within 21 days and £120 payable within the 22nd and 28th day. You can find out more about school attendance at www.portsmouth.gov.uk/attendance and by joining the conversation on Facebook and Twitter using #MissSchoolMissOut

Top tips that could help to prevent absence

- Talk to your child about how important it is to attend school
- Inspire them to think about what they would like to be when they grow up and how school can help with that
- Ask regularly about how school is going
- If you're unsure if your child is too ill for school, use the guidance on illness on the NHS Healthier Together website - www.what0-18.nhs.uk - look in the Parents/Carers section for the 'Child Unwell? OK to go to school?' article
- Book all holidays outside of term time
- Book medical and dental appointments outside school hours if possible - and if not possible, ensure your child attends school before and after the appointment
- If you are concerned about your child's learning or any other aspect of school, please speak to your child's class teacher, Form Tutor or Head of Achievement
- Provide a good environment for study at home and ensure they have time set aside for homework
- Find out if your child wants to avoid school for a reason that they're frightened to tell you about - perhaps they're feeling worried. The NHS Healthier Together website has helpful information in the Parents/Carers section called 'Concerned about your child's behaviour or emotions?'

If you're having trouble getting your children to school, please talk to the staff at the school, who can help you to make sure they don't miss out.

Mr Wilburn, Deputy Headteacher

FUTURE WALL

Once again the quality of entries into the Year 7 Future Wall competition was outstanding. The task was set to create pupils' own future wall, based around the concept of the Future Wall inside Springfield's reception. The entries have been full of original flare, creativity and great ideas. Many students mixed their artistic and ICT expertise with the historical skills of showing change and chronology. It has been great to see so many wonderful entries this year and the pupils took great pride in choosing their finalist from each class.

A massive well done to the finalists: Tilly Burt (7P), Ellie Cook (7P), Amelia Wall (7D), Lennon Cowens (7E), Leah Scopes-Upton (7N), Freya Norum (7F) and Abishek Tharmalingam (7N).

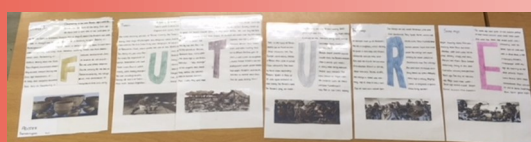
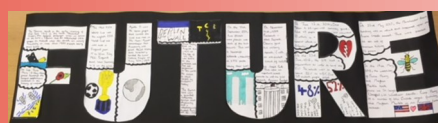
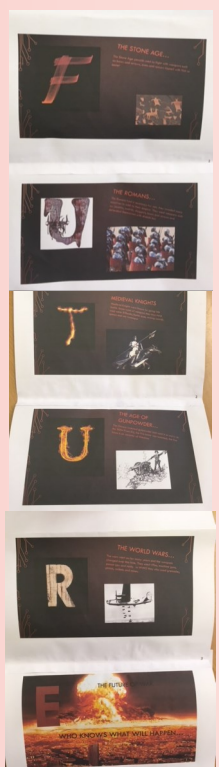
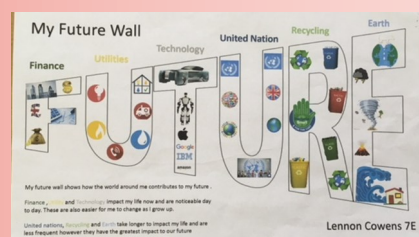
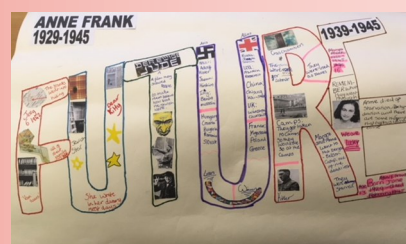
The tough decision of choosing an overall winner then fell to the panel of judges who pondered and analysed all of the finalists' entries, considering the style, composition, design and interpretation of the brief. They all have done incredibly well and it gives me great pleasure to confirm Freya Norum as the overall winner of the Future Wall Competition 2018.

Well done to all who took part and for getting lots of house points for your respective houses. I look forward to seeing more of your work as you continue with your time here at Springfield.

Miss Payne, Head of History



Pictured to the left: some of our finalists proudly displaying their certificates.
Below: some of the finalists' entries.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH ASSESSMENT WEEKEND

Congratulations to the twenty-four students who completed their bronze DofE assessment weekend in September. We were once again blessed with lovely weather and all had a great time. Even better was that the students all passed and their assessors were happy with the skills shown. Well done year 11!

