



Season's Greetings!



I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to all of you, who have shown such incredible support for all of the events and activities that have taken place this term. A huge number of families came and supported our Christmas Market which raised just over £1000 for our school fund. This is amazing, and will contribute hugely towards our playground developments. Other events have included our Year 3 Christmas Performance and Year 4 Christmas Concert.



Finally, all the staff and pupils at Spa Academy would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy new year. See you all in 2024!

Emma Anderson (Headteacher)

KEY DATES

Fri 22nd Dec – Fri 5th January: Christmas Break
Monday 8th January 2024: School reopens
Wednesday 10th January: Y6 SATs Parents Meeting
Monday 15th January: CONNECT Coffee Afternoon
Wb 5th February: Y6 Mock SATs Week
Friday 2nd February: Y4 trip to Leeds Museum
5th - 9th February: Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6th February: Safer Internet Day
Friday 9th February: End of Half-Term
12th - 16th February 2023: Half Term Holidays
Monday 19th February 2023: School Re-opens



#TEAM SPA

- # **Major Ashton** visited Spa to support with our **Poppy Appeal** and answered lots of our questions. Year 3 also took part in the **Remembrance Service** in Askern.
- # On 13th November lots of us wore **Odd Socks** to school, to raise awareness of how to prevent bullying, ahead of **Anti Bullying Week**.
- # We raised almost **£300 for Children in Need** through our delicious **Bake Sale** and dressing in **spotty** themed **non-uniform**.
- # Our **Year 3** pupils enjoyed a fantastic visit to the **Yorkshire Wildlife Park**.
- # Pupils from all year groups represented Spa brilliantly at the **Leger tournaments**, held at Campsmount Academy. These included netball, cheerleading and football.
- # Our **Anti-bullying Poster Competition** was won by pupils in O'Keeffe (red) and earnt an additional **1000 house points!**

Y6 SATs



[Click Here for additional Y6 SATs Information](#)

At the end of **Year 6**, all pupils across the country sit their **SATs**. These are national end of Key Stage 2 assessments in **reading, grammar & spelling and maths** (as well as teacher assessments in **writing**). We are holding an information session for parents on Wednesday 10th January at 3pm to share ideas and tips on how to support your child.

Since November, our Y6 pupils have been demonstrating **responsibility, dedication and determination** by attending weekly **booster sessions** to increase both their confidence and subject knowledge, ahead of the tests in May. It is fantastic to see the progress pupils are making and this is being rewarded every week with our **"I'm a Y6 get me out of here!"** reward challenge (see attached poster for more information). It has been brilliant to see them taking responsibility for their own learning and showing they are Year 7 ready!

SATs week runs Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024. The tests can only be taken during this week at the dates and times set by the Government. With this in mind, pupils are not allowed to take holidays during this week.



OTHER NEWS:

Uniform Expectations:

This term we have been impressed with the consistency shown by pupils in following our school uniform policy. As a result, pupils in our school look smart and responsible. Full details of our uniform policy is available on our school website:

[Spa Academy Uniform Policy.](#)

PE Days: Spring Term:

Year 3 - Tuesday

Year 4 - Thursday

Year 5 - Monday

Year 6 - Friday

Communication Updates: Thank you to all who completed the communication survey. We have analysed the responses and the main findings are as follows:

- Text is the most useful form of communication
- Facebook and Twitter are the most used social media platforms
- Increased communication is needed around events
- Dinner menu information requested more regularly

Moving forwards, we will use text messaging as the main form of communication. We will also ensure all dates are sent out on our Newsletter, as well as reminders at least one week before days/events take place.

School Day: As you are aware we recently consulted with our school community on an extension to the school day, namely up to an additional 30 minutes at the end of the day. I am pleased to report the majority of responses received were positive and in favour of the extension. Having already consulted with staff, our next step is to consult with our local infant and secondary academies. Many of our families have children who attend across multiple settings so please be assured that we will take this in to consideration before any decision is made.

Academy Governing Body: This term, Governors have continued to visit school and meet with pupils, staff & school leaders as part of their link governor roles. Governors have also supported school events and activities. Our Chair of Governors, Wayne Dorey, can be contacted via the main school office.

ASPIRE

The ASPIRE programme supports every pupil to personally develop, engaging with interests beyond the academic curriculum. During the Autumn term twelve after school clubs have taken place including: Cheerleading, Basketball, Netball, Choir, Keep Fit, Art, Anime, Cheerleading, Book Club and French! Over 200 places have been taken up by pupils, totalling over 1200 hours of additional activities beyond the school day.

Next term clubs include:

Choir, British Sign Language, Just Dance, Anime & Manga, Tag Rugby, Dodgeball, Leger Dance, French and Homework Club

You will be contacted to confirm that your child has secured a place on one of the clubs & activities.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Home Learning:

Our expectations are that pupils practice their spellings, use Times Tables Rockstars and read at least three times a week at home. This half-term, it has been brilliant to see an increase in the number of pupils earning their monthly **SpaBooks** milkshake for reading at home.



Next half term each year group will be studying a picture book:



[Click here to find out more about what pupils will be learning throughout the year](#)



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Littlemoor



Moss Road



Campamount