

# The Spring Hill Spotlight

## Spring Term 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of an incredibly productive Spring Term, I would like to begin by celebrating the fantastic progress our students have made over recent months. Throughout the school, children have demonstrated remarkable resilience, determination, and growing confidence in their learning. Staff have been delighted to see so many students pushing themselves, engaging positively in lessons, and taking pride in their achievements. They should all feel very proud of what they have accomplished.

This term, we have continued our work to broaden and strengthen our curriculum so that every child has access to a rich, varied, and meaningful learning experience. As part of this, we are gradually and thoughtfully increasing the demand and challenge we place on students. Many of our young people are capable of far more than they realise, and with the right support, clear structure, and high expectations, they are beginning to demonstrate just how much potential they truly have. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the parents and carers who work so consistently and collaboratively with us. Your support makes a significant difference. When school and home work together, children are more likely to thrive, follow positive routines, and approach their education with confidence and ambition. On behalf of all staff, thank you for everything you do to help your child succeed.

Like any school, we have also faced a few challenges this term. We are grateful to the parents who have responded positively to discussions about students arriving in clothing that meets expectations and reflects readiness to learn. Ensuring children are dressed appropriately is a simple but essential part of helping them settle, feel secure, and engage with their learning without unnecessary distractions. We remain committed to a flexible uniform policy and hope that this continues to be respected so that we do not need to adopt a more rigid approach. Once again, thank you for your support.

We must also address the ongoing issue of mobile phones in school. Despite the flexibility built into our current policy, we are still seeing too many instances of phones being used during the school day, which causes disruption, reduces focus, and requires a disproportionate amount of staff time to manage. After careful consideration, we will be strengthening our approach. From September 2026, mobile phones will be fully prohibited on school premises, without exception. The staff team believe this is an important step to minimise distraction, promote positive behaviour, and ensure teachers can dedicate their time to learning rather than policing technology. This decision has been made in the best interests of the whole school community, supporting a calm, safe, and focused environment where all children can succeed. We ask all parents and carers to support us fully with this transition. To further help families manage online activity outside of school hours, we will be supplementing our termly newsletters with monthly cyber-safety updates, offering guidance on staying safe online.

### Dates for your Diary:

#### APRIL

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
School Reopens for Students

#### MAY

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>**  
BANK HOLIDAY  
School Closed

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup>-Friday 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Half Term

#### JUNE

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup>**  
School Reopens for Students

#### JULY

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Student Showcase Day  
School Closes at 1pm

**BREAK UP FOR SUMMER**

## Staffing Updates

We have recently welcomed the latest addition to our team: Chris Smith, who joins us as our horticulture tutor. He is eager to develop The Croft and other areas of campus as part of our enrichment curriculum. We were also pleased to welcome Jade Harris to the clinical team. Jade has taken on the role of Therapy Assistant and already feels a valued member of staff. We are expecting a further addition to the clinical team shortly, with Stephen Wade joining us as Senior Mental Health Practitioner at the start of the summer term. Stephen brings a wealth of experience, and we look forward to his contribution.

Sadly, we are also saying goodbye to Fyn Lees, who has provided invaluable learning support to many of our students over the years. Fyn's last day at Spring Hill is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. We wish Fyn every success in the future and will miss her greatly. Finally, we are sorry to be losing our Assistant Vice Principal and SENCo, Emma Heyes, who will be stepping into the role of Deputy Head at a new specialist provision in South Yorkshire. Emma has been one of the most dedicated and hardworking colleagues I have had the privilege to work with. As we wish her every success in her new role, we know she will be greatly missed. Emma's final day at Spring Hill will be Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Recruitment for her successor will begin shortly, with the expectation that the strong practice she has established will continue. As we move into the summer term, our commitment to working closely with families remains as strong as ever. We will continue to ensure every child receives the support, structure, and encouragement they need to flourish. Thank you once again for your ongoing partnership and support.

Wishing you and your families a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Best wishes,

Sam Price

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# iSTART

Spring update

**This term we have welcomed six new students to iSTART.**

**Accessing the Community**  
We have added accessing the community to our timetable and have visited a local cafe and Studley Deer Park so far.



iSTART have been practising their cooking skills this term and making sure they practice good kitchen hygiene!



We have been busy working through our assessments, getting to know the school and the staff team, some of us have started horse-riding and transition lessons.

From all of us  
in the iSTART team,  
Have a wonderful Easter Holiday!





# 2JD Newsletter

## TEAM BUILDING

We participated in team-building activities that featured a range of challenges, such as navigating an obstacle course while blindfolded.



## REBOUND THERAPY

We have been playing on a number of games on the trampoline aimed at developing our communication, sportsmanship and physical stamina.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

This term we took part in world book day activities. We dressed in fancy dress with Luke winning the prize for best costume. Our class also won the book quiz thanks to everyone's efforts and knowledge about books.





