



## Newsletter Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

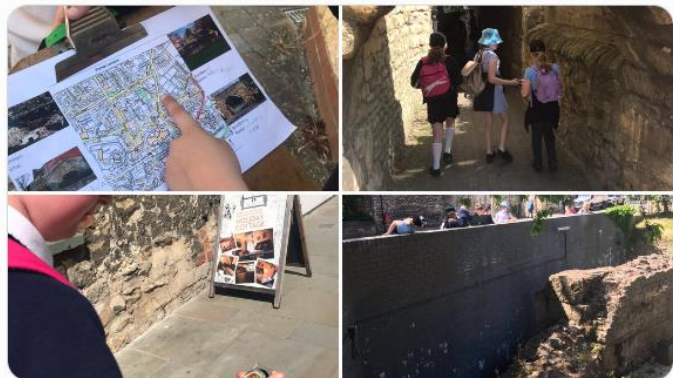
The sun is out, the sky is blue, the birds are singing and it's half term - I can hardly believe that we are so close to the end of the school year.

As always, life in our schools has been busy. I thought it would be nice to share some snapshots from the term with you to give you a flavour of what's been happening across the Federation.

Just this week our KS2 children were exploring Lincoln as part of a Geography field trip – part of the day was also spent looking at Roman remains - and maybe the highlight for some was the visit to the ice cream shop!



Using a map and compass to find Roman remains #SpiresGeography @SpiresFed



It was lovely to welcome you all to our Coronation celebrations in our schools – and for each school to also be involved in their village celebrations.

Every one of our pupils was given a Spires Federation commemorative coin as a special memento of a significant point in our country's history. (Though some were disappointed that the coins weren't actually gold – or even chocolate!)



The King seemed to enjoy the bouncy castle – but didn't manage to win on the raffle!



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The children of Nocton and Digby were fortunate to be invited to East Kirkby for an art and poetry event to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the iconic Dambusters raid.



Our Y6 children also had the opportunity to visit Lincoln Cathedral - where they took part in lots of fantastic activities.



We also entered the heART trail in support of St Bartholomew's Hospice – what an incredible effort from Dunston!



We have been delighted to develop our playground opportunities for the children at each school – both Nocton and Dunston have had a new trim trail, and Digby has had some new playground furniture to support our youngest pupils.





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These fantastic events and opportunities only happen because of the wonderful staff we are so fortunate to have. They are superstars.

**MASSIVE thanks** as always to the whole Spires team.



I would also like to applaud our Y6 children – they all gave 100% in the recent SATs papers. We could not be more proud of their attitude and resilience. We also know that SATs do not test their character, kindness or the many wonderful qualities that we know and see every day.



There is so much more to celebrate, including a wide range of extra curricular activities such as our Gardening Clubs – which are blooming popular!



As you know from a recent letter, I will be leaving the Spires at the end of the Summer term. I will be taking up a headteacher post closer to my home in Yorkshire. I am extremely sad to be leaving the Spires but need to be closer to home to better support ill parents-in-law. I have absolutely loved my time with Digby, Dunston and Nocton, the children are amazing, the communities are great and, as I have already said, the staff are incredible people.

The good news is that the Governors have decided to appoint the new Executive Headteacher internally as an interim position for at least a year. This means that the vision, values and feel of the schools will not change, hopefully they will only get better.

You were also told that the Federation will join a Multi Academy Trust.

This is true, but will not happen for some time – at least a year. We will make sure that the MAT we join is the right one for the Spires, for the schools within it and most importantly, for the children, the communities and the staff.

This is a time of change, but we are determined that the rich offer from our schools will only improve for all.

There's **so much more to come** in the weeks running up to the Summer holidays – with lots of exciting events and trips across the Federation.

Thank you to you, the parents and carers for your constant support – it is hugely appreciated.

C.Walls

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