



**SPRINGFIELD**  
**JUNIOR SCHOOL**

01473 741300

[admin@springfieldjuniors.net](mailto:admin@springfieldjuniors.net)

Newsletter

6th September 2024

## Term Dates

24—25

### Advance warning for Key Dates

Wednesday 4th September—

First day of term

Monday 23rd September—

Meet the Teacher 3pm—

4pm

Monday 28th October—

Friday 1st November—Half

Term

November 11th and 12th—

Parents Evenings

Friday 20th December—End

of Term

Spring Term Tuesday 7th

January—Back to school



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to all our families as we start a new academic year at Springfield Junior School. We would particularly like to welcome our year 3 children, and their families, as the children begin their exciting journey at their new school. We also welcome new children joining the school for the first time, in other year groups.

This is a shorter than usual newsletter to just give you some relevant information and reminders as we start the new term, and some dates to start adding to your diaries.

We hope to invite you all into school at various points during the autumn term to see your children at work and play, but if you wish to speak to a member of staff in the meantime, please contact the school office in the first instance .

We look forward to working with you to ensure your children enjoy their time here and thrive within our nurturing environment.

Thank you for all your support.

Mrs J. Viner

Headteacher

Springfield Junior school



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## Homework

Homework is an important part of your child's education and helps to establish good learning habits as they continue their educational journey. Times tables practice, using Times Tables Rockstars will be set on Friday each week for completion for the following Friday.

Children benefit enormously from reading at home too, and using Accelerated Reader, children will be able to complete quizzes on the books they have read. Your child will shortly be issued with a reading journal and we ask that you support your child to complete the journal with books they have read, even if these books are not part of the Accelerated Reader programme. When your child reads to an adult at school, this will also be noted in their journal. Please support your child to ensure that their journal is in school every day.

## OPAL

The OPAL initiative, set up by Michael Fowler, recognizes 12 types of play that are all important for a child's learning and development. We have been working on facilitating and encouraging all types of play at our school including during the school day and at lunchtime.

This includes, crafts, sporting activities, den-building, water play, mud kitchen, a scooter track with many more activities linked to seasonal and national events. Please provide spare clothes for your child such as a large t-shirt or shirt to put over their uniform if you would rather not have to wash 'mud kitchen clothes' 5 times a week!

It is worth noting that the children play outside, even in bad weather, so they will need a warm waterproof coat, as well as suncream and a hat in warmer weather.



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### Free School Meals

In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to Universal Infant free school meals but this finishes at the end of Year 2. When your child joins us in Year 3, you will need to pay for their meals.

If you are in receipt of certain benefits or depending upon your earnings, you may be entitled to claim Free School Meals. To find out if you are eligible click on the below link to apply.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals->

### PE Days

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on the following days.

Year 3— Weds and Thurs

Year 4— Mon and Thurs

Year 5— Mon (swimming) and Fri

Year 6— Mon and Weds

### Breakfast Club

If you need to bring your child to school early because of work or other commitments, we run a Breakfast Club from 7.30am. You will need to book a place by emailing the office to inform of the days that are required. They will be provided with a glass of milk or orange juice and can choose from cereal or toast. The cost is £1 per day.

Your child will enter the school through the main entrance. Once they ring the bell, an adult will let them in and they will need to sign in using the screen in reception.



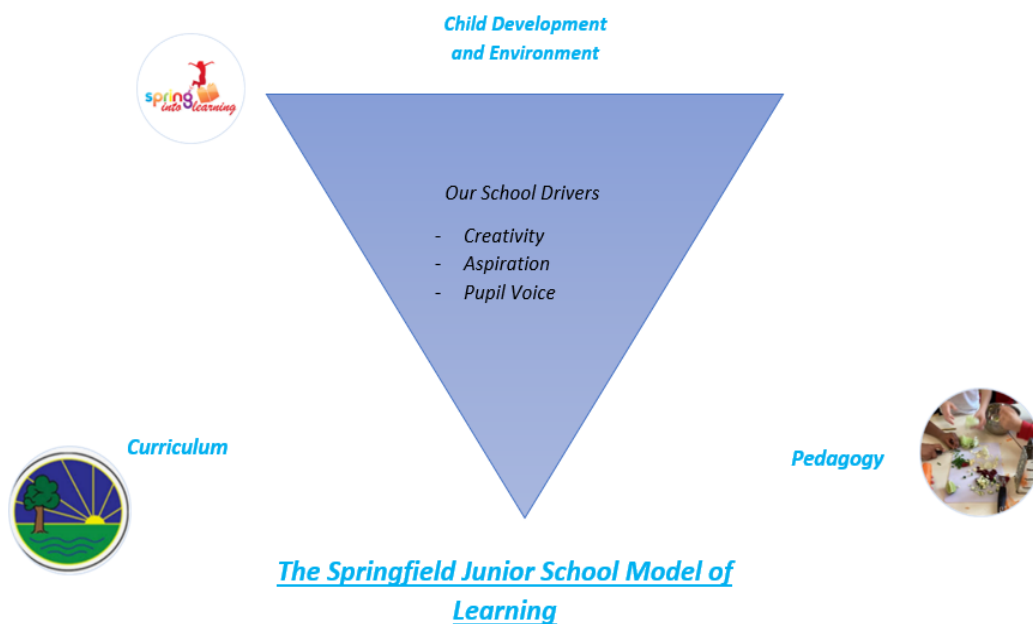
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## Our School Curriculum

