



# Spixworth Infant School



Learning together, Achieving together  
Our aim is to enable every child to Shine

## Governors Newsletter December 2015

Welcome to the first edition of the Spixworth Infant School governors' newsletter. This aims of these newsletters are to:

- Provide more information about the governors and their role.
- Improve communication and links between governors, staff, parents, children and the wider community.

### Autumn Term 2015

The Autumn term has been very successful for the school, staff and children. Over the summer break the school had lots of building work done to improve the look and feel of the school, making it more modern and vibrant. The changes look fantastic and the new layout of the school certainly makes it feel more inclusive. We also welcomed three new members of staff to the school who joined a very committed and enthusiastic team. The children, staff and governors have embedded the schools Core Values which are the key to the continued good teaching and learning at the school. This will help to maintain the upward trend of our pupil progression data which has shown improvement for the previous two years. Now we need to carry on the good work and commitment shown by everyone at school this term into the new year!

The governors would like to wish the children, staff, parents and carers of Spixworth Infant School a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

#### Future Newsletters

We intend to issue further newsletters at the end of each term about the governors future plans and provide updates on what we have been doing.

We would be happy to include specific aspects of our role or our work, so please let us know if there is anything you would like us to cover.

#### Contact Us

Further information about the governors and the school is available on the school website at:

[www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk)

Please contact any of us if you have any specific questions or would like any more information about the governing body and its role.

Contact information is available in the schools Handbook for Parents or alternatively email Jeff Burton at the email address on the following page.

#### New Governors

We currently have 3 vacancies on the governing Body. We are looking for people to join us who have specific skills in one of the following: Financial, Law, Buildings or Education. The following page has a brief overview of being a governor. If you are interested in joining the governing body or know anyone who may have the skills we are looking for please either contact Mrs Wyatt or send Jeff Burton, chair of governors an email at the email address on the following page.

## What we do

As governors, we are volunteers drawn from parents, staff and members of the local community. We contribute to the leadership of the school and are involved in setting strategic direction & the formulation of policies. Helping the head teacher and staff to evaluate progress, and setting the school's aims & values are also part of our role. We have an increasing number of statutory responsibilities, such as approving the annual budget and appointing the head teacher.

However, we do not become involved in the day to day management of the school – this is the head teacher's responsibility. But we hold the head teacher to account for the performance of the school.

Our role is sometimes described as a 'critical friend'. This means we try to provide independent challenge by asking questions to ensure continuous improvement. It does not mean that we 'criticise' the head teacher or staff.

Being a governor requires time and commitment but is very rewarding.

## How we do it

We meet as a full governing body once every half-term to consider a wide range of issues. These include discussions about the school development plan, policies, budgets, admissions, monitoring visits, risk management, and reports from the head teacher - which also includes details of the latest school performance data. We also attend training courses, individually and collectively - and evaluate our effectiveness.

We also carry out monitoring visits that are linked to the school development plan to help us appreciate and understand the workings of the school, as well as ensure the school is developing in the right direction. We do not make judgements about the quality of teaching or the progress of individual children.

## Who we are

Name	Role	Name	Role
Jeff Burton	Co-opted Governor Chair of Governors	Rachel Leighton	Co-opted Governor
		Shaun Vincent	Local Authority Governor
Kate Reeve	Parent Governor Vice Chair	Scott Wilkinson	Parent Governor
Victoria Wyatt	Head teacher	Jutta Wright	Clerk
Heidi Jordan	Co-opted Governor Deputy Head teacher	More information regarding the governing body can be found on the school website - <a href="http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/governing-body/">http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/governing-body/</a>	
Juliette Kidd	Staff Governor	Jeff Burton, Chair of Governors: <a href="mailto:chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk">chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk</a>	

