



Spixworth Infant School



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

Governors Newsletter October 2016

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term. We are delighted to welcome both new and existing parents to the school and hope that the children have settled in to their new classes.

We are excited to announce the birth of Mrs Wyatt's baby and hope Mrs Wyatt enjoys her maternity break.

Ms Jordan has taken on the head teaching role now and is very much enjoying the process and we are excited for the direction the school will be taking this year, with physical changes inside and outside of the school. There has been some exciting new topics this term already and there will be new approaches to teaching including the introduction of growth mindset. Your children may already have informed you about the power of yet and we hope in the next few weeks and months to be really able to involve both children and of course parents in this evolving subject. Please see the latest newsletter for more information about how to support this.

We have had the first full governors meeting, this formality puts in place updated policies and procedures and importantly updates and agrees the school development plan. Please feel free to access the school website www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk for more information.

Jeff Burton

Chair of Governors

Communication

From the Governors point of view, we are all very much committed to the success of the school and committed to supporting the children and families. Communication is a focus for the Governors and the school over the next academic year. We are keen to make improvements and explore communication options to make sure both children and parents feel supported and communicated with. We look forward to sharing some ideas and inspiration with you soon.

Contact Us

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

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 a vacancy on the Governing Body. We are looking for people to join us who have specific skills in one of the following: Law or Buildings. 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 Ms Jordan 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	Scott Wilkinson	Parent Governor
		Michael Palmer	Co-opted Governor
Kate Reeve	Parent Governor Vice Chair		
Heidi Jordan	Head teacher	More information regarding the governing body can be found on the school website - http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/governing-body/	
Juliette Kidd	Staff Governor	Jeff Burton, Chair of Governors - chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk	
Angela Eastick	Co-opted Governor		