Mrs Whitelock, DofE Co-ordinator



SPRINGFIELD IS SMART

Thanks once again to all our students who wear their uniform with pride and in accordance with our simple and clear guidelines. I would like to take this opportunity to remind students and parents of the following specific expectations: Skirts - plain black as directed, reaching the knees or longer. Tight, stretch fabric or jersey skirts are not acceptable. Please avoid layers, frills, embroidery or very flimsy fabric. Trousers - smart, full-length, plain black as directed. No jeans or jeans style trousers with back pockets and studs, cords, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or cotton jersey fabric. Wide fashion belts are not suitable for school. Trousers should be regular. Shoes – plain black; no trainers, canvas shoes, high heels (2" maximum), open toes/slingbacks or platform shoes. Boots are not acceptable. Jewellery - a watch and one pair of plain stud earrings are the only items of jewellery permitted. Studs that enlarge the pieced hole in the ear are not permitted. Other jewellery worn will be confiscated. Students in breach of our guidelines will be asked to make corrections in accordance with our updated 'incorrect uniform flowchart'. Where immediate correction is not possible students will be given 24 hours to make necessary changes. Persistent refusal to follow our guidelines will be considered defiance and could lead to isolation if the matter is not corrected. Thank you in advance to students and parents for your ongoing support in helping us to maintain high standards of uniform.

Mr Wilburn, Deputy Headteacher

SITE UPDATE

The summer holidays saw a busy period of works for the school, as most were enjoying their break. We have commenced a programme of work to improve site facilities and refurbish key areas. This has included:-

- Refurbishment of the SEN Department and creation of two additional group work rooms
- Refurbishment of the Drama Studio toilets
- Refurbishment of the B Block boys' toilets
- Installation of a new cycle store (doubling our on site capacity)
- Installation of new fencing and gates to the main entrance
- Installation of a new access control system to the main entrance gates to improve security and safeguarding
- Redecoration of the main sports hall, and school hall
- Installation of additional CCTV Cameras around the school site

All of these improvements aim to enhance the school environment for pupils, staff and visitors, and demonstrate the commitment the school's governors have to improving the site for the future.

Already this term, we have begun replacing our external lighting with new LED fittings, to offer a brighter more economical solution, and have recently submitted planning permission to renew the windows and façade of A Block, as part of a Capital Improvement Fund bid, to be submitted later this year. We are keeping our fingers crossed that this will be successful, alongside a similar bid to replace and renew much of our flat roofing across the site. I am sure you will welcome these improvements as much as we do, and share our appreciation for the hard work of the site team, and those involved in these projects.

Mr Waites, Chief Financial and Operating Officer



MOBILE PHONE BAN - UPDATE

Thank you to all members of the community who have supported the school's ban on mobile phone use by pupils. The vast majority of pupils have adapted to the revised expectations well; in fact, a number have commented that they have enjoyed spending more time chatting with their friends and staff during break and lunch times! Despite the useful learning tools that many smart phones have – calculators, translation apps, dictionaries etc. – we have no doubt that revising the school's approach has already reduced low level disruption and supported a decline in cyberbullying.

Please continue to support the school with its stance on this issue. The rule is very simple: mobile phones must not be seen or heard anywhere on the school site at any time, including after lessons. If seen or heard, a phone will be confiscated and the pupil's parent/carer asked to make an appointment to collect it at a mutually convenient time. Please understand that staff cannot make exceptions to this ruling, which has been made clear to pupils. Pupils can have phones with them (switched off and completely out of sight), but must wait until they have left the school site before using them.

A number of other schools are now following Springfield's approach and this remains an issue being discussed in the media, with both Ofsted's Chief Inspector and the Culture Secretary supporting schools that are choosing to ban mobile phone use.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/06/20/chief-inspector-backs-calls-mobile-phones-banned-schools/>

Ms S F Spivey, Headteacher

SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL VISIT

On Thursday 18th October Ms Spivey and Mr Wharton, arms heavy with a number of copies of Springfield News, and attended by a small group of Year 7 and 11 pupils, went to Solent Junior School library for an 'open house' for prospective parents. Parents were invited to drop in for an informal discussion about Springfield and speak directly to the pupils – who generally held court rather than the adults! A number of Year 6 pupils also took the opportunity to drop by and find out important details about life at the school including "When's the first school trip?" and "Will I get into the football team?"

