



## October Newsletter



### Message from Mr Johnson

We have had an AMAZING term at Springwood High school. The new intake of year 7 and year 12 students are truly wonderful and are fully embracing the Springwood culture, enjoying all that we have to offer. It was a privilege to meet the new year 7 parents and we all want the very best for their children.

Extra-curricular activities are so important at Springwood. It has been fantastic to see the large numbers of students enjoying the wide array of fantastic opportunities at lunchtime and after school. Many thanks to all the staff who give up their time to enable these amazing clubs to run.

Year 11 worked tirelessly for their Pre Public Examinations (or "mock" examinations as we used to call them!). Fingers crossed that Year 11 is on track for another historic year of GCSE outcomes. Fulfilling careers and happy lives follow those students who make progress in academic examinations! Keep up the good work everyone!

The main school and Sixth Form open evenings were undoubtedly the busiest ever! It is always wonderful to meet prospective students and parents to showcase what our school has to offer. Our two weeks of daytime tours allowed students and parents to see the school in operation on a normal day. I was delighted to hear that those who attended the tours saw a happy and hard working school.

We have recently celebrated our annual STEM awards evening where there were approaching 500 awards! Ms Mann and her team provide outstanding STEM opportunities for our students. I was so proud of all of them achieving their awards!

Have a restful half-term,

Best wishes.

Mr Johnson





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### Message from Head of Year

We have had a busy start to Year 9, students have been working hard inside and outside of the classroom. Our sporting teams have kicked off a successful start this half term with our Netball, Football and Rugby teams all being triumphant in winning competitive matches against other local schools.

This academic year is the start of the class of 2027's Guided Choices process, students will be informed of several new subjects available to them at KS4 via a number of subject based assemblies. We will then meet all students and parents to give you the finer details of the options process and will invite you into school in the Spring term.

During our tutor time sessions, we have continued to develop student's knowledge and understand for PSHE topics, explored a number of careers-based tasks and have launched our Achieve programme.

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November we are hosting our annual 'Meet the Tutor' event for Year 9. This is a face to face meeting and parents will get the chance to discuss students' progress, pastoral care and further opportunities for students during the academic year. More information will be released after half term regarding booking your appointment.

We have been extremely proud with the number of students who have completed their Maths and English homework set on a weekly basis. It has been a highlight of our assemblies to celebrate completed homework and we would like to thank parents for supporting their child with this.

We would also like to make you aware that school ties can now be purchased from the school shop on the My Child At School App. If you click on 'store' you will see ties are available to buy for £7.95. They will be available to collect from the Finance/Admin office.

We hope you all have a restful half term break.

We return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Mr Cuss & Mrs Robinson





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### Year 9 Office Contact Details

Year 9 Office direct dial 24/7 – 01553 778090

Year 9 email – [classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

Head of Year – Mr Cuss – [p.cuss@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:p.cuss@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

Year 9 Manager – Mrs Robinson – [j.robinson@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:j.robinson@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

School Website [www.springwoodhighschool.co.uk](http://www.springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

### Attendance Information

**What should I do if my child is unwell?** – If your child is unwell, please call the Year 9 Office on 01553 778090 or email [classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:classof2027@springwoodhighschool.co.uk) before 8.00am and give the specific reasons and symptoms of the illness. You will need to contact the office EVERY DAY that your child is off. The information you give will be recorded on our official register.

**Leave of Absence** – There may be exceptional circumstances where you need to request a leave of absence for your child. You will need to submit a “Leave of Absence Form.” These can be found on the school website or we have a paper copy in the office. This form needs handing into the Year 9 office. You will then receive a phone call, email or SIMS message stating if your request has been granted or denied.

### Lost Property

If your child loses any property during the school day, they can check in the following places –

- Year Office
- Lost Property basket in the canteen near the music rooms
- Lost property basket in the LRC near the teacher’s desk
- Go to reception and ask if anything has been handed in

If they do not find it, please tell them to ask the Year Office to send an email to the Lost Property email address



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## Attendance Message

School attendance continues to remain above national averages so far this year, despite us being hit by illnesses this half term, which is great news. Data shows year on year, that students who have good attendance do very well academically and socially.

