



Message from Miss Budden



WOW!! Well, that's a wrap on the first half term of this academic year! In the blink of an eye, we find ourselves at the end of October, and another new term is just around the corner. As we settle into the rhythm of the Autumn term, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm. It's been a joy to see the children embracing their learning with such curiosity and confidence.

This term, we've seen wonderful examples of teamwork, creativity and resilience across the school. From our youngest learners exploring new routines, to our older pupils showing leadership and kindness, Springdale continues to be a place where children truly **Imagine, Believe, Achieve**.

It has also been great to see so many of you attending our parent's information meetings at the beginning of the year, allowing you to find out what your child will be learning, and how you can help at home. We look forward to inviting you into school for more events throughout the year.

There were many key words that I took from all the meetings that will ensure that your child will have a successful year. Communication, partnership, fun, enjoyment and excellence were key words that were frequently used in all year groups by staff. These words are also very much linked to our PRIDE values, enabling our children to be the best that they can be. Thank you so much for your active participation in these sessions. Everyone at Springdale cannot wait to continue to share your child's achievements throughout the year with you in lots of different ways. We enjoyed seeing you all for Parent's Consultation this week, where teachers shared your child's targets with you, and celebrated the many successes that our children have had already this year.

We have also had a visit from our Standards Officer from Hamwic this term, who spent the morning with us observing lessons, looking in particular at our writing. They were very impressed with what they saw, this included high levels of engagement from the children, a high standard of both writing and behaviour.

As well as some magnificent learning happening, it has also been incredibly busy in other areas of school life. School Councillors have been voted in and their first task was to help sort all of the donations from Harvest. Year 1 and Year 3 have been busy learning in our woods with our Forest School teachers. They have had an amazing time. I know that Year 2 and Year 4 are really looking forward to their sessions next term too. Year 4 have been on a boat trip around Poole Harbour, bird watching. Year 1 have taken a walk in the local area and have posted a very important letter. Year 2 have visited Springdale Park to support with their DT learning. Year 3 have had a trip to a local farm. We have also had the opportunity to invite you in to school to join in with our learning. Some of you have had the opportunity to watch some brilliant dances, see some excellent playground structures and reception have been tour guides to their grown-ups, proudly showing off their classroom.



Imagine, Believe, Achieve

We also welcomed visitors from United Reform Church and they celebrated Harvest with us. Thank you so much for your generosity when donating food to Poole Food Bank. I know that many families will benefit from the donations given.

Please have a restful half term. We have so many exciting things planned for the next half term that we cannot wait to share with you.

Baby News



Mrs. Holman gave birth to a beautiful baby girl on 1st September, both mother and baby are doing well. Congratulations Mrs. Holman, we wish you and your new addition all the very best. She is absolutely beautiful.

Friends of Springdale



I also want to take this opportunity to say a huge heartfelt thank you to Tia Hammond. Tia is stepping down from her role as Chairperson of Friends of Springdale. Tia was the person who re-launched Friends of Springdale five years ago and without her commitment and passion, Friends of Springdale would not be.

On behalf of everyone at Springdale First School, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your dedication and leadership as Chairperson of the PTA. Your thoughtful words, tireless efforts, and unwavering support have made a meaningful difference in our school community.

Your commitment to fostering collaboration and creating enriching experiences for our children is truly appreciated. Thank you for being such a positive force and for all that you do.

With sincere gratitude, this just leaves me to say have a wonderful half term and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 4th November.

As always, my door is open. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions, ideas or feedback.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Budden



Springdale First School Shines in BCP Library Summer Reading Challenge

Springdale First School has once again demonstrated its commitment to fostering a love of reading among pupils, with a fantastic turnout in this year's **BCP Library Summer Reading Challenge**. Over the summer, **73 children** from the school signed up to take part in the challenge — a **32% increase** from last year's participation. This impressive growth highlights the school's ongoing enthusiasm for literacy and the power of reading for pleasure.

Even more commendable is the number of children who completed the challenge: **37 pupils** successfully read six books over the summer holidays, meaning **51% of all starters** reached the finish line. These young readers showed dedication, curiosity, and a true passion for stories — qualities that will serve them well both in and out of the classroom.

Sarah Eadie, Libraries Literacy Officer for BCP Libraries, praised the school's efforts, saying:

"Thanks for supporting the Reading Challenge so enthusiastically. It's wonderful to see such strong engagement from Springdale — the increase in starters and the high completion rate are both worth celebrating."

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national initiative designed to keep children reading during the long break, helping to prevent the "summer slide" in literacy skills. It also encourages families to visit their local libraries and explore new books together.

