

Information for Families.



**September
2016**

Spixworth Infant School

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WELCOME

We hope you all had a lovely holiday. It is great to see all the children at school and they have settled in really well. We have lots of activities planned this term and more details will be given out in the Class Newsletters. We welcome Ms Cresswell to the teaching staff this year as Acting Deputy Head as well as Miss O'Brien to the support staff team and Miss Eaton and Miss Hines join us as Graduate Interns for the year. We are delighted to tell you that Mrs Murphy is expecting her second child and will be leaving us for a time in January. Ms Jordan and the Governors will be working together over the coming weeks to organise her replacement. We will keep you updated about the progress of this and will ensure that the children have had a good opportunity to spend some time with their new teacher.

Building Work

Over the Summer the floor was replaced in the hall and it was redecorated. The windows will now be replaced in October half term. I hope you will agree that this is now an inviting space for children and families. We have separated our old library space into 2 separate rooms. One will remain as a library and the other will be used as a cooking and clubs space.

Uniform

It is great to see all of the children in their new uniform today. I hope you will agree that they all look very smart. Thank you for organising this over the Summer. If you still have any questions about uniform please speak to a member of staff.

Universal Infant Free School Meals.

Don't forget that meals at lunchtime are free. There is a hot meal or packed lunch available each day. Vegetarian options are also available and can be chosen by anyone. Jacket potatoes are also available with a choice of cheese, tuna or ham filling. If your child has any dietary requirements then please speak to the school office in the first instance. The meals are ordered on a daily basis by putting your child's name in the correct basket in the classrooms. The children will come into the hall a year group at a time to ensure that the children do not have to wait too long for their meal and they get as much outdoor play as possible. We will continue to have a range of activities available to make lunchtimes even more enjoyable.

Dates

Attached to this newsletter you will find dates of school events for the year. We hope you will find this useful. Please look out on the boards and windows by your child's classroom for reminders. We will try to inform you of any new dates as early as possible.

Spelling

There will be a meeting about spelling on Thursday 15th September at 9am where you will be able to receive information about how we teach spelling in school and the expectations for learning spellings at home. We will also be talking through the parent spelling pack. This meeting is suitable for parents in all year groups. We look forward to seeing you.

Reception Parents Meeting

We would like to invite all parents of children in Reception to attend a short meeting on Tuesday 13th September at 9am to talk about what to expect this year. There will be a chance to talk informally to your child's class teacher after the meeting and tea and coffee will also be available!

Core Values

The Core Values are key to our teaching and learning in school. You will be asked to sign a home/school agreement to say that both yourselves and your child will uphold the Core Values of the school. The children will receive rewards for following the Core Values. The Core Values are:

Safety - We feel safe at school and know how to keep ourselves and others safe.

Teamwork – We work together and understand how our behaviour affects our learning.

Achievement – We always try our best in everything we do even when we find things difficult. We know how we can get even better.

Respect – We respect the views of others.

Stimulating – We learn about things that interest us and our teachers challenge our thinking.

School Opening Times

For Safeguarding reasons the only way to gain access to the school before 8:55am will be through the front door. If you need to speak to a member of staff before school please ring the bell. The best time to speak to teaching staff is after school. School finishes at 3.15pm

House Points

Each child is placed in a house. There are pupils from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in each house and they will stay in the same house throughout their time here. Children will earn house points for following the Core Values. These will be added up each week and the House with the most points at the end of the week will receive a certificate. There will be a special reward for the House with the most points at the end of each term.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations for all children will take place on Wednesday 19th October from 3.30pm to 6pm and on Thursday 20th October from 4pm to 7pm. A letter for you to mark your preferred time slot will be sent. If you have any worries or concerns about your child please arrange to speak to your child's teacher after school.

Homework

We believe that spending time with your child at home supporting their learning in school is vital to their development and progression in school. Every child should be supported through daily reading. In addition, Reception children will have phonic folders to practise and will receive a game or activity in another curriculum area initially on a fortnightly basis. Year 1 and 2 children will receive a homework pack weekly relating to English skills or another curriculum area.

Rewards

In addition to the House Points we have a number of other reward systems in place.

- Children can earn 'Pride Squares' for good work in all subjects. Once a child receives 20 Pride Squares they will receive a certificate. There will be different certificates for each additional set of 20 Pride Squares.
- Two children from each class will receive special recognition for their hard work each week in Achievement Assembly which will be held every Friday.
- Children will be able to earn rewards as a class when the whole class has shown good teamwork over a period of time.
- If children show particularly good behaviour then their name will be placed on either the silver or gold traffic light. If their name is on the gold traffic light they will bring a certificate home.

Consequences

Each class will have a traffic light system for behaviour. All children will be on green at the start of each day and they will move up and down the traffic lights as necessary. If a child is on the red traffic light they will miss 5 minutes of the break or lunch time or go to a 'buddy class' for 5 minutes. Children will be given a fresh opportunity to amend their behaviour each lesson. If a child has been on the red traffic light 3 days in a row then you will be informed by your child's class teacher. If being on the red traffic light becomes a regular occurrence then a positive behaviour plan will be set up in conjunction with yourselves.

Class Names

Each class is known by their tree name. Ms Cresswell's class is called Beech class, Mrs Murphy's and Mrs Jackson's class is Oak Class, Mrs To's is Maple Class and Miss Buller's is Horse Chestnut Class.