It is important that if your child is not able to attend school that day that you phone the relevant year office, or email them, directly. Please do not wait for the alert to go out from the school. It is also important that if your child is ill for a couple of days that you continue to contact the school on a daily basis - we need to know how they are, and if the illness/symptoms change, as we occasionally need to make others within the school community aware.

If we do not see your child for a period of time then we are required, for safeguarding reasons, to make a home visit. Please can you ensure that you respond to the home visit when these are made. We cannot give you a time, and so if you are not in we will leave instructions to contact us, which you need to do when you see the card. If we have no answer after a couple of visits we then will ask someone external from the school to make that visit on our behalf. These visits are a requirement that all schools must undertake for students that they have not seen for a little while.

Whilst we understand children may have periods of genuine illness, we wish to share updated guidance from the NHS, which aims to reset expectations to pre-pandemic levels. It recognises that it has been a long time since these guidelines were shared, with mindsets which have understandably altered. With the increase in working from home, there is not necessarily the 'work pressure' to send children to school with minor ailments as it is more common to have adults in the home. The updated NHS guidance for the vast majority of illness and anxiety states that, unless your child has a significantly elevated temperature, they should be in school. The guidance can be found here: Is my child too ill for school? - NHS <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Thank you for your continued support in keeping your child's attendance high.

Mrs Moss & Miss Taylor

Attendance Team



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MyChildAtSchool has now replaced the ParentApp and ParentPay

Parents can access details about their child at school by using MyChildAtSchool. This can either be an app or your phone (available from Google Play and the Apple AppStore) or by going to <http://www.mychildatschool.com>

A basic user guide, along with other support materials can be found at:

<https://docs.bromcom.com/article-categories/for-parents/>

If you forget your password to MCAS please click on the Reset Password link on the App, or, using your web browser, go to [www.mychildatschool.com](http://www.mychildatschool.com) and click on the Reset Password link. You must use the email address that you have given the school.

Should you experience any issues with your MCAS account please contact us for support via the following options:

Tel: 01553 773393

email: [office@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:office@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

When emailing, please provide as much detail about your issue so we can make sure we allocate the right department. Please also provide your full name, school and return phone number.

Students

Your child will also have access to an app that they can log into on their phones (available from Google Play and Apple App Store - please search for Bromcom Student App). It can also be accessed via the webpage:

<https://www.bromcomvle.com/?schoolid=14633>

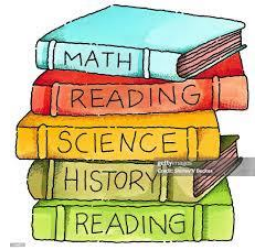


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# Homework



Dear Parent/Guardian,

All homework for all subjects is now being put onto the My Child At School app. You can now see what homework is being set and when it is due. Within 48 hours after the due date, the teacher will change the homework status to "received" for anyone who has completed their homework. If your child has not completed their homework, please encourage them to complete it or attend the support sessions that we run at school.

Year 9 are currently receiving weekly Maths and English and fortnightly Science homework on Sparx. After half term, they will also receive fortnightly homework from Geography, History, RE and Languages.

The following homework support is available;

## Maths

- Breaktimes and Lunchtimes daily in B11
- Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school in B11 3.30pm - 4.30pm

## English

- Breaktimes in F12 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

## All subjects

- Homework club daily in F10 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- LRC every day - before school, breaktimes, lunchtimes and after school

Achievement points will be awarded for completion of homework but more achievement points may also be awarded for meeting certain criteria.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly [c.loizou@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:c.loizou@springwoodhighschool.co.uk)

Kind regards,

Ms C Loizou





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# Sparx Learning

Year 9 Maths and English homework are both set via the Sparx Learning platform.

Students have a new piece of homework set every Wednesday and have one week to complete it.

Sparx Maths

## Year 9 Maths sparx champion of the Month



These are the students who accrued the most Sparx Reader Points across the month of September:

The general expectation is 300 SRP per week.

3rd Sidney P (4,448 SRP)





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## Sparx Form Results

# Sparx Maths Sparx Reader

Form	Maths		Reader	
	Completion %	Top Student	Completion %	Top student
9B1	48	Joseph	73	Mehdi
9B2	31	Chiedza	53	Nomthandazo
9F1	53	Divine	59	Divine
9F2	57	Daisy	58	Joyce
9H1	43	Evelyn	67	Georgie
9H2	27	Olivia	51	Toluwanimi
9O1	41	Finley	48	Jennifer
9O2	48	Lyla	65	Charlie
9S1	37	Isabella	78	Eimantas
9S2	23	William	43	Daisy

These students were the top Sparx students  
in their form.