# Spring Term 2026



## Class LV

### Welcome Bailey!

This term we welcomed a new student into the form. Bailey joined us at the beginning of the term and has settled in very quickly.

### Work Experience

Taylor has been undertaking work experience placements in local cafes to gain an understanding of what it is like to work in hospitality. So far he has been clearing tables and helping in the kitchen.

### Food Technology

Lacey, Mason and Taylor have continued to work on their BTEC Level 2 qualification this term. They are now working towards their assessed meals.

### Rebound Therapy

Bailey has been enjoying rebound therapy with Jolene and has completed his Winstrada level 1-3 this term.

### Enterprise

This term the students have been making items for the Easter fair such as sweet bags, mushroom decorations and decoupage jars. They have also been carrying out stores in work related learning and working on a level 1 AQA unit teamwork skills.



Have a lovely Easter break.

# Team PB: Spring Newsletter - 2026

*How time flies! Another term and the weather is just bringing a spring in our steps...It has been an enjoyable term, with some old challenges overcome and some new challenges to greet.*

*Well done Oliver and Brax,*

*Best wishes Pete & Kirsty*



## All Tied up...

Both Oliver and Brax are getting into the technical side of rock climbing-Ropework and rigging skills! They have developed their skills with the ropes and can tie on or knock up a belay system before you can say 'going downnnnnnn'.

## World Book Day 2026

World book day this year was the most impressive yet! We had shipfuls of pirates, plane-fuls of pilots, A very hungry caterpillar, an even hungrier T-Rex and of course Alice in Wonderland (Alice Lidell being a Riponian...). Well done all!



Team PB are definitely closer to their primitive ancestors. If they're not messing about with vines, they are monkeying around on the climbing wall- Every Tuesday Rof 59

# Form SF

## Spring newsletter

Another great term had in form.

We have continued to have lots of laughs, lots of getting to know one another, lots of support within the team and become a lovely unit.

### Healthy competition

Our Wordle competition has continued this term. Sim taking the lead again, we just can't seem to beat him! However Leo is close behind! There is always next term to beat you Sim. We have also started enjoying connections, especially Liv and Alison! A new favourite.



Well done!  
😊

### G.L assessments!

Yes this term our students have taken the dreaded G.L assessments. Although this is something our students do not always enjoy, our form group has done really well.

Next term let's continue the hard work. Let's earn these tokens.

### Working hard

Our form students have continued to work hard in their core subjects along with enjoying some fun extra-curricular activities.

Horse riding - new achievements made,

Enjoying music lessons,

Outdoor education, Harrogate Town,

Creating PJ's in textiles, as well as

superstars in the kitchen, making some delicious dishes!

We have also started the new rewards system. We hope this will help pupils to focus on and work towards their goals.



# SPRING TERM 2026



## CLIMBING THE WALLS!

As outside climbing season draws near, James has been honing his skills and brushing up on his belaying so he is ready to hit the crags after Easter!



## TEAM BUILDING

James has been practicing his collaboration and leadership skills and hopes to take this forward into a Junior Sports Leadership qualification next term



**DJ B-RAD** continues to rock the school with his tunes and rhythms!



## G.L ASSESSMENTS

Yes, this term our students have taken the dreaded G.L assessments. Although this is not something all our students enjoy, James chose to "Eat the Frog" and get them done asap, well done!



## PIRATES PIRATES PIRATES!

World Book Day this year was a brilliant success with lots of Students and Staff dressing up to celebrate the joy of reading! James and Andy enjoyed teaming up with SF Form to make the form their own pirate crew!

Ever seem a Pirate playing the drums? Now you have!



### World Book Day

The atmosphere on World Book Day was fun and exciting in school. Lots of staff and students dressed up, as a form we came second in the guess the book quiz and Izaak won an extra reward token for accurately completing the book scavenger hunt – well done Izaak!



### Textiles

This term, Izaak made a fabulous pair of pyjama bottoms, complete with overlapped seams in his textile classes. They looked very professionally made and like they would be comfortable to wear.



### Work Experience

The residents at Sycamore Hall Care Home have enjoyed having Izaak work with them. Izaak sometimes finds it tricky to go, but enjoys meeting the different characters who live there when he's there. He particularly enjoyed attending on Veterans' Day and hearing the resident's stories.



Have a fantastic Easter break. Chris and I look forward to seeing you again in April to start the summer term.



