



George Spicer Primary School Community Newsletter



February 2018

FORTHCOMING DATES

Term Dates 2018

- Easter Holidays 30th March-13th April
- Half Term 28th May-1st June
- School Year ends 20th July

Future Events

- Parent Consultation Day Fri 23rd March 8am - 6pm
- Mums' and Daughters' evening 6.15pm
- Sunday 24th June 2018 Summer fun Day

OPENING TIMES

Kimberley Gardens (Rec/KS1) start at 8:45am and Sketty Road (KS2) at 9:00am with all doors opening 10 minutes before these times. Kimberley Gardens (Rec/KS1) finishes at 3:15pm and Sketty Road (KS2) finishes at 3:25pm



George Spicer in the Community!

The children of George Spicer have been out and about. They have sung Christmas Carols at Tesco and at the local retirement home. They have even paraded around the block wearing 'wacky winter woollies' to promote Road Safety Week. At the end of February our Travel Council will be leading on a new strategy called 'Idling Action!' They want to cut down on the number of cars idling outside the school, which is very detrimental to air quality. They aim to increase parents use of the Ladysmith Road car park and the retail park and get them to park and walk their children to school.

Celebration of a Wonderful Life

For those of you who have been to George Spicer or worked with us over the years, it is with a heavy heart that I announce that George Smith, our Governor and ex Chair, passed away at the age of 97.

George joined the Governing Body of George Spicer in 1998 and supported the school in so many ways. His top priority was always making sure that the children had the best education. Many children did think he was the 'George' in George Spicer!

Throughout his time as a governor, he was a wonderful ambassador for the school; always present at parents evenings and at key events, listening to parents' views and supporting the children.

He will be missed!



On Thursday 30th November, George Spicer underwent an assessment for their Level 2 (Gold) Rights Respecting School Award. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. The Gold Award is the highest accolade given by Unicef UK and shows a deep and thorough commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life.

The Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the core of a school's planning, policies and practice. A Rights

Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted. Members across the George Spicer School community came together to show how the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is at the heart of all that we are do. We are very proud of the commitment from our pupils, parents, staff and governors.



Growing To Succeed!



Our core values at George Spicer are Respect, Responsibility and Perseverance.

Wildlife Fun At The Park!

Eco Council Update: In October, children from the school visited the park as part of their work on the school's Eco Council. The children learnt about plans to refurbish the wildlife garden and planted over 200 daffodil bulbs donated by Enfield in Bloom. The school has also been working with the Friends of Bush Hill Park. Their vision is that the area will become a wildlife garden with natural play, discovery areas and welcoming seating. During 2018 the Friends of Bush Hill Park are hoping to work with volunteers to create a number of new features. These will include: a natural outdoor classroom which can be used by schools to support classroom studies; new ponds and a wildflower meadow to provide habitats for amphibians and mini beasts and food for pollinators; and animal dens, bug hotels, bat and bird boxes - made from recycled materials - to help wildlife flourish. The children are looking forward to visiting to see the new Daffodils in bloom. Please go and take a look at Springtime! The Friends of Bush Hill Park are always looking for helpers to maintain and improve the park. Anyone can join in and it doesn't matter if you can only give the odd hour now and then or you if you would prefer to help on a regular basis. Everyone has a skill we can use, regardless of age, experience or mobility. For example you could maintain the notice boards; help on school visit days; set up a newsletter; fund raise; maintain our website; help with gardening; or show interested groups around the park. If you would like to know more, please visit our website <http://www.friendsofbushhillpark.org.uk> follow us on Facebook 'Friends of Bush Hill Park' or Twitter @FriendsOfBHP or ring Caroline Wilmer on 07508322125



We want to wish all our neighbours all the very best for 2018. Since we have been back at school, lots of exciting things have happened! As well as this newsletter please feel free to keep up to date on George Spicer news through our website or our Twitter account. This is a window of the school, into the classroom and out on trips. A really instant way to see what goes on in and around the school throughout the day. You can see our tweets on the school website, or follow us on  @GeorgespicerP

Growth Mindsets!

The last week of January was Growth Mindset week here at George Spicer. We have been learning about how we can increase the size of our brains by persevering with difficult things. We are learning to challenge ourselves as much as we can and are learning how important it is to use the language of yet.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=EIVUqv0v1EE

Aviva Community Fund Winners!

A huge thank you to everyone who voted and promoted the FoGS Aviva campaign in November! In January, we found out that we had been successful and have been awarded **£10,000** for the new outdoor classroom and sensory garden at Sketty Road. It is really exciting and we are very much looking forward to seeing the new area



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