



SPRINGFIELD
JUNIOR SCHOOL

01473 741300

admin@springfieldjuniors.net

Summer 2026

Term Dates

Friday 17th July —End of
Summer Term
(& the school year!)

Tuesday 1st / Wednesday
2nd September - PD days

Thursday 3rd September –
Start of Autumn Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the year comes to a close, we are reflecting on all the achievements, successes and lessons learned.

It has been a year of **GROWTH** for us at Springfield. Our team has **grown** with new staff members joining us, our curriculum has **grown** by adapting to meet the needs of our pupils and our club offer has **grown**, with fantastic additions such as arts & crafts, chess and gardening. Our OPAL play offer has **grown** as we have developed the gym in the canopy and added a new sandpit alongside some fantastic new scooters. Our ongoing Greener Growth project has seen, trees, plants and flowers **grow** on our playground and most importantly our pupils have **grown**, both in knowledge and height!

We are proud of all our pupils but a special mention must go to our Year 6 pupils who worked tirelessly towards their SATS exams to reach excellent outcomes from their starting points.

This summer, we say a sad farewell to Miss Lucas and Miss Barnes who leave us to start new chapters in their teaching careers. We wish them all the best in their upcoming ventures and thank them for all they have done at Springfield.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Fox, Miss Noble and Mr Todd to our fantastic team of permanent teachers in September.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs J. Viner and Miss B. Taylor
Co-Headteachers
Springfield Junior School





Year 3

Summer Term 2 has been a very busy and exciting term, full of wonderful learning.

We began the final half term with a fun Roman Day, where the children enthusiastically dressed up and took part in activities such as Roman shield-making and learning traditional battle formations.

As part of our history unit, we learnt about how Britain changed under Roman rule. The children planned and wrote their own historical narratives and enjoyed using drama to explore how dialogue can move a story forward.

In maths, the children deepened their understanding of time and shape and collected their own data to create pictograms and bar charts.

Our class book has been the classic *The Little Prince*, in which an inquisitive prince travels to many different planets, meeting a range of fascinating characters along the way. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing this journey with him.

To finish the year, the children became structural engineers, researching, designing and making bridges in teams, demonstrating what fantastic group champions they all are.

The children have had such a wonderful first year at Springfield. We have loved watching them grow in confidence and make excellent progress both academically and socially. We have been particularly impressed by their positive attitude during the summer term assessments, and they have truly made us proud. We are confident that they are more than ready to take the next step into Year 4.





Year 4

What a busy and fun-filled summer term it has been in Year 4!

The children have worked incredibly hard in preparation for the official **Multiplication Tables Check**, showing great determination both in school and through their weekly TTRS homework. We are so proud of their effort and perseverance.

A definite highlight was our **Egyptian Day**. Dressed in fantastic costumes, the children enjoyed a re-enactment of the death of a pharaoh, asking thoughtful questions and impressing everyone with the knowledge they had gained during our history lessons.

In **Maths**, we explored shape and statistics, collecting data on our favourite fruits and presenting the results in bar charts.

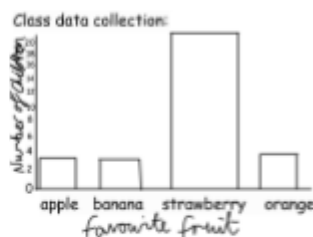
In **Writing**, the children developed their story-writing skills by setting their narratives in another culture. We created stories set in Ancient Rome, drawing on our Year 3 history learning.

Our final class text, *The Wind in the Willows*, introduced us to some challenging vocabulary, but the children especially enjoyed following Toad's mischievous adventures and the friendships between the characters.

In **Science**, we investigated how sound is made through vibrations using exciting experiments, including rice on a drum and a tuning fork in water.

In **DT**, we explored whether cheaper food is always less healthy before making a delicious vegetable and chickpea curry—many children even asked for seconds!

We are incredibly proud of everything Year 4 has achieved this year and wish them every success as they move on to Year 5. Have a wonderful summer!





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Year 5

Our History learning took us back to the fascinating civilisation of the Maya. The children learned about Maya houses, designed their own city-states and wrote their names using Maya glyphs. A real highlight was our Maya Day, where they enjoyed weaving with colourful wool, designing chocolate bar wrappers and taking part in a virtual session with archaeologist Dr Dianne, who shared her adventures exploring the Maya jungle.

The children thoroughly enjoyed writing and performing their own playscripts, inspired by our model text, *The Emperor's Birthday*. To celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday, the children researched his remarkable life and produced informative biographies, inspiring many of us to watch his incredible nature documentaries.