Online Learning Stories for Reception

As many of you will be aware we are using a new online learning story for Reception children called 'Tapestry'. You will receive further information about how to access Tapestry in the coming days.

Email addresses

If you have not yet provided us with your e mail address please could you give it to your child's class teacher so it can be passed on to the office for use. Future newsletters and other information will be sent via e mail rather than receiving paper copies.

Reminders

If you have changed your contact details over the Summer, please let the office know the new information.

Please remember to label all your child's clothes including shoes!

Please ensure your child has a sun hat and coat in school every day.

Website

Our website is very user friendly and contains lots of useful information about school and any letters or information sent home can also be found on the website. Please do have a look

www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

Coffee Morning

Your views about the school are important to us and with this in mind we hold half termly coffee mornings from 9am-9.30am. Drop in for a cup of tea or coffee and have a chat.. It will also be a chance to get to know more about the school and meet other parents too. If you want to talk about anything specifically relating to your child then please speak to your child's class teacher or arrange an appointment to see me. Younger siblings are welcome. The first one will be held on Wednesday 21st September. We look forward to seeing you.

Reading Books

Over the next week your children will start to bring home reading books. Your child can change their books as often as they wish. Once they have read their book they need to put the book and their reading record in the basket in the classroom and they will be able to change it. Please make a comment about their reading or sign and date the reading record book to acknowledge it has been read as without this your child won't be able to change their book. We would expect your child to change their book at least 3 times a week and that you will read with your child for 5 to 10 minutes every day. Your child will be able to choose the book they take home within the colour band they are currently working on in class. This may mean that your child wishes to bring the same book home on more than one occasion. This is a great opportunity to revisit the story and see how much your child remembers.

Reading, Writing and Maths Cafés

We will be continuing to hold our successful Cafés each half term with Reading Cafés for Reception, Maths Cafés for Year 1 and Writing Cafés for Year 2. Dates can be found on the back of this newsletter.

Pushchairs

Please do not bring pushchairs and prams into school as they block the corridors and cause a health and safety risk. You are welcome to leave them outside the entrances or in our buggy park at the front of the school.

Facebook

Please be reminded that photos of events at the school should only be posted on Facebook where permission has been gained from all parents of the children concerned. The Friends of Spixworth Infant School Page should only be used to gain information about Friends events at the school. Please come and talk to us about any questions or problems you may have.

Dates For Your Diary

Assemblies

Please note that all class assemblies will be at 9.10am.

Oak Class

Friday 18th November

Friday 27th January

Friday 19th May

Beech Class

Friday 25th November

Friday 10th March

Friday 12th May

Maple Class

Friday 7th October

Friday 3rd February

Friday 28th April

Horse Chestnut Class

Friday 30th September

Friday 17th March

Friday 5th May

Leavers Concert

Thursday 20th July 1.45pm

Reading Cafés for Reception

Monday 3th October 9-10am

Tuesday 22nd November 2-3pm

Wednesday 1st February 9-10am

Thursday 16th March 2-3pm

Monday 15th May 9-10am

Tuesday 27th June 2-3pm

Maths Cafés for Year 1

Monday 26th September 9-10am

Tuesday 15th November 2-3pm

Wednesday 25th January 9-10am

Thursday 9th March 2-3pm

Monday 8th May 9-10am

Tuesday 20th June 2-3pm

Writing Cafés for Year 2

Monday 19th September 9-10am

Tuesday 8th November 2-3pm

Wednesday 18th January 9-10am

Thursday 2nd March 2-3pm

Monday 24th April 9-10am

Tuesday 13th June 2-3pm

Parents Evenings

Wednesday 19th October 3.30-6pm

Thursday 20th October 4-7pm

Monday 6th February 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 8th February 4-7pm

Open Evening

Wednesday 5th July 5pm-6.30pm

Christmas Productions

Tuesday 13th December – Reception 9.30am,
Year 1/2 11am

Wednesday 14th December – Year 1/2
9.30am, Reception 11am

Other Dates

Reception Parents Meeting – Tuesday 13th September 9.05am

Meeting about Spellings – Thursday 15th September 9.05am

Harvest Festival – Tuesday 27th September 9.30am

SATS meeting for Year 2 parents – Wednesday 9th November 9am

Christmas Lunch, Party and Christingle – Thursday 15th December

Year 2 to visit St Mary's for carol singing – Friday 16th December

Phonics Parents Meeting – Friday 20th January 9.05am

Maths Parents Meeting – Tuesday 7th February 9.05am

Reading Parents Meeting – Tuesday 28th February 9.05am

Sports Morning – Tuesday 4th July

Reports to Parents – Tuesday 11th Reports to parents

Sharing Afternoons

You are welcome to come into school at 2.45pm on the following dates to share reading activities and look at your child's work.

Thursday 22nd September

Thursday 17th November

Thursday 26th January

Thursday 23rd March

Thursday 4th May

Thursday 22nd June

Coffee Mornings

Wednesday 21st September 9-9.30am

Wednesday 8th March 9-9.30am

Wednesday 10th May 9-9.30am

Term Dates

Friday 21st October 2016 close for half term. School reopens Monday 31st October 2016

Friday 16th December close for Christmas. School reopens Thursday 5th January 2015

Friday 10th February close for half term. School reopens Monday 20th February

Friday 31st March close for Easter. School reopens Tuesday 18th April

Monday 1st May school closed

Friday 26th May close for half term. School reopens Monday 5th June

Wednesday 21st July close for Summer.

Please do not book holiday during term time. Thank you.