Parents appreciated the opportunity to discuss life at a large secondary school and both pupils and staff enjoyed the chance to talk proudly about their school.

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher

TEACH PORTSMOUTH AWARDS

We were delighted to learn that a number of members of Springfield's staff were shortlisted for the Portsmouth Education Partnership's 'Teach Portsmouth Awards 2018'. The prestigious event, held at the Gaiety Bar on South Parade Pier, was the highpoint of Teach Portsmouth Week – a celebration of teaching and education in the city.

Shortlisted for the Health and Wellbeing Award was Springfield's Pastoral Support Team; and for the Unsung Hero Award was Mrs Durow, the school's SIMS Manager.

Congratulations and thanks to all of the nominated staff for their outstanding contribution to the learning and welfare of our school's pupils: Mrs Holbrook, Ms Nash, Mr Franklin, Miss Forrest, Miss Lawrence, Mrs Evans, Mrs De Caen and Mrs Durow. Thanks also to Mr Teeling who, wearing his finery, collected Mrs Durow's award on her behalf!

Ms Spivey, Headteacher

The event, which took place on 5th October, was featured in The News: <https://bit.ly/2ywVkd8>



GOVERNOR VACANCY

Parents/Carers may recall that in last May's edition of Springfield News I wrote about the role of a school governor:
<https://bit.ly/2OITqjx> (May edition, page 24.)

Springfield is seeking applications from parents, notably of year 7 or 8 pupils, who have the skills, experience and dedication to join the governing body. If you would like to nominate yourself or you know someone who could be persuaded to put themselves forward to be a governor, please take a moment to review the application process which is described in the 'About Us/ Governing Body' section of the school website:
<https://bit.ly/2Pkh3OY>

If more detail or an informal discussion would help, please make contact with me or my Vice-Chair, Chris Batstone, through the school office or Governors' Clerk, Mrs Jean Loy (clerk@springfield.uk.net). I'd love to hear from you.

Alan Cufley, Chair of Governors



Alan Cufley

A MESSAGE FROM THE SENCO

Any parents of pupils with SEN/D who would like to be involved with updating the Information Report, please contact Miriam Rooks, SENCO by emailing: contact@springfield.uk.net or by telephone: 02392 379119.



MRS WHITTINGHAM'S RIDDLE

What do an island and the letter 'T' have in common?
The answer to last edition's riddle (I am always in front of you, but you will never see me) is 'the future'.

MR DENNETT'S BRAIN TEASER

On a certain planet $\frac{1}{2}$ of 5 = 3. If the same proportion holds, what is the value of $\frac{1}{3}$ of 10 ?

The answer to last year's puzzle (Each side of an isosceles triangle is a whole number of cm. Its perimeter is 20cm. How many possibilities are there for the length of its sides?) is '4'.



THE ROLE OF A HEAD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Harry Stoneman (Head Boy) and Ella Williams (Head Girl) interviewed Ms Creighton, Head of Achievement for Year 11, about her role as Head of Achievement.

Why did you want to be a Head of Achievement?

I'd always really enjoyed being a form tutor and working closely with young people. My title is Head of Achievement, and so my priority is to ensure that you all achieve the very best results of which you are capable. In order for that to happen, you need care, support and advice (and sometimes just a good talking to!) beyond the classroom. Springfield's pastoral system is such an important part of school life, and is key in providing you with the means to achieve. Hopefully, it also means that you will look back Springfield with some fondness!

What did you anticipate when becoming the head of our year group?

I thought it would be a lot of hard work, as you were already in Year 10, but I wanted to get to know everyone really quickly, and make an impact straight away. I made sure that I learnt your names, got to know you all by spending time with you during break and lunchtime, visiting your tutor bases and your lessons, watching you learn, and hopefully just by being a friendly face! I also wanted to put paid to the misconception that the year group was somehow difficult - you are not, and I have loved every minute of working with you so far.

What was your aim or vision when you first started working with our year group in Year 10? Are you seeing what you hoped for?

I wanted to convince teachers and parents, but mainly yourselves, of the potential and capability you have as a year group and what you can achieve. It's definitely working! Teachers are telling me how motivated you are to achieve and exceed your expected grades and how you're all working so hard. I've also seen you all grow in confidence and maturity, and am proud of your determination and ambition.

What are the challenges of being a Head of Achievement?

