



# Newsletter

## September 2022

**Springhallow** P O S T 16  
Pathways to adulthood

	<p>The school community wishes to offer our condolences to the Royal Family following the sad and significant news of the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September. As a school, we will mark this sad occasion as appropriate to the age and understanding of the pupils and class teachers will be planning sessions to support this. We will be creating a book of condolence across the school. If you feel your child needs additional support, please let your class teacher know and check out the resources here - <a href="https://www.autism.org.uk">Coping with the passing of The Queen (autism.org.uk)</a>. The school and college will be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September.</p>
<p><b>Message from Matthew</b></p> 	<p>It has been so nice to welcome your children and young adults to school and college over the past few weeks. It is always so reassuring to see how well our highly skilled staff team establish and reestablish the class routines so successfully! The summer holidays seem a long and distant memory now.</p> <p>It has been great to welcome our new families to Springhallow. We have new starters in Primary, Secondary and Post 16. We look forward to getting to know you all over the next few weeks and months.</p> <p>Our priorities for the Autumn term are always focused on getting to know the pupils and building effective and trusting relationships within the classroom. This extends to our relationships with parents and carers as well, and it was great to see so many of you attending the meet the teacher event last week. We pride ourselves in the relationships we maintain with you and acknowledge that we could always do this better! To support everyone with their understanding of what to expect, we have updated our Home/School Agreement (attached). I look forward to leading the school over this forthcoming academic year.</p>
<p><b>Message from Eddie McCudden</b></p> 	<p>I would like to welcome you all back to school following the scorching summer and hope you and your family enjoyed the break. We have some new pupils, students and staff joining at Springhallow and Post 16 also, and I would like to especially welcome you all to our wonderful school.</p> <p>I attended the Post 16 BBQ in July and had the opportunity to see the new and ever-growing facilities for us to grow produce, the school shop, and gardens, it was amazing. I will be a regular visitor over the coming year and hopefully have a coffee and buy more plants for my new garden.</p> <p>At the end of this month, the full governing body will be having training and workshops to ensure we are undertaking our responsibilities as your Governors to the absolute best of our abilities. We do get extremely helpful feedback through the School Council, and I look forward to attending some of the meetings myself alongside my fellow Governor, Brigitte, who many of you will know. The School Council is especially important to us, and I would encourage you all to raise any ideas and thoughts you may have on how the School and College might benefit.</p> <p>In closing, I look forward to working with Matthew over the next year building upon the magnificent work we have achieved over the past year and seeing you all thrive in your education at Springhallow and Post 16.</p>
<p><b>Parent Governor Vacancy</b></p>	<p>We have a vacancy for a new parent governor! The school's governing body is looking for a new parent governor to join our team of committed individuals who come together to make a difference for the pupils at Springhallow. Please look out for more information regarding this vacancy and the election process next week.</p>
<p><b>Pupil Attendance</b></p>	<p>Attendance at school is so important for all pupils and this is rightly a focus of the Department for Education, who have issued updated guidance on the expectations of school. We aim to maintain our high attendance levels throughout this academic year. <b>We ask you to ensure your children attend school when they are able to.</b></p>

	<p>If your child is unwell, please ensure you have informed the school office using our ParentApp or by the telephone and keep us updated. If we have not heard from you, the school office will make contact with you to ensure that we are complying with our safeguarding duties, however this can be time consuming and detract from other tasks the team have to complete.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, special leave can be granted by the Head Teacher, but this needs to be applied for in writing before the leave is taken.</p> <p>Other absences taken, outside of this guidance, will be unauthorised.</p> <p>The school's attendance policy (available on our website) provides more details.</p>	
<b>Support for Families</b>	<p>With the increasing cost of living, we acknowledge that this may be a very difficult time for some of our families. If you feel you need additional support, please make contact with Ana (<a href="mailto:ana@springhallow.ealing.sch.uk">ana@springhallow.ealing.sch.uk</a>) or Debbie at Post 16 (<a href="mailto:debbie.taylor@springhallow.ealing.sch.uk">debbie.taylor@springhallow.ealing.sch.uk</a>) who may be able to offer practical guidance and support.</p>	
<b>Website</b>	<p>Our new website is ready and will be live over the next few days. This is a great source of information and will work alongside our new ParentApp to help to promote and support improved communication. We will be updating the images over this term as you will notice that some of your children who are featured have grown up quite a bit!</p>	
<b>Secondary Morning Club</b>	<p>For our pupils in Secondary, we offer a morning club every day from 8am. If you would like your child to be access this, please contact the School Office. Please ensure that you have given your child breakfast at home but do send them in with a snack if necessary.</p>	
<b>Upcoming Dates</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School Closed – Bank Holiday
	Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 22	Parents' Evening (main school only) (15:30 – 18:30)
	Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct 22	Post 16 Parents' Evening (15:30 – 18:30)
	WC 24/10/22	Half Term
	Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec 22	Friends of Springhallow Disco (18:00 – 20:00)
	Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec 22	End of term (13:30 finish)
	Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 23	Start of Spring term

# Home School Agreement

## September 2022 – July 2023

### **What I can expect from the school and college:**

- A commitment to a high standard of teaching and learning
- Highly skilled staff with an enhanced understanding of how to support pupils with Autism
- A safe and positive environment
- Appropriately regular communication
- Regular updates through formal meetings (parents' evenings and EHCP Annual Review)
- A rapid and appropriate response to resolve problems or difficulties
- Homework that is appropriate to the age and learning ability of the individual

### **What the school and college expects of parents and carers:**

- To actively support the aims and values of Springhallow
- To ensure that children attend on time, wearing school uniform or smart, practical clothing
- To keep relevant staff informed of any matters that may affect their child
- To respond to home/school communication in a timely manner
- To keep children at home if they are unwell and provide regular updates about pupil absences via the Parent App or telephone – if you have to give your child medicine/paracetamol in the morning, they are unlikely to make it through the day.
- To provide up to date contact details for at least two individuals and inform the office of any changes including emergency contacts
- To encourage and support reading/homework activities
- To take part in parent/teacher meetings
- To respect staff members privacy and professionalism – do not raise issues/discuss individual members of staff on social media/group messaging apps

### **What parents & carers and the school expect of the pupils:**

- To always try their best at Springhallow
- To treat everybody with respect
- To follow the agreed class rules

***We are all committed to adhering to the above, but we can always do better and learn from when situations that may have been difficult. If there are any concerns/conflicts, please follow the guidance withing the school's complaints policy.***