Well done!





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## PC Smith - Vapes



On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, Year 9 students had an assembly with PC Smith about the dangers of vaping.



- This vape was seized by trading standards in a raid at a shop in the UK
- It has all the right markings on it namely the CE and UKCA mark which is supposed to mean that the ingredients and chemicals inside the vape are fit for use and have been regulated.
- However this particular vape was examined by a forensics laboratory at the request of Trading Standards
  - It contained nicotine and the usual chemicals expected
  - But it also contained synthetic cannabinoids
  - And it contained a veterinary medicine called Xylazine used on cattle similar to ketamine!



The CE and UKCA mark means that the ingredients and chemicals inside the vape are fit for use and have been regulated.





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## STEM Success

This half term we spent another delightful evening celebrating our STEM successes. The event welcomed students from Year 7 to Year 13 and their parents, as well as representatives from local STEM businesses, Palm Paper and Rolls Royce at RAF Marham. We congratulated students for participating in projects based around flight, space and robotics. Enjoyed projects designed for our own science fair and the Silver Crest Award. And handed out many certificates for completing the Bronze Crest Award.

A real highlight of the evening was hearing from our guest speaker Mark Richardson CEO of Ocado Intelligent Automation. Mark gave an inspiring talk about his career journey including roles in project management and procurement, created the first shopping website for Waitrose Supermarket and then joining Ocado as it was starting up in 2001. There he ran the technology department for ten years and joined the board as Chief Operating Officer for the next ten before becoming CEO of Ocado Intelligent Automation, which creates and sells advanced robotics to companies all around the world. We have no doubt that all in attendance left inspired, enriched and with lots to think about.







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## STEM continued...

A week ago, me and some friends went to the STEM awards evening it was very interesting as we got loads of certificates and even a stem leader badge. Visitors came that worked for Ocado, a well-known food company, and were talking about where they came from. Overall, I think the awards evening went well - Jeron



The STEM Awards Evening was really fun!

There were lots of displays, the Year 10s had been working on their Silver Crest awards and had stall showing their work. One had a robotic arm made out of cardboard! The Year 7s and 8s had scaled-up dinosaur footprints, too. Our Year 9 group has been working on a working wind turbine for the last half term, and it was displayed too. It wasn't quite working then (we had to adjust it slightly the following Monday at the club) but it was set up and still looked awesome. There was also a guest speaker, the CEO of Ocado Intelligent Automation, Mark Richardson. He spoke about his career and how he got to where he is today. Afterwards loads of certificates were given out – some of us hardly got to sit down for a while – and one of my friends got a prize for winning a competition! There was also chocolate on each of the seating tables which was a nice bonus. All in all, I really enjoyed it, and would definitely recommend taking part in it! - Jennifer, 901





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## Sports Presentation Evening

### 2023-2024

# Year 8



Football Player of The Year – Ashton H

Netball Player of The Year – Sally K



Rugby Player of The Year – Charlie C



Cricketer of The Year – Harry W

Rounders of The Year – Molly M



Tennis Player of The Year – Harry W



Sports Person of The Year – Molly M & Harry W



## Sports Person of the Year Year 8 Winners

### ROLL OF HONOUR

Molly M

Harry W





## Bisexual Awareness

Elodie B in Year 8 wrote a piece about why it is important to recognise bi sexual awareness and raised the flag.

Bi-visibility is important because it raises awareness of the bisexual community and allows them to be proud of who they are.

Some bi people face effects of biphobia in their daily life, things such as being stereotyped and a general ignorance about bisexual people.

For example, Bisexual women can sometimes be viewed as straight, and bisexual men are sometimes seen as simply 'going through a phase' before coming out as gay.

It is these stereotypes that have made many in the bisexual community feel invisible. But it is important to remember, as Evan Racheal Wood once said: "Bisexuality doesn't mean halfway between gay or straight. It is its own identity."

Elodie B Year 8 – raising the flag





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# Achievement Points

## Whole Year Group Total



## Achievement Point

## Award Badges

100 = Bronze

250 = Silver

400 = Gold

600 = Platinum





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# Year 9 - 100% 1<sup>st</sup> Term

A massive well done to the following students who have had 100% attendance for the first term of Year 9!

