

18th December



SPINFIELD SCHOOL

Newsletter

It is hard to believe that the autumn term is now at an end and 2020 will soon be over. I'm sure, like me, you'll be pleased to celebrate the end of 2020 and you are looking forward to a more positive 2021. Without question, this year has tested us all. As parents, you had to adapt to home learning while many of you were also working from home. We have had to introduce new routines to ensure that school operates safely for everyone. We welcomed our new reception children and parents into school in a very different way to our usual practice, we held virtual parents' meetings and have faced many more challenges on a daily basis. However, throughout all of this, the sense of community and words of kindness have been at the heart of Spinfield. Despite the difficulties that we have faced, the team at Spinfield, supported by you, our parent community, has had a school of very happy children who have thrown themselves back into learning and demonstrated that they love school and it is the best place for them to be! We are delighted about our position in the top 1% of primary schools in the Sunday Times Parent Power, Best Schools Guide. As I explained in the article in the Bucks Free Press, we are incredibly proud of this result and of the wider experiences that we offer our children to ensure they get a rounded education and leave our school as global citizens with a bright future ahead of them. There is little doubt that the beginning of 2021 will present some new challenges, and I know that we will deal with them as a community with the common goal of supporting each other. On behalf of the Spinfield team, I wish you and your family a very happy, safe and special Christmas. While it's definitely going to be a "different one" I do hope that you manage to spend time with your loved ones and have lots of fun along the way. All being well we will see you on Tuesday 5th January 2021

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

From the Spinfield Team

COVID-19 Important Information:

It will be important for school to continue to monitor information about positive test cases of COVID-19 throughout the Christmas holiday period. If needed, please make a record and action the following:

- If your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19, please record the date and time this happened**
- You will need to take your child for a test**
- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please send an email to the school office, detailing the date and time of the first sign of symptoms and the date and time of the positive test case**
- You will need to contact NHS Track and Trace**

NHS— Test and Trace App

As you are aware, the Government have launched the NHS COVID-19 app today to support the Test and Trace system in England. You can find the privacy notice and more information here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-covid-19-app-privacy-information/nhs-test-and-trace-app-early-adopter-trial-august-2020-privacy-notice>

All parents/carers of pupils registered for free school meals should now have received their helping hand food vouchers from Buckinghamshire Council. If your child is registered for free school meals and you have not yet received your voucher, please check your email inbox for a letter from the school. If you still can't locate the letter containing your unique voucher code, please contact the school office for more information before the end of term.

If your child is not eligible for free school meals, but you are worried about food or warmth over the winter season, Buckinghamshire Council have a dedicated Helping Hand phoneline:

- Telephone: 01296 531 151, Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5:30pm, Friday, 9am to 5pm
- Or fill in our contact us form (using the Helping Hand option): <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/contact-us/>

If you call the Helping Hand support line, the advisors:

- will ask questions about your circumstances so that they can provide the best advice and help
- may direct you to agencies and organisations who can offer help and support
- may offer direct support with food, energy and water bills or other essentials

The support line is closed on Christmas day, Boxing Day, Monday 28 December and New Year's Day. In an emergency, contact the out of hours team on 0800 999 7677.

One Can Trust



A huge thank you as always for the generous donations made to the One Can Trust—over the year we have certainly demonstrated our community spirit.

Waste Free Wednesday

Overall results for the term

1st Year 4 - 94%

2nd Year 6 - 83%

3rd Year 1 - 72%

4th Year 5 - 68%

5th Year 2 - 56%

6th Year 3 - 53%

Well done to year 4.

Try to improve your class score next year by reducing/eliminating all waste from your lunchbox! We held out 1st Global Citizens virtual assembly yesterday, children from y6, 4 & 2 took part in presenting their work on Climate Change and the changes we can make to make a difference.

Remember:- **YOU ARE NEVER TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Christmas



party



fun!

dancing



games



pizza



Crafts



Sparkle



Festive



Music



Press release

Marlow's Spinfield School is the only school in Bucks to be listed in the top 250 schools in England

The team at Spinfield School are delighted that it has been ranked in the top 1% of primary schools in England in the Sunday Times Schools' Guide 2021. Headteacher Jayne Spreadbury explained:-

"Spinfield is the only **primary** school in Buckinghamshire to be listed in the top 250 schools in England. There are 20,832 primary schools **in England**, so the position of 73rd puts Spinfield in the top 1%. "

The ranking is from the aggregated average scaled scores achieved by children in reading, grammar and maths from Key Stage two SATs taken in 2019.

Jayne went on to say "This is a tremendous achievement and a credit to the enthusiasm and commitment to learning that all of our children demonstrate and **to** the unwavering dedication of the whole of the Spinfield team which includes the children, staff, parents, and governors. At Spinfield, we work closely with everyone in our school community to ensure that our children get a first class education. Working in partnership means that our children get a great start in life. We are incredibly proud of this result and of the wider experiences that we offer our children to ensure they get a rounded education and leave our school as global citizens with a bright future ahead of them."



Governor News!

I'd like to take an opportunity to thank all of our governors who do a great job of supporting the school.

This is a voluntary role and the members of the board dedicate their time and energy throughout the year.

There are a few changes to the board this year; James Grant has stepped down from the position of Chair of Governors, but will remain on the board and Jane Trainer has now taken up the role of wellbeing governor for students and staff.