There are always lots of challenges. The job has changed a great deal over the years, and continues to do so, and not because of any changes in Springfield. The curriculum has changed and is much more challenging; social media has had a huge influence and impact on young people - their relationships and their emotional well-being; society has changed considerably, meaning that young people are coping with a wide range of issues and problems that are not at all school related, but inevitably affect life at school. There's a lot to keep up with and I'm always having to learn new things. There is a wide range of agencies that can support us in school. I think that young people are most successful when they, school and home all work together, and I always aim to build strong relationships with parents and carers.

THE ROLE OF A HEAD OF ACHIEVEMENT

What are the best bits about having a year eleven group?

It's a really busy year, but there's always so much to look forward to. Firstly, I have the chance to select a team of prefects and then the senior prefects. I see you all become more confident as you take first your Year 10 then your Year 11 mocks. I am able to see your Leavers' Book and hoodies, lead your Leavers' Assembly, spend time with you all at the Prom, and hand out your results in August.

How do you juggle your work in the classroom with your work at the year office?

With difficulty! I have to be organised as I can never anticipate what is going to happen at the year office. Fortunately, Miss Lawrence is a brilliant Pastoral Manager!

What is the importance of having a Head boy, Head girl and a Senior Pupil Team?

Pupils often have the best ideas about improvements and changes they would like to see, and the School Council is really strong. The Senior Prefect team are superb role models and really help drive the School Council in putting pupils' views across. It's also brilliant experience for the team.

How did you pick the team?

It was a democratic process, but staff, existing senior pupils and the Senior Leadership Team helped to make the decisions. It was really nice to be working with a group of individuals that are really motivated as I don't always get time to see this at the year office.

What are your aims for the end of the year?

Making sure that all pupils get the grades that they deserve while having fun and enjoying their last year at Springfield, as it is a special community, the likes of which they will not be part of again.

Who's your favourite pupil? Will you miss us?

I'm not allowed favourites! You are, however, my favourite year group and I will miss each and every one of you when you leave. I know that this year will go very quickly!



Interview by Harry Stoneman (11S) and Ella Williams (11L) pictured above with Ms Creighton.

OPEN EVENING

Springfield opened its doors (and newly installed front gate!) wide for the annual Open Evening on Wednesday 3rd October. The school showcased its work to a very packed site with many Year 5 parents and children attending along with the more immediately interested Year 6. As always, all the different subjects were on show and it was access all areas. Whether it was sport in the Sports Hall and new gym or Science experiments that pupils wished to see, they could get a foretaste of the variety of life at Springfield. The new House system held 'open house!' in the Main Hall along with the upcoming Kenya Trip representation. An overspill room was set aside for live broadcasting of the Headteacher's speech for those who could not get a seat in the packed TCC. Parents and children could get a real sense of the multi-faceted work of the school – guided by ever-helpful Springfield prefects.

The site was a hive of purposeful activity – very much like a normal school day!

Mr Wharton, Deputy Headteacher



FUNDRAISING FOR KENYA TRIP



Well done to all of the pupils who have been working tirelessly to raise funds for the [African Adventures](#) Kenya trip next summer. You are all doing an amazing job and we are delighted to keep hearing of all the novel ways you are raising funds! Pictured below a small selection of some of the fundraising photos we have received.

Mr Lomas, Head of Enterprise and PDL



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACHIEVEMENTS

TCHOUKBALL

As you may recall from a previous edition of Springfield News, Finley Martin (9L) and former pupil Harvey Martin were selected to play for the M15 UK squad and M18 UK squad in the European Youth Tchoukball Championships (EYTC) held in Milan over the summer break. Their coach commented 'what a pleasure it was to coach the M15 boys during EYTC and especially Finley, he was brilliant throughout the tournament. He listened to my advice and worked on his game play during the tournament and the improvement between the first game and the last was huge. Finley really impressed with his attitude and teamwork, even when he was finding it hard to score he still worked hard on making sure he defended and switched well to help his team mates. Overall the M15 boys surpassed all of our expectations by winning 2 games during the group stages to reach the semi-finals. They lost to very good Italian side who went on to win the competition. Even without the wins the team's development and improvement throughout the tournament was brilliant. As well as the M15 boys TchoukballUK took 3 other teams along to the tournament M12 (mixed) M15 girls and M18 boys. This was the first time Tchoukball UK have taken more than one team to a tournament and we learnt a lot from this.' Well done to Finlay and Harvey on your accomplishments.

With thanks to Andrew Wolfe for the news story.



RUNNING

Congratulations to Sam Colborne (9L) who ran for charity in the summer. Sam completed a 5 mile run in 30 minutes in June 2018 and raised £391.25 for the Breast Cancer NOW charity.