Abdul-Roheem T	Ifeoluwa O	Lyla J
Adedayo A	Ilja T	Marcus R
Alexis J	India B	Marley W
Anna W	Isabell C	Mia P
Archie T	Isabella G	Nathan O
Arturs T	Isobel G	Nicole B
Astijus L	Jackson E	Niya M
Austin L	Jemeera J	Ola M
Charlie R	Jennifer M	Rea J
Chiedza M	Jonathan N	Rhianna B
Chisom N	Joseph D	Rhys H
Chloe G	Juan V	Riya G
Daniel V	Kajus J	Rose S
David O	Katie U	Ruby T
Divine O	Keita B	Ryan B
Elouise L	Kieran K	Ryely C
Erin P	Kipras D	Sally K
Freddie C	Kirill I	Samuel M
Gabrielle P	Kya B	Sebastian M
Georgie J	Kyle B	Sidney D
Godwin S	Lara D	Sidney P
Halle P	Lexi-Mai H	Sophie B
Hannah L	Lexi-Mai P	Toluwanimi O
Harriet H	Lia S	Vitor A
Harriet K	Lilly A	Will C
Harry C	Lily G	William F
Harry F	Lyla H	Zara D





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## Music/Drama Events Calendar 2024-2025

### Autumn Term

Date	Event	Venue	Ticket Prices	Time(s)	Groups Involved (Provisional)
Thursday 17th Oct '24	WNAT Piano Recital	Recital Room (Mu1) Springwood High School	£2.00 Under 18's Free	6.00pm	Piano Solos and Duets from across all Trust Schools (All levels)
Wednesday 23rd Oct '24	House Music Competition	PHH	All tickets £3	6.30pm	
Wednesday 13th Nov '24	Autumn Recital Evening	Recital Room (Mu1) Springwood High School	£2.00 Under 18's Free	6.00pm	Soloists and Small Ensembles from Springwood High School
Wednesday 11th Dec '24	WNAT Christmas Carol Service	St Nicholas' Chapel	Free (with retiring collection)	6.00pm	c.40 members of Cantabene WNAT cross-trust Orchestra
Thursday 19th Dec '24	Springwood Christmas Concert	PHH, Springwood High School	Adults £5 Under 18s £3 Under 5 years free*	6.30pm	Big Band Cantabene Concert Band Sinfonia Kingsmen Joseph Preview Year 7 Choir Year 9 Rock Band Walkmen

\* Under 5s Free of Charge if do not require own seat (i.e. able to sit on parents' lap)

For Ticket Sales nearer the event date please visit

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/springwood-high-school-music-department>



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## Parent, Teacher & Friends Association

The PTFA got straight back to business after the Summer break and already has a number of exciting events and new ideas in the planning pipeline.

Our first meeting of the new academic year was held on 11<sup>th</sup> September and our Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October. You can read the minutes of both meetings (including the AGM Chairperson's and Treasurer's reports) on the school website or via the links below:

[11<sup>th</sup> September Meeting Minutes](#)

[9<sup>th</sup> October AGM Minutes](#)

Our information on the Springwood website has recently had a revamp and on September 28<sup>th</sup> we launched a dedicated Facebook page ([Springwood High School PTFA](#)) where we'll keep you all up-to-date with events and fundraising activities for the students and school. To date we have approximately 55 followers. Please give us a 'like' and a 'follow' and feel free to spread the word.

Our first event of the new school year was on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October selling refreshments at the year 6 specialist arts auditions.

Upcoming events include:

**Year 7 Halloween Disco (fancy dress optional)** – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

**Sixth Form Bingo Event** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November

**Christmas Craft Fair** – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. We're still on the lookout for stall holders.

Full details of all events can be found on the Springwood High School website and our Facebook page. Note the Bingo is a bookable event and books (5 games)/strips will be available to purchase in advance via Ticket source on the school website.

And finally, we are always on the lookout for new members..... All parents, teachers and school staff can get involved even if they only have a small amount of time available. We are particularly on the lookout for 'helping hands' at events and we would be very grateful for your help. To get in touch, please email [ptfa@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:ptfa@springwoodhighschool.co.uk). We would love to hear from you.