David Hollywood, who has chaired the Resources Committee, has taken on the position of Chair of Governors and Keith Spence, who is our lead health and safety governor, will be stepping into the role of Vice Chair as well as Chair of Resources.



Roving Reporters December 2020

The Railway Children E.Nesbit The Railway Children is a brilliant children's novel about three children who have many adventures. They have no choice but to move from their grand house to a smaller house because their father is considered guilty of a crime.

My favourite character is Bobbie because she is the most caring. For example when she finds out a shocking secret she really cares for her mother because she knows how she must be feeling. I would rate this book four out of five because it is a thrilling novel full of adventure and you are almost transported into the lives of these children. Also, you can really feel the emotions in these characters through the descriptive paragraphs.

This story could be better if Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis could have more adventures with a boy named Jim (a boy who lived in their house for a while). Also Jim should probably have become better friends with the people of the railway. Overall I would recommend this novel to children aged 6 to 14 and if you like adventure stories. It uses complex vocabulary as well so it is challenging as well as a joy to read! Don't miss out on the thrilling adventures.

Caitlin, brilliant book reviewer. Christmas;- as you already know this year's Christmas will be a bit different but Spinfield School are getting into the Christmas cheer. We are trying our hardest to make this Christmas as normal as we can. While still at school we will be participating in activities such as Christmas parties, craft mornings and a movie morning or afternoon in your child's class.

We have also done the Festive trail, which was a huge success so thank you for all your time and effort you put into making Christmas decorations to make the roads look brighter.

Thank you again. We hope you have a fun filled Christmas.

Eva and Eilah, Roving Reporters



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Book Review

I think one of the best books written for children ever is Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, written by the truly whoopsysplunker [utterly brilliant] Roald Dahl, who is known for his mind-blowing literature. Other of his amazing books consist of Matilda, BFG and George's Marvellous Medicine, among many other superb reads. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a wonderful book about a poor boy called Charlie Bucket, who can only afford to eat cabbage soup. But when Mr Willy Wonka, the world's best chocolate creator, releases five golden tickets into five chocolate bars across the globe, little Charlie is desperate to find one. Can one poor boy find a ticket to guide him to chocolate heaven? My favourite character in this stupendous book is Verruca Salt, a spoilt little girl, who always receives what she wants. Whether it is as simple as "Mummy, I want my breakfast" or as impossible as "Daddy, I want to rule the world, AND I WANT TO NOW!" Verruca wants and gets EVERYTHING from her helpless parents, who think she is an angel [when she is actually a beast!] As I read this thrilling book, I couldn't help but feel nervous, because I wasn't sure who was going to discover the tickets. I also felt excited, and I couldn't stop reading without turning another page. I noticed that, as I read this book, Dahl included some made up words such as scrumdiddliumpious into this text to make his writing fun to read. He also included fun characters and songs; they made me want to sing and dance along with them. This absolutely whoopsysplunker story is brilliant and I recommend it to anyone, young or old. Now made into a fabulous film [read the book before watching the movie!!!] Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is very entertaining and should be read by everyone! Ellie Stuart, Year 6. Make sure you include facts about the book, why you enjoyed it so much and roughly what it is about [without including any spoilers!]. You must also include your details; your name and year group on your review. Your reviews MUST be in by 18th January 2021. Thank you and keep... reading! Ellie and Caitlin, book reviewers

Waste free Wednesday

Every Wednesday (Waste Free Wednesday) you have attempted to have a waste free lunch box. By doing this you have helped save the environment we live in. We would like to thank you for all of your time and effort, making your lunch box as waste free as possible. After Christmas we will be starting a new round, meaning that your class has another chance of coming in first place and getting 100% every week. The Results. 6th place is year 3 with 53% 5th place is year 2 with 56% 4th place is year 5 with 68% 3rd place is year 1 with 72% 2nd place is year 6 with 83% 1st place is year 4 with 94% Thank you again for your efforts, hope you have a great time over the Christmas holidays!

Emma and Darcy, roving reporters Eilah, Eva, Darcy and Emma
Your Roving Reporters. Caitlin and Ellie Your Brilliant Book reviewers

PA NEWS!

The PA have been creative this term coming up with new ways to raise funds: Festive trail; Christmas guessing games; online Christmas auction and Christmas table arrangement workshop as well as some classics like Bag2School.

The funds are still coming in and we'll announce the total raised for all the activities this term in the new year, but we're excited to announce that the auction raised a brilliant £827 and the Festive trail so far has raised £1659.00

Well done to everyone who took part in the festive trail, there are some fabulous displays. Miss Spreadbury and the Spinfield staff enjoyed following the trail and were given the difficult task of judging the three categories; festive, creative & funny.

The winners are:

Festive: Otilie & Tabby S

Funny— Ex Spinfield Parents—the Taylors

Creative— Henry & Sophia P

Well done!

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/spinfieldfestivetrail2020>

A massive thank you to everyone who has helped organise, make, support, donate and participate the PA activities this term, it's hugely appreciated.





Festive

Funny



Creative

Festive Games Winners

Santa's Little Helper

Correct Name is "Snowflake"

Congratulations to:
Sylvie & Hallam

How many presents are in Santa's sack?

Correct answer is "17"

Congratulations to:

Conlan

Joshua W

Isla

Holly P

Toby M

Seb

Max V

Alice

The games organiser will be in touch with you to arrange delivery of your prizes!

Well done everyone!







Merry



Christmas



Everyone!