We developed our map-reading skills by walking around the school grounds to identify features and the map symbols that represent them. The children then created maps of their journeys to school and explored how contour lines are used to represent different types of land. In Design and Technology, they became engineers by designing strong structures inspired by Second World War shelters before creating pulley mechanisms capable of lifting a toy car, showing impressive creativity and independence throughout.

Our class book, *Secrets of a Sun King*, kept us captivated with its exciting mysteries and adventures. The children also approached their end-of-year assessments with confidence, demonstrating just how much they have learned this year.

A huge well done to the children who represented our school at the recent CET Trust Rounders Tournament. They were a real credit to the school, demonstrating impeccable behaviour, enthusiasm and outstanding sportsmanship throughout the event. They encouraged one another, celebrated each other's successes and competed with determination, respect and kindness. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school and would like to thank them for being such fantastic ambassadors.

It has been a fantastic year in Year 5, and we could not be prouder of everything the children have achieved. They have worked incredibly hard, grown in confidence and shown resilience, kindness and enthusiasm in all they do. We know they are more than ready for the exciting challenges that Year 6 will bring, and we wish them every success as they continue their learning journey.





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Year 6

You might think that once SATs were over, Year 6 would be taking things a little easier... but no! We've packed so much into our final half term together and made plenty of special memories along the way.

We've continued to sharpen our arithmetic skills in maths and in English, we've been writing our leavers' speeches, and it's safe to say there will be a few emotional moments when those books come home!

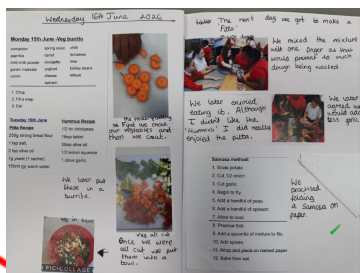
Our history lessons have taken us through the lives of five fascinating British monarchs: William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Charles II and Queen Victoria - it's been one of our favourite topics of the year. We also put our practical skills to the test in DT, creating some delicious street food, including hummus and pitta, samosas and burritos.

Away from the classroom, much of our time has been spent rehearsing for our end-of-year production, *School of Pop*. Watching the children grow in confidence with every rehearsal has been a real highlight, and they should all be incredibly proud of their performances.

As we prepare for the move to secondary school, the children enjoyed a visit to Crucial Crew, where they learned valuable life skills, and we were delighted to welcome Mrs Chapman, who shared her experiences of working as a midwife as part of our PSHE topic, *Changing Me*.

To round off a fantastic year, the PTFA organised a brilliant end-of-year disco, giving everyone the chance to celebrate together one last time.

We are so proud of everything the children have achieved this year. It has been a pleasure watching them grow in confidence and independence, and we wish them every success as they begin their next adventure. Good luck, Year 6 - we know you'll be amazing!





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Our OPAL play offer has continued to develop this year, with some fantastic additions such as our new gym area, sand pit as well as new loose parts and new bikes and scooters which were paid for by the excellent Great Athletes fundraising efforts of the students! The team are already thinking about new zones and play areas to create and introduce next year. We were not able to fit a 'Parent Play Day' in during the summer term, this will be a priority when we return after the holidays.



Our Greener Growth project has BURST into life this year, with planters, ponds and bug hotels being installed around the school site. Our latest addition has been our pergolas, with custom seating.

Small groups of children have been helping with the planting and watering of our new plants. Mr Baker will be installing a second over the summer holidays. The children have loved spotting wildlife beginning to enter our playground and we cannot wait for our first harvest of apples, courgettes and peas next year.





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Transition support

Year 6:



Practical Tips

Route Planning: Practice the journey to school together —whether walking, cycling, or catching the bus. Rehearse alternative routes and discuss problem-solving if a bus is late.

Road Safety: Encourage independence during outings to reassure yourself that they know how to navigate safely.

Belongings: Help them take responsibility by organizing equipment into color-coded zip wallets per subject (e.g., blue for math).

Conversation Practice: Rehearse what to do or say if they feel lost or unsure. **Sleep:** Buy an alarm clock rather than depending on a phone to wake you up in the morning. This way you can avoid having your mobile in the bedroom at night with you, promoting a better night's sleep

Emotional Tips

Stay Positive: Try not to worry, and reach out directly to the high school with any specific concerns.

Be Patient: Navigating a new building, new subjects, and friendships is exhausting. It is completely natural if your child is a bit more short-tempered or grumpy than usual during this big change!

