



SPRINGFIELD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

01473 741300

admin@springfieldjuniors.net

Newsletter
February 2026



Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Monday 16th February—
Friday 20th February—Half
term

Monday 23rd February—
Children return to school.

Tuesday 24th February—
Year 6 Trip to Westbourne
to see Shrek the Musical

Monday 2nd March—
Reading Rewards Day

Friday 6th March—World
Book Day (Wear comforta-
ble clothes)

Parents' Evenings—Monday
23rd March and Tuesday
24th March

Thursday 26th March—
Spring Showcase

Friday 27th March—End of
Spring Term

Monday 13th April—
Children back to school

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year which is a round-up of the many learning opportunities which have taken place since the beginning of the year.

This half term, teachers and senior leaders have spent time talking to lots of children with their books and observing lessons, to find out how well our children can remember what they are being taught and what helps them to do this. Individual subject leaders are now using this pupil voice to develop action plans in their subject to ensure our children can remember more and do more, building a secure foundation on which to attach further learning. Teachers at Springfield have an extensive knowledge of how children learn and this is put to good use in designing and adapting our curriculum for our children. Everything we do at Springfield is underpinned by our school drivers of aspiration, creativity and pupil voice. Our learning behaviours of Self-Awareness, Perseverance, Reflection, Independence, Not Afraid to Take a Risk and Group Champion ensure children not only get the most out of their opportunities at school but also are prepared for later life.

Good attendance underpins our children's chances in life, so please continue to support them in making sure they are in school every day.

Our website is a great place to read all about how we teach and assess the success of our curriculum and how it is adapted to ensure our children are taught in line with their own interests and experiences. You can visit our website at springfieldjuniors.org.uk or see weekly updates on our Facebook page.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs J. Viner and Miss B. Taylor
Co-Headteachers



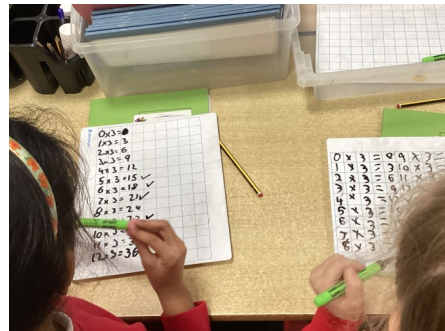
Half Term Highlights

Year 3

It has been a busy and exciting start to the year in Year 3, and the children have impressed us with their enthusiasm and curiosity.

In English, the children have continued to develop their writing skills, beginning with narrative stories involving a sea animal and the devastating consequences of plastic pollution. To link with our Geography UK study topic, we then created non-chronological reports about towns in Suffolk. We would recommend a day trip to Felixstowe or Framlingham to see how much these Suffolk towns have to offer!

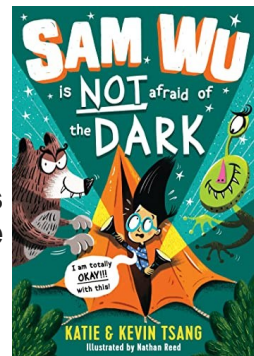
Within our maths lessons, we have deepened our understanding of multiplication and division by using equipment to support our learning. We have also been measuring length and perimeter and have enjoyed practical ways of learning our times table facts. The children are also looking forward to dressing as a rock star on Monday 9th March.



In our art unit, *Textiles and Collage*, we combined materials with a range of textures, used watercolours to create concentric circles, and made our own press-print blocks to produce unique pieces of artwork.

Our recent RE topic was Hinduism, where the children were introduced to the concept of karma through the game *Snakes and Ladders*. We learned how Hindus believe it is important to collect good karma by making positive choices in daily life. We also explored how making good choices is important for everybody, regardless of their religion.

All three classes have thoroughly enjoyed reading our class book, *Sam Wu Is Not Afraid of the Dark*, and the children have been keen to find and read other books in the series.





Half Term Highlights

Year 4

This half term, Year 4 have been busy across the curriculum and have shown fantastic enthusiasm for their learning. In writing, we linked our French knowledge to create a story inspired by another culture, thinking carefully about language and setting.



In maths, we explored fractions in depth, learning what makes a whole and developing our understanding of mixed numbers and improper fractions.

Our reading lessons have kept us completely hooked as we journeyed through our class novel *Varjak Paw*, often finding ourselves on the edge of our seats as we waited to see what would happen next.

In science, we learned all about our teeth and the digestive system, which then helped us to write a clear and detailed explanatory text about digestion.

Geography lessons focused on how latitude and longitude help us locate places accurately on a map, and how

longitude can be used to understand time zones around the world.