# Class CJ: Spring Newsletter - 2026

*It may have been a short term but our Form have certainly kept us busy. This term we welcomed **Will** to our Form. It's been fabulous having you join us Will! He is a little camera shy though.*



## World Book Day 2026

This year saw our biggest World Book Day dress up! I have never known so many students or staff to join in. The mood was fun, bouncy and imaginative. The Treasure Hunt around site had everyone running around for an hour, but the grand winner was Sol! **Congratulations!**



## Sporty Form!

Charlie and Sol have been smashing it in both their swimming and their climbing, with both successfully achieving **Rookie Lifeguard qualifications**. I'm not sure if they would save me though! After a foot injury Sol had to take a break for a bit from sports but managed to squeeze in one more climbing session before the end of term.



## Crafty form!

Who knew we had such a creative bunch in our room! Will, Emily and Sol have all been using their talents to create some new items in **Textiles** including bags and PJ bottoms.



*Sadly this Easter break sees **Fyn** leaving us for new adventures. We will have **Michelle** joining us as our form LSA, along with **Hayley**, after the Easter holidays.*

*We all hope you have a wonderful Easter and look forward to seeing you in April.*

*Charlie, Fyn and Hayley* 🐣

# 4CL TIMES

One of the students cooking their meals



## COOKING

Three of the class have done their BTEC cooking exams this term. This involved them cooking a two course meal independently for them and a staff member they chose to invite. All the students managed to make delicious meals, well done to all!

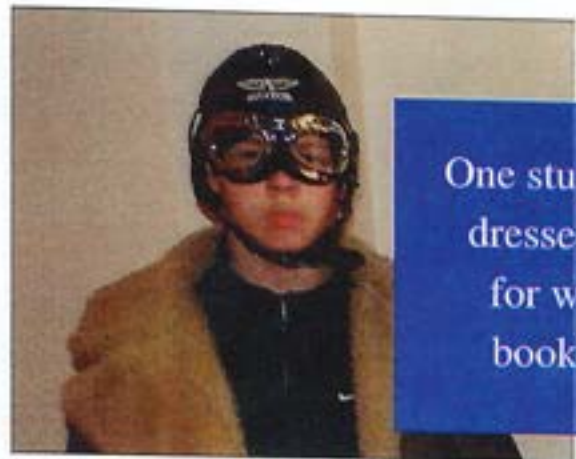
## EXAMS

The whole class have been working hard preparing for exams this term, with one student actually doing their first exam this term. All the students had mock exmas which should give them an idea of what's to come next term.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

Two of the class dressed up for world book day, with two students also deciding to take part in a quiz around the school.

The students did seem to really enjoy taking the opportunity to wear some unusual costumes!



One student dressed up for world book day



Another student doing their BTEC assessment

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# TERMLY ACTIVITIES

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## *HARROGATE TOWN*

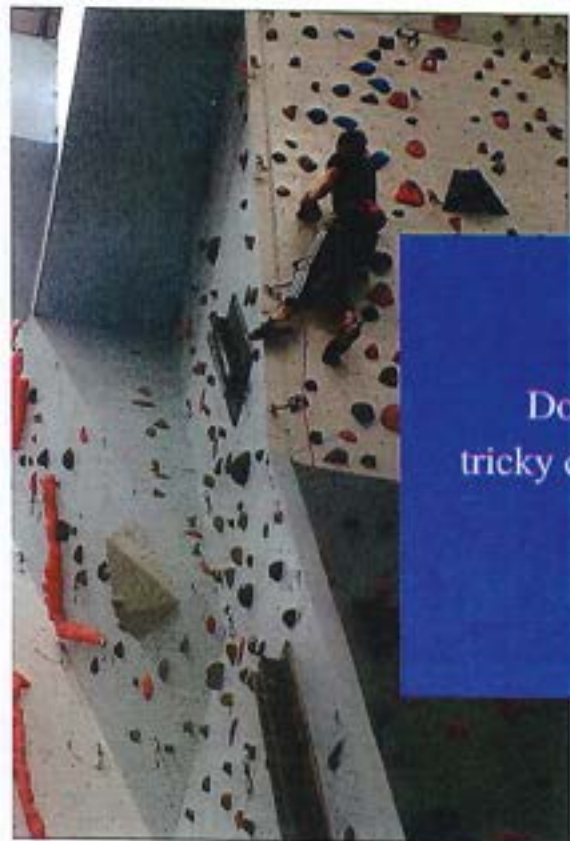
Two students have been taking part in a weekly football session run by Harrogate Town this term. They have enjoyed this for the most part, particularly the opportunity to enjoy the sun at the end of the term!



Helping another student out

## *SWIMMING*

Three of the class have attended weekly swimming sessions this term. They all have engaged really well with this, with two of the students managing to complete their rookie lifeguarding training, well done!



Doing a tricky climb

## *CLIMBING*

Two of the class have been taking part in a weekly climbing session, with one student climbing twice a week, once to help teach younger students. Both really enjoy these sessions and seem to get a lot out of them.