Read Together: Look through the transition booklet provided to students by the Mental Health Team.





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Transitioning back to school in September



Talk early: Bring up school conversations gently a few days before the return to build familiarity.

Reconnect: Arrange a casual playdate with school friends to renew social bonds.

Manage anxiety: Expect some nerves and reassure your child. Discuss ways to ease nervousness, such as mindful breathing.

Reset routines: Move bedtimes and wake-up times back to normal 2–3 days early.

Decompress: Give them quiet space to unwind when they get home before asking too many questions about their day

Holiday Activities Fund (HAF) Programme Children aged 5 to 16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals can access sports sessions, arts, crafts, dance, and cooking classes for FREE! Not eligible?

Many providers also offer paid spaces, so it is well worth checking out what is available in your area. → To browse and book activities: Visit www.eequ.org → More information: Search "Holiday Activities Fund" at www.suffolk.infolink.gov.uk

Ipswichfit Summer iCard Ipswichfit is offering their £12 icard this summer holiday. Available to purchase from Monday 22 June under-17-year-olds will get access to the complete summer holiday activity programme. With over 300 activities taking place this summer there will be something for everyone to enjoy!





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PSHE News

Below is what your child will be learning next term in PSHE as part of their 'Being Me' topic. Should you require further information or wish to have access to the lessons, please contact your child's class teacher who will provide you with a link.

Year 3

- Getting to know each other
- Our nightmare school
- Our dream school
- Rewards and consequences
- Our Learning Charter
- Owning our Learning Charter.

Year 4

- Becoming a class team
- Being a school citizen
- Rights, Responsibilities and Democracy
- Rewards and Consequences
- Our Learning Charter
- Owning our Learning Charter

Year 5

- My Year Ahead
- Being a Citizen of My Country
- Responsibilities
- Rewards and Consequences
- Our Learning Charter
- Owning our Learning Charter.

Year 6

- My Year Ahead
- Being a Global Citizen
- The Learning Charter
- Our Learning Charter
- Owning our Learning Charter.

Career Visits

One of our key priorities at Springfield, is to give our children greater exposure to a wide range of careers. Over the last term, we have been fortunate to welcome two fascinating professionals into school.

Architect



In Year 4 DT as part of their structures unit, they were fortunate enough to have a university student, studying architecture -Yagoda Smulska. She recently completed her masters and was able to share with them some of the projects she had been working on. The children were fascinated by all the different shapes and designs that can be used in buildings and structures. They then put this new knowledge into practice making their own structures using triangles!

Midwife



As part of their *Changing Me* PSHE topic, Year 6 welcomed Ms Chapman, a midwife who delivers babies both in hospital and at home. She gave the children an engaging insight into her role, explaining what being a midwife involves, the training required, and why she finds it such a rewarding career. The children were fascinated by her experiences and gained a wealth of knowledge from her inspiring visit.

If you would like to come into school to talk to the children about your career, please speak to your child's class teacher.





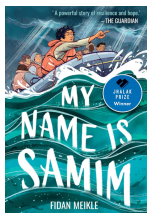
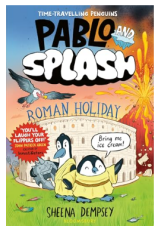
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As a voting school for the 2026 Children's Book Awards, our pupils helped choose this year's winners. Their votes matched the national results! Here are the winning books.



READING

The Year 5 Reading Champions did a fantastic job welcoming our new Year 3 classes for a story time session in the canopy. They chose the stories, gathered props and even provided biscuits and stickers.



Suffolk
Community Libraries



Broomhill Library, our closest local library, is open throughout the summer holidays with lots of fun events for families. Children can join the library for free, borrow books, reserve titles they want to read, and take part in the **Summer Reading Challenge** to earn rewards for their reading.

This year's **Reading Quest begins from 18 July**. Children of all ages can sign up at any library, collect their case file, and enjoy reading at their own pace over the summer. Each library visit earns stickers to celebrate their reading journey, making it a fun way to encourage a lifelong love of reading.

Remember to bring your medals to school in September so we can celebrate your summer reading adventures!

Broomhill Library, Ipswich

Sherrington Road, Ipswich, IP1 4HT



Mrs Seale, our EAL Coordinator, has found some wonderful websites where families can listen to a wide range of audiobooks in different languages. You may wish to explore these during the summer holidays.

Simply search for **Unite for Literacy** or **WorldStories** on Google to access these free resources.