Thank you to Mrs Colborne for providing this news story.



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter



@spfldUK



Teaching & Learning

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Students in Years 7 and 8 embraced the challenge of the 'Poetry Escapes' competition to celebrate National Poetry Day earlier this month. Students were given the following brief:

'Poetry Escape invites students to explore the poetry maze, forging ideas and discovering inspiration along the way. Each of the 8 pathways provides either a theme or a writing constraint, challenging students to break their imaginations free and embrace their creativity.'

Classes set to work in groups to initially help them to generate ideas. Then, pupils moved on to work independently and had the opportunity to experiment with the thoughts that had been shared among the class. It was fantastic to see the quality of writing produced in such a short time and the enthusiasm that was demonstrated when getting into the spirit of the day. We are now keeping our fingers crossed to see if we have any winners within our entries. Shown below is an example of one of the great poems written by one of our Year 8 pupils.

Miss Bicheno, Second in charge of English

FEAR

By Hallie-Jade Colarusso, 8P

**Walking through the woods,
Leaves begin to crunch below,
Snap- a sudden noise.**

**Fear fills my stomach,
Crunch—something is around me!
I freeze and look right.**

**I look behind me,
Crunching – I look to my left!
Still nothing to see.**

**I know it's someone,
I can hear them breathe softly,
Where are they hiding?**

**I begin to walk,
Each step faster than the last,
Snap – they are still there!**

**I can see a light,
A streetlight in the distance,
I need to get there!**

**My heart is beating,
I can feel it in my ears!
I am TERRIFIED!**

**I'm getting closer,
I see a man in the dark,
He is now in front!
Spinning on my feet,**

**I am now running back home!
My legs are shaking!**

**I scream for help – HELP!
No-one can hear me screaming!
The man is closer!**

**Pressure on my arm,
A heavy grip pulls me back,
I fall down, down, down.**

**The leaves crunch beneath,
The man is stood above me,
I want to go home!**

ARR/TARGET SETTING

Soon into the new half term parents can expect to receive their child's first Progress Report based on assessments or class work that pupils will have completed in the first half term. Parents of pupils in Year 8 or upwards will be familiar with the process behind these 'snapshots', but there are one or two minor amendments this year. There are now four occasions in the school year when Progress Reports will be sent home and two of those will be accompanied by summative commentary for Years 7 to 10 (January and July). In Year 11 there will be three occasions and each set of Progress Reports will be accompanied by comments.

Older pupils will be familiar with Expected and Target grades, based on Key Stage 2 scores, but Year 7 parents may not be so there will be a Frequently Asked Questions sheet included in the first Progress Report for Year 7 parents. The impetus behind pupils' Expected and Target grades at Springfield is to aim high – quite rightly, we have high aspirations for our pupils and will work to support them at each stage through their school life.

Miss Kelly, Assistant Head Teacher

'FANTASTIC' FEEDBACK FROM SPRINGFIELD'S PSHE REVIEW

On 24th September Chantelle Knight, PSHE Framework Development Officer for Portsmouth City Council, visited Springfield to review the quality of PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) in the school and support future developments in the PSHE curriculum; she observed a number of Year 8 lessons, interviewed a group of Year 9 pupils and met with staff.

In her review report, Ms Knight wrote, 'All in all, my visit to Springfield was fantastic, having never been to this school before I was blown away with how accommodating Mr Lomas and his team were. The lessons were a joy to observe; the students clearly enjoyed all 3 lessons and were fully engaged in their learning and the task at hand. Enthusiasm was evident ... The children who led me from one observation to another were friendly, chatty and polite and the whole school had a calm and welcoming feel.'

Well done to the staff and pupils involved in the review.