We will be celebrating the achievements of all participants in school assemblies and newsletters, ensuring that every child who took part — whether they completed the challenge or not — is recognised for their effort and enthusiasm. Congratulations to all our young readers and thank you to the staff and families who supported them. Here's to even more book-filled adventures next summer!

Harvest Assembly with Rev Andy Hall

We were delighted to welcome Rev Andy Hall to Springdale for our Harvest assembly. The children brought in a wonderful selection of food donations, all of which were kindly given to Poole Food Bank to help support local families. During the assembly, we sang cheerful harvest songs and learned about the importance of harvest time — a chance to give thanks for the food we have and to think about those who may be in need. It was a joyful and thoughtful occasion that brought our school community together in celebration and kindness.



Imagine, Believe, Achieve

Year 1 Postbox Walk

This half-term Year 1 have learnt all about capital letters using the book 'Dear Dinosaur'. We wrote our own letters to the main character Rex, showing off our incredible learning. We had an amazing time walking to the local post box to send our letters to Poole Museum. We can't wait to see if we get a reply!

A massive thank you to all our trip volunteers who took time out of their day to accompany us. It is thanks to you that these trips are possible.



Year 2 Trip to Springdale Park

This term Year 2 have been learning about structures in DT. As part of this we went on a trip to Springdale Park where we looked at the equipment for the features of a strong and sturdy structure (wide base, narrow top, triangles and overlapping).

We found lots of examples of these in the park and have used the ideas collected on our trip to design and make our own playground equipment for a Lego person.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who helped on the trip!

It was lovely to welcome so many of you in to school to enable the children to share their Autumn 1 DT Learning Journey and their fantastic models.



Year 3 Launceston Farm Trip

As part of our Year 3's Geography unit—From Food to Fork, the children had a visit to a local farm, Launceston Farm. First, they learned about the farm and that it rears cows and pigs and grows wheat and barley. Then, they went out into the fields and dug for worms! The children learned that the more worms there are, the healthier the soil. The soil needs to be full of nutrients for the crops to grow. This was a great time as the children were amazed at the number of worms they counted! After this, the children learned how wheat is ground into flour by a mill and they each made some bread with wheat from the farm. With all these experiences, the children understood the concept of 'food to fork' as they experienced it firsthand.



Year 4 Birds of Poole Harbour Boat Trip

Last week, Year 4 went on a boat trip around Poole Harbour. The trip, with Birds of Poole Harbour, helped to consolidate our science learning on classification.

During the trip, we were lucky enough to see a range of birds including cormorants and a marsh harrier. Some people were even lucky enough to catch a quick glimpse of a seal!



Year 4 Castle Court Performing Arts Day

Last Friday, 12 children were lucky enough to travel to Castle Court and take part in their Primary Performing Arts showcase. The morning was spent learning a dance, song and drama piece based around Matilda. After yummy pizza for lunch, parents were then invited to watch the showcase, where children performed along with other schools. The children had a brilliant day and made Springdale proud!



Year 4 Roman Day

This week, Year 4 transformed into Romans for our Roman day. They took part in a range of activities including creating mosaics, learning about roman numerals and performing our dance to the parents. The parents were then invited to take part in a Roman Quiz.



Gundog Competition

Leyton attended the Alresford Show and piloted Bruce to 1st place in the Novice Scurry. No other young handlers competed so he went up against all the adults in Novice level and came 1st place.

He also competed at the New Forest Gundog Scurry, it was another successful award for Leyton. This time he was against a lot of talented working dogs and Leyton came 2nd place. Leyton only competed in 3/6 tests as he had training in the morning, so was late to compete. Leyton scored enough points overall in the 3 tests to come 2nd place when the other young handlers competed 6/6 tests! Well done Leyton!



AFC Bournemouth

On Saturday 18th October, Bertie and Zach M in Foxes and Freddie B in Falcons were invited to play at a tournament at AFC Bournemouth. They all played brilliantly, with Champions beating all the AFCB teams and coming home with the trophy. Well done boys!



Halloween Safety



Trick or treating this October?

Dorset Police advice: -

- Children should always be accompanied by an adult when they are trick-or-treating.
- Only go to houses of people you know and who are happy for you to call.
- Stay safe, keep to places that you know and are well lit. Do not take short cuts through gardens, alleyways or parks.
- Watch out for traffic - drivers might not see you.
- The adult should have a torch and a fully charged mobile phone.
- Take care of lit candles, especially if children have long hair.
-

But what if you don't want trick or treaters this year? Many families have babies or you might know of an elderly neighbour who really doesn't want anyone to call at their home during the evening.