Finally, in DT, we practised our sewing skills by creating a button and buttonhole for a tea towel, designed to stop it slipping off a hook – a practical skill we were very proud to master.



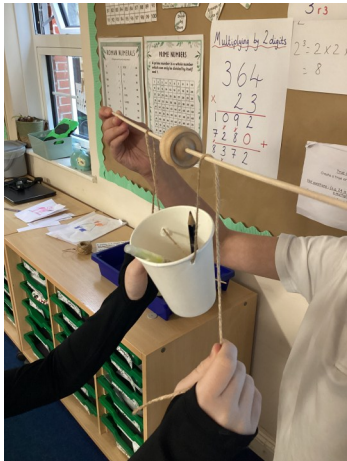


Half Term Highlights

Year 5

We began the year as scientists, carrying out a range of exciting experiments to explore the force of friction. The children investigated different materials and even designed and built their own creative pulley systems to test their ideas in action.

In Geography, we developed our map-reading skills by exploring our local area through maps. Using both four- and six-figure grid references, the children located landmarks and physical features, building confidence in interpreting maps and understanding coordinates.



Inspired by the textile artist Lesley Richmond, we explored the natural world through art. The children created beautiful collages using a variety of fabrics,

learning techniques such as appliqué and even constructing their own looms to weave different textiles together.

In indoor PE, we focused on gymnastics, developing strength and control through counter balance and counter tension movements. The children challenged themselves to hold balances steadily for four seconds(no easy task!) showing great determination and teamwork.



We also thoroughly enjoyed our class book, *The Boy in the Tower*. The mystery kept us gripped throughout, and we couldn't wait to discover how the story would end!



SPRINGFIELD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

01473 741300

admin@springfieldjuniors.net

Newsletter
February 2026



Half Term Highlights

Year 6

We can't really believe that the first half of the Spring term has come to an end and we are already in 2026. Even with the shorter, darker days, the classes have shown great determination and focus across the curriculum. In English and Maths, we have been revisiting and strengthening key skills to make sure everyone feels confident and well prepared for the end of Key Stage 2 SATs. The support from home has been invaluable, and we would like to thank parents and carers for encouraging regular homework, which has had a really positive impact on confidence and progress.

Our afternoons have been packed with exciting learning. In Science, the children have been exploring the topic of light, discovering how white light is made up of seven colours, that light travels in straight lines, and just how astonishingly fast it is - travelling 300,000,000 metres every second! They are always eager to share their growing knowledge and will no doubt impress you with even more facts.



In History, our focus has been the Windrush generation. This powerful topic has helped the children develop a deeper understanding of the challenges, discrimination and prejudice faced by many Jamaicans who came to Britain after the Second World War. As part of this unit, we are hoping that in the summer term we will be able to go on a trip into Ipswich town centre to visit the Windrush Reflection Room in the Sailmakers shopping centre.

In RE, we have been exploring Hinduism and have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the concepts of Brahman and Atman, and the Hindu belief that 'God is in everything'. The children have discussed how these beliefs influence the way Hindus live their lives and treat the world around them. They were particularly fascinated by the many Hindu deities and enjoyed the opportunity to design and create their own - some of which were wonderfully imaginative and truly inspiring.

PE lessons have been full of energy, with pupils enjoying both tag rugby, dance and gymnastics. Our dance work has been inspired by the Titanic, where the children have practised balances, worked in synchronisation and even learned an Irish dance traditionally performed by third-class passengers during the voyage.

We are ending the half term on a high with our DT cookery unit. Pasta with tomato sauce, noodle soup and imaginative salads are all on the menu, and the children are excited to demonstrate their developing culinary skills as we finish the term in style.