Ms Spivey, Headteacher



THE WORLD'S LARGEST LESSON

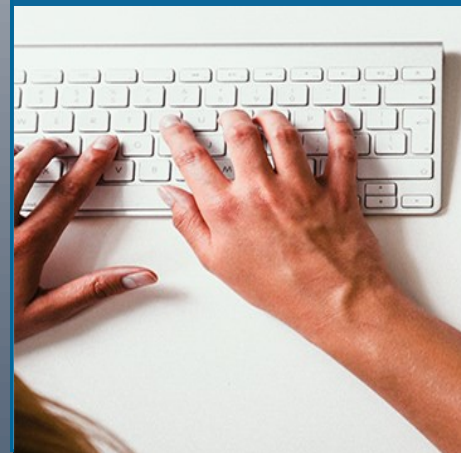
Springfield pupils participated in the World's Largest Lesson at the end of September. Produced by Project Everyone and delivered in partnership with Unicef and other NGOs, private sector organisations and foundations, the World's Largest Lesson reaches pupils through multiple channels. Pupils were tasked with creating sustainable global goals as well as explaining how they can be achieved as well as the benefits and difficulties in implementing them. In 2015, world leaders agreed to 17 goals for a better world by 2030. These goals have the power to end poverty, fight inequality and stop climate change. Pupils embraced the theme with enthusiasm and came up with some great sustainable goals. For more information please visit <https://www.globalgoals.org/>

Mrs Whitelock, Head of Geography



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



GOOGLE CLASSROOM

- TIPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

We have had a number of enquiries about Google Classrooms from parents which I am pleased to answer:

What should I be able to see on Google Classrooms?

As a parent/guardian, you can receive email summaries showing the work that has been set for your child.

- You can choose the frequency of the emails, such as daily or weekly.
- You can unsubscribe or remove yourself from Classroom at any time.

Guardian email summaries include:

- Missing work - work that's late at the time the email was sent
- Upcoming work - work that's due today and tomorrow (for daily emails) or work that's due in the upcoming week (for weekly emails)
- Class activity - announcements, assignments, and questions recently posted by teachers

As a parent/carer, you must receive and accept an email invitation before you can receive email summaries. Only teachers and administrators from your child's school can send these invitations.

You have 120 days to accept an invitation before it expires.

The teacher or administrator emails you an invitation for a particular student. They can send it to any email address.

In your email programme, open your email invitation. Click Accept.

When will you not see homework?

You won't receive an email summary if:

- There's no activity to report for the given time period.
- All your child's teachers turned off notifications for their classes.
- You selected 'no summaries' for how often you'd like to receive emails.
- You aren't connected to any children in Google Classroom.

If you have any further enquiries, follow the link below.

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6388136?hl=en>

Mrs Robertson, Assistant Headteacher

GDPR

Due to the new GDPR regulations please note that occasionally we do not list all pupils' names in featured articles. This is because we do not have parental permission to do so.

SPRINGFIELD CALENDAR

PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY - MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018
 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS - SATURDAY 22 DECEMBER 2018 TO SUNDAY 6 JANUARY 2019
 FIRST DAY BACK AFTER CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS - MONDAY 7 JANUARY 2019

OCTOBER	
Tuesday 30 October 2018	Year 8 BOLEH Sailing Trip
NOVEMBER	
Monday 5 November 2018	Year 11 Progress Reports Issued
Tuesday 6 November 2018	Year 10 Progress Reports Issued
Wednesday 7 November 2018	Year 9 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 8 November 2018	Year 8 Progress Reports Issued
Thursday 8 November 2018	Year 11 Subject Parents' Evening
Friday 9 November 2018	Year 7 Progress Reports Issued
Friday 9 November 2018	Year 10 Focus Day (Equality)
Monday 12 November 2018	PROFESSIONAL CLOSURE DAY
Tuesday 13 November 2018	GCSE Certificate Collection (3.30-5.30pm)
Tuesday 13 November 2018	Year 9 Parents' Information Evening
Wednesday 14 November 2018	Year 8 Curriculum Parents' Evening
Thursday 15 November 2018	Awards Evening
Friday 16 November 2018	Year 10/11 Christmas Carol (Quantum Theatre)
Thursday 22 November 2018	Year 7 Parent/Tutor Evening
Monday 26 - Friday 30 November 2018	HOUSE WEEK
Thursday 29 November 2018	Year 9 Focus Day
DECEMBER	
Monday 3 December 2018 (for two weeks)	Year 11 Mock Exams
Wednesday 5 December 2018	Year 9 Booster Vaccination Assembly
Tuesday 11 December 2018	School of Rock Dress Rehearsal (Primary Schools)
Wednesday 12 December 2018	School of Rock Drama Production (evening)
Thursday 13 December 2018	School of Rock Drama Production (evening)
Monday 17 December 2018	Stakeholders' Afternoon Tea Event
Tuesday 18 December 2018	School Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 19 December 2018	Extended Tutor Time for Drop Everything and Read
Wednesday 19 December 2018	Elderly Neighbours' Party
Thursday 20 December 2018	Year 7 Pantomime Trip
Friday 21 December 2018	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.