Dorset police have a poster that can be displayed on the front door which can be accessed on the following link. [Halloween | Dorset Police](https://www.dorset.police.uk/halloween)

Perhaps you could be kind and offer to print a poster for someone who doesn't have access to the internet link.

Reminders

- We are a NUT FREE school please can we remind all parents/carers to not pack any snacks/lunch boxes that contain or may contain nuts. We have several children that can become seriously poorly if exposed to nuts.
- Please can you ensure that foods that can be a choking hazard such as grapes, tomatoes etc are cut up for your children in their lunch box.
- As we will be experiencing colder weather, please ensure that children come to school with named coats, hats and gloves.
- The terms and conditions for ASC have been sent out, please can you make sure that if you use this provision that you have read these. We have seen an increased number of children being collected late, late collections will incur a fee of **£5** added to your account.



Dates for Your Diary

Nov 25

- 3rd INSET DAY School is closed for children
- 5th Non-Uniform Day
- 10th Castle Ball Corfe Hills (parents aware)
- 21st YR Vision Screening (info to follow)
- 24th Basketball Corfe Hills (parents aware)
- 26th Fraser Portraits individual and sibling photos
- 28th Y4 Lockyers taster session Foxes

Dec 25

- 3rd Rocksteady Concert (info to follow)
- 5th Y4 Lockyers taster session Falcons
- 9th Flu Vaccination (info to follow)
- Y1 Christmas Concert (time TBC)
- 10th Y3 Christmas Concert (time TBC)
- 11th Christmas Fair (time TBC)
- Christmas Jumper Day
- 12th Y2 Christmas Play (time TBC)
- 15th YR Nativity (time TBC)
- 16th Y4 Carol Concert Evening (time TBC)
- 17th Christmas Party Day

Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 19th December 2025

Autumn Half Term Break: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025

Christmas Holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term

Monday 5th January to Friday 27th March 2026

Spring Half Term Break: Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Easter Holiday: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

Summer Term

Monday 13th April to Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Summer Half Term Break: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Inset Days

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Friday 10th October 2025 * Extra Inset Day*

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 6th March 2026 *Extra Inset Day*

Monday 29th June 2026



Imagine, Believe, Achieve



Don't forget that Springdale First School has signed up to "Your School Lottery". This will enable the school to gain additional revenue from a scheme that is already in operation.

How it works

- Tickets cost £1 per ticket, per week and 40% of all ticket sales are donated to our school.
- Guaranteed Cash Prizes every week.
- Chance to WIN £25,000 every week.
- Draws are every Saturday at 8pm and results are posted online.
- Easiest and quickest way to join in is online where payment can be either by Direct Debit or Debit Card

Win an iPhone 17 Pro!

It's time for an upgrade! Play the lottery this October and you'll be in with a chance to win the all-new flagship iPhone 17 Pro. This just-released, top-of-the-range iPhone has an aluminium unibody that maximises performance, battery and durability, with Apple Intelligence, a state-of-the-art GPU for gaming, and the most advanced iPhone camera system ever. Or of course, take the £1,000 cash alternative! Get your tickets before Saturday 25th October for your chance to win!

Enter our
Super Draw

Win an iPhone 17 Pro





Imagine, Believe, Achieve

Well-Being

As a school, Well-Being continues to be a focus to ensure that all members of our school community are well, both physically and mentally. We will continue to work on our Well-being offer next term, to ensure that it is supporting everyone who needs it.



Hamwic Education Trust is pleased to partner with Shout 85258 - a free, confidential, 24/7 text message support service for any of our students, staff or parents who are feeling overwhelmed or struggling to cope. The service is staffed by trained volunteers who will work with students, staff or parents to take next steps towards feeling better. They can help with issues such as stress, anxiety, worry and relationship problems and are there to talk at any time of day or night.

For more information visit <https://giveusashout.org/>

Other websites and resources you may find helpful:

- [Childline](#) – information about mental health and a free helpline 0800 1111
- [NHS Moodzone](#) – lots of practical advice, interactive tools, videos and audio guides to help you feel mentally and emotionally better.
- [MIND A-Z Mental Health](#) – a list of mental health topics to help you understand.
- [Young Minds](#) – the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health.
- [The Mix](#) – support for under 25s on mental health and other life topics.
- [BBC – My Mind and Me](#) – lots of information, advice and videos around stress, anxiety and mental health.
- [Papyrus](#) – the national charity for the prevention of young suicide.
- [NSPCC](#) – advice and support around mental health.
- [Samaritans](#) – offer support and advice to anyone experiencing feelings of distress, despair or considering suicide and their free helpline is available 24 hours a day. Call 116 123 from any phone.