Our learning model at Springfield Junior School is based on the three stands of curriculum, pedagogy and child development and it is supported by our school drivers of creativity, aspiration and pupil voice. This learning model is evidence based and pulls together educational research from a number of different strands, and the voice of our pupils, to ensure a bespoke learning offer which enables our children to flourish and thrive.



Further information on what your child will be learning, can be found on our school website by following this link.

<https://www.springfieldjuniors.org.uk/page/?title=Curriculum&pid=35>



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### Our School uniform

We want our school to be a place to be proud of, where we respect ourselves and each other, and where we are ready and committed to learning. Uniform is compulsory, but children also need to feel comfortable. Our school uniform achieves these aims and is as follows:

#### School Uniform

Red Jumper/Cardigan (This does not need to have our school logo on, but these are available to purchase from <https://pmsgschoolwear.co.uk> if you wish).

Grey/black trousers/skirt

White/Red shirt/polo shirt

Red summer dress/grey/black shorts during warmer weather.

Smart black shoes or plain black trainers

Coat appropriate for all weather.

No smart watches

No prime bottles

Plain, black low heeled boots may be worn in winter (below the knee boots). No coloured/white trainers, canvas/fabric shoes or heels allowed.

A spare pair of socks for Opal activities in case of wet feet!

It is important that each item of clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. All lost uniform will be returned to pupils if it is named.

No hooded tops are allowed to be worn as uniform.

#### Wearing of Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn for school, with the exception of analogue wrist watches.

Children who have pierced ears must only wear plain earrings with a rounded stud as other types can be dangerous. Nose piercings are not permitted.

Nail polish should be removed – children may be politely asked to remove polish at school and/or fake tattoos. Fake nails are not permitted.

#### PE Kit

All children need a set of PE kit to be kept in school.

Plain T shirt in house colour (these are available for a small cost from the school office). No branded tops please.

Black/navy leggings/shorts/jogging bottoms

School sweatshirts will be worn for PE if the weather is cooler

Trainers suitable for outdoors. These should be in addition to school shoes/plain black trainers as they provide an alternative if children get wet during play/PE.

No jewellery to be worn – including smart watches.

Earrings should be removed for all PE lessons or tape provided to be placed over the earrings. Children should have a roll of micropore tape in their PE bags.

#### Long hair tied back

The kit needs to be kept in school in a named bag. Plimsolls are not appropriate for outdoor use. Most children leave their bags in school for half a term before taking them home to be washed. Children who require a swimming kit will be sent separate information.

If you need support to cover the cost of any uniform, particularly if your child is entitled to free school dinners, please write or email Mrs Viner, in confidence, at the school or, use the office email [admin@springfieldjuniors.net](mailto:admin@springfieldjuniors.net).



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## Why is school attendance so important?

Being around teachers and friends in a school environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results. Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure your child gets a full-time education. If your child is struggling to go to school, please contact the School Office, as we are here to support you help your child's attendance.

There has been an update in the guidance from the government on attendance. This will come into effect in September and we wanted to share with you how this will work. This guidance is called 'Working together to improve school attendance' and is applicable from 19th August 2024. This guidance reflects the need for children to attend school regularly to gain the best possible outcomes in school and further life.

### **Penalty notice fines**

There is now a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England, of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. The 10 sessions of absence do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence ('G' unauthorised holiday, 'O' unauthorised absence and/or 'U' late after register closes, coded within the school's registers). The 10-school week period can span different terms, school years or education settings.

There is no entitlement in law for pupils to take time off during the term to go on holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure or recreation, or to take part in protest activity in school hours. In addition, the Supreme Court has ruled that the definition of regular school attendance is 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school.'

At Springfield Junior School, our priority is to work with families to improve attendance, but it is important that you understand the educational framework within which all schools work. If you have a concern about a child's forthcoming or current absence at school, please contact the school as soon as possible so that we may offer advice and strategies to enable any absence to be as short as possible.



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