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# Uniform Expectations

Please can we remind all parents/guardians of the Uniform Expectations for all students after half term.

### School Uniform & Sports Kit Checklist

\*Blazer

White, stiff collar school shirt

\*House colour school tie

\*\*Plain black tailored trousers

\*School skirt

\*School shorts

\*School jumper

Plain black tights or plain black socks that must at least cover the whole ankle  
(Trainer socks, and footless tights or leggings are not allowed)

Plain black (leather or leather-like) shoes

(no boots, black trainers, stilettos, ballet pumps, sling backs or toeless)

Plain coat (no logos or other markings) long enough to cover blazer properly

### PE KIT

#### Compulsory:

\*Springwood PE shirt

Black Shorts

Black Socks

Trainers (non-marking sole with grip)

Football Boots

#### Optional:

\*Springwood sweatshirt

Black Track Suit Bottoms

Plain Black leggings

Plain Black 'skin' can be worn under PE shirt

Shin pads and gumshields

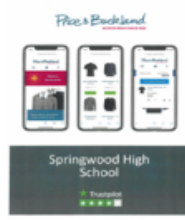
**Items marked \* can only be bought through the school website from Price & Buckland**

\*\*Trousers deemed appropriate by Springwood High School are available for purchase via our website. School trousers can be purchased from other suppliers. However, if the trousers worn by a student are considered unsuitable or inappropriate and a suitable alternative cannot be sourced from elsewhere, parents/carers will be directed to buy the trousers we have available through our website.

The school reserves the right to make the final decision on the suitability and/or appropriateness of the school trousers worn by Springwood students.

To view your online shop visit:

<https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/springwoodhigh>





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## Equipment Checklist

All students should have the following with them every day –

School bag, Knowledge Organiser, Pencil Case  
(Pens x 2, Red pen, Pencil x 2, Ruler, Calculator, Rubber)

Failure to have the correct equipment after being reminded once will result in a 2-week EQUIPMENT REPORT.

All students need to be prepared daily.

THANK YOU





## October Newsletter

# School Term Dates 24/25

	<b>First Day of Term</b>	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
<b>Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	<b>Wednesday 4th September 2024</b> Years 7 and 12 Only Return to School <b>Thursday 5th September 2024</b> Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 Return to School	Thursday 24th October 2024
<b>Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 4th November 2024	Friday 20th December 2024
<b>Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	Tuesday 7th January 2025	Friday 14th February 2025
<b>Spring 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 24th February 2025	Friday 4th April 2025
<b>Summer 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term</b>	Wednesday 23rd April 2025	Friday 23rd May 2025
<b>Summer 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term</b>	Monday 2nd June 2025	Tuesday 22nd July 2025



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### Holidays & Training Days

	First Day of the Holiday	Last Day of the Holiday
<b>Autumn Half Term Holiday</b>	Monday 28th October 2024	Friday 1st November 2024
<b>Christmas Holiday</b>	Monday 23rd December	Friday 3rd January 2025
<b>Spring Half Term Holiday</b>	Monday 17th February 2025	Friday 21st February 2025
<b>Easter Holiday</b>	Monday 7th April 2025	Tuesday 22nd April 2025
<b>Summer Half Term Holiday</b>	Monday 26th May 2025	Friday 30th May 2025
<b>First day of Summer Leave</b>	Wednesday 23rd July 2025	

#### Training Days

Monday 2 September and Tuesday 3 September 2024  
Friday 25 October 2024  
Monday 6 January 2025

#### Bank Holiday

5th May 2025



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We have now moved over to Bromcom for all student data and correspondence. If you have not signed up or experiencing difficulties, please go onto the school website and click the Bromcom tab. There are instructions for logging in and an email address for further help.

### Latest News



For all the very latest Springwood School news please follow @SHSKingsLynn

For all the latest Sport & PE news please follow @SHSSPE

### The PTFA need you!



We are always on the lookout for new members.

All parents, teachers and school staff can get involved even if they only have a small amount of time available. You may wish to join the committee and be involved in the organisation, or just be available to serve teas and coffees at PTFA events. Whatever your preferred commitment, large or small, the Springwood PTFA would be very grateful for your help.

To get in touch, please email [ptfa@springwoodhighschool.co.uk](mailto:ptfa@springwoodhighschool.co.uk). We would love to hear from you.