## *PANTO*

Four of the students got the opportunity to attend the panto at the start of this term. They saw Jack and the Beanstalk, and enjoyed a lot of the silly jokes throughout it.

## Personal achievements

**Leadership Skills Foundation**

We celebrate individuality and personal interests in Post-16. There are a few I would like to mention for this term:

Emma has achieved all parts of her Rookie lifeguard Bronze and Silver.

Isaac has completed his junior sports leadership award.

Tom has completed an amazing piece of Art work for his GCSE's and is now onto his second.

Emma has excelled in her most recent childcare unit about preparing a numeracy activity.

Fin got some amazing mock results, especially in English and Psychology.

Brogen and Leo have both shown some amazing talent with their singing and guitar. It has been great to see them being musical together.

Finley has done brilliantly joining a variety of team sports during break and lunchtimes.



## Sport in Post-16

We have members of Post-16 who enjoy sport- here they are enjoying football, dodge ball, teambuilding and biking.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

Post-16 embraced the spirit of World Book Day, with both staff and students participating in costume dress-up. We featured characters such as Harry Potter, Ricky from Trailer Park Boys, an Egyptian, the Hungry Caterpillar, and a strawberry.

Tom was also short-listed for the upper school prize for the best costume. Well done Tom.

Another of our students went to placement in her pyjamas to celebrate.

Additionally, we participated in a class quiz and a treasure hunt around the school. I was pleased with how engaged they were as a form.



CLASS CC WISH YOU A HAPPY EASTER!



# THERAPY DOGS 🐾



**"Walkies, balls and snuggles are my favourite things!" ~**

**Luna**

**"Now I'm an old lady, I love belly scratches, snacks and a good snooze somewhere comfy" ~ Milo**



## 🐾 MILO & LUNA

Our fully qualified Therapy Dogs spend their time with our young people, doing what they love to do... Whether it's walks around site, or just chilling in class! As part of the Spring Hill family, they support the development of responsibility, patience and regulation within the therapeutic side of education here at Spring Hill.



# The Croft

*Horticulture at Spring Hill*



## In The Croft...

The Croft is our Horticulture Hub here at Spring Hill. Each season brings its own challenges, and its a great opportunity for our young people to get stuck in, to learn and develop an array of skills. Incorporating a number of different subjects, not only does it provide outdoor education but feeds into subjects like Science, Art, Maths, and English too.



## A warm Welcome...

We are excited to welcome Chris to the team, who will be focusing his time in The Croft with our young people, teaching an array of skills to nurture their curriculum. We can't wait to see how it turns out!



**ROOKIE  
LIFEGUARD**

SPRING HILL SCHOOLS

# ROOKIE LIFEGUARD

The Rookie Lifeguard program is an educational and engaging initiative designed for young people. It focuses on teaching essential water safety skills, self-rescue techniques, and lifesaving sport skills. The program includes stages such as Bronze, Silver, and Gold, each divided into three levels.



Participants can earn awards and certificates, which are recorded in their progress book. The program is structured to ensure that children progress at their own pace, building confidence and independence in the water. It also fosters teamwork, communication and peer support.



**We are proud to share that a number of our students have now completed not just Bronze, but Silver AND Gold Stage 1, 2 and 3 awards! We are so proud to celebrate this incredible achievement.**

March 2026

# REWARDS SHOP



AS PART OF OUR NEW REWARDS SYSTEM, WE OPENED OUR REWARDS SHOP TO OUR STUDENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THEY WERE ABLE TO TRADE SOME OF THEIR TOKENS FOR FIDGETS, COLOURING BOOKS, SWEETS OR VOUCHERS.



# FOREST SCHOOL

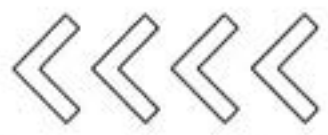
**NEW!**

We are very excited about the new shelter that is currently being built down at the site, this is due to be completed very soon and will allow us to use the site more often during inclement weather.

The weather has scuppered a lot of the Forest School sessions this term, however, iStart have been fortunate and been able to spend time in the woods. They have learned how to build, light (using a flint and steel) and manage a fire, and have then enjoyed toasting marshmallows. Some of the students have enjoyed climbing trees during their sessions, using a dynamic risk assessment to ensure that the trees and branches they select are safe to climb.



Next term we hope to start repairing some of the damage caused by the recent high winds, and rebuild the willow fencing to provide additional protection against the elements.

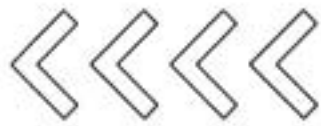


# HARROGATE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



We welcome coaches from Harrogate Town FC on a weekly basis. The sessions provide a great opportunity to work together as a team, build skills, keep fit and have fun!





# OUR TEAM IN ACTION...