SPRINGFIELD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

01473 741300

admin@springfieldjuniors.net

Newsletter
February 2026



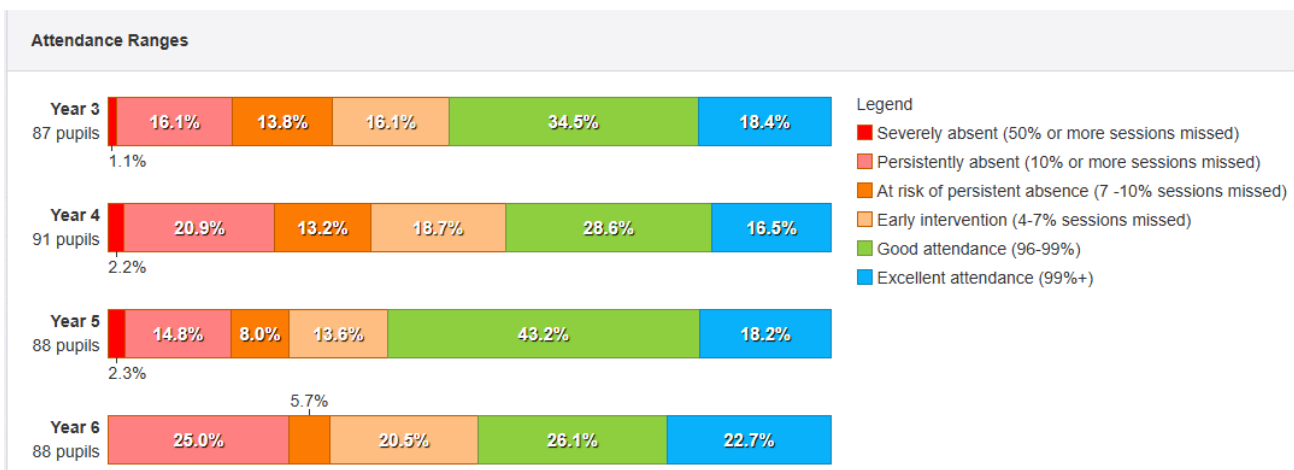
Focus on...Attendance

Our findings confirm the strong link between absence and attainment. Schools can offer a broad range of benefits to children including the opportunities to learn and gain vital qualifications. However, the benefits of school go beyond academic results. They can also be places of social and emotional development. If we want to offer every child the best chance in life, it must start with ensuring that they can regularly attend school.

Rachel de Souza

Children's Commissioner

As a school, we carefully monitor attendance because how well our children achieve now and in later life, has been shown to be directly linked to their attendance. Our aim is for all children to be over 97% to secure their learning now and as they move through their learning journey to adulthood. As you can see from the graphic below, we have a long way to go to ensure all Springfield children have the opportunities in life that they deserve. Please support us by encouraging your child to be in school, on time, every day. We are happy to offer attendance strategies and support if required and work with you to find the right solutions for your child. Please ring Mr Rycraft at the school if you would like support with your child's attendance.



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow





SPRINGFIELD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

01473 741300

admin@springfieldjuniors.net

Newsletter
February 2026

Focus on...Opal

Wanted!



We are looking for any donations of scaffold boards, supermarket crates and traffic cones for our OPAL provision at lunchtime.

If you or anyone you know can help us with this - please contact the school office!



Focus on...PSHE



PSHE Spring 2

Next half term, pupils will be studying the *Healthy Me* topic in PSHE. This unit has been updated in line with the new PSHE/RSHE guidance. If you would like further information about this term's PSHE syllabus, please speak to your child's class teacher. More detailed information and knowledge organisers are available on the PSHE page of the school website.



Year 3

- Fit and Healthy
- Food and Energy
- What do I know about drugs?
- Being safe and getting help.
- Safe or unsafe
- My amazing body

Vocabulary: oxygen, calories, kilojoules, heartbeat, fitness, saturated fats, attitude, anxious, strategy, advice, harmful, complex, appreciate, emergency, emergency services, ambulance, fire engine, police car, coastguard, helicopter, energy, lungs, heart, labels, sugar, fat, drugs, risk...

Year 4

- My friends and me
- Staying safe with friends
- Smoking and vaping
- Alcohol
- Healthy friendships
- Celebrating my inner strength and assertiveness.

Vocabulary: friendship, emotions, relationships, friendship groups, follower, assertive, smoking, pressure, alcohol, evaluate, disagree, opinion, right, wrong, vaping, value, roles, leader, agree, peers, guilt, advice, liver, disease, anxiety, fear, believe.

Year 5

- Smoking and vaping
- Alcohol
- Emergency Aid
- Body Image
- My relationship with food
- Healthy me

Vocabulary: healthier behaviour, less healthy behaviour, informed decision, pressure, influence, emergency procedure, recovery position, level headed, body image, social media, celebrity, self-respect, comparison, media, altered, respect, fact, debate

Year 6

- Taking responsibility
- Drugs
- Exploitation
- Gangs
- Emotional and mental health
- Managing stress and pressure

Vocabulary: responsibility, immunization, prevention, prescribed, unrestricted, over the counter, restricted, volatile substances, legal highs, exploited, vulnerable, criminal, pressure, strategies, reputation, anti-social, mental health, emotional health, mental illness, symptoms, triggers, managing stress, synthetic highs, new psychoactive substances, effects, illegal, ability, gangs, crime, stress



On March the 23rd as part of our Healthy Me topic, the children will be taking part in a Bright Bites workshop looking at dental health.



On March the 13th, we have the excitement of an elite athlete visiting school, to promote fitness, perseverance and dreams and goals. Children will be sponsored to take part in a fitness session with the athlete, which should be fun!

