



# Information for Parents/Carers.

## November 2016

**Spixworth Infant School**  
Ivy Road, Spixworth,  
Norwich, NR10 3PX  
Tel: 01603 898483  
Email: head@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk  
: office@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Welcome back to what promises to be another busy and exciting half term for our children. The first topic: Fair Trade will see the children grappling with the enquiry question: Do all my belongings come from England? We will begin our Christmas topic on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. The two topics will come together with each class raising money for a charity of their choice through planning, populating and selling their produce on a stall at the Friends' Christmas Fayre. Young entrepreneurs we may well be! Thank you to everyone who attended our parent/teacher meetings at the end of last term and for completing a questionnaire while you waited. The results are overleaf.

**Attendance**

Each year, the Governors and Headteacher must set an attendance target for the school. Last year our target was 95.5%. Although many individual children met or exceeded this target, unfortunately as a whole school we only achieved 94%. Analysis of our attendance information has shown that we would have easily exceeded this target if families had not taken holiday in term time. Term time holiday is often a hot topic in the media. Although I completely appreciate that family holidays can provide a range of learning opportunities for children and of course are considerably less costly during term time, I also fully understand the extend that missing even one week of school has on children's progress and attainment. One week per year, adds up to half a term of missed learning by the end of Junior school. Our children are incredibly fortunate to live in a part of the world where education is freely available and valued by most. School days are few. Children have a lot to learn. Some absence, for example for sickness, cannot be avoided. We of course will do all we can to ensure your children reach expected National standards, but we cannot do this alone. This year, our attendance target will remain at 95.5%. Please consider very carefully the impact of taking your child out of school in term time for non-essential reasons and help us to not only reach school targets but more importantly give every child the best chance of reaching their own goals.

**Working Party**

A core group of volunteers took on my challenge last half term to be brave! Together we have delved into our own mindsets and have made a plan to challenge others to do the same, with our children's life-long success being the ultimate goal. This half term, be ready to be inspired, to jump on board wholeheartedly and with the support of your fellow parents behind you, become even more of an advocate for your own child's unimaginable potential.

- Reminders**
- Please park considerately
  - Please check all clothes are named
  - Please share any question or concern with us so we can solve any problems ASAP

**Key Autumn Term Dates**

Sharing Afternoon: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. **Please come into school via the main entrance from 2.30pm.**  
School Photographs: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
SATs meeting for Year 2 parents: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 9.05 a.m.  
Open afternoon for new families: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1.45 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. – please tell your friends!  
Friends Christmas Fayre, with class stalls: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Performances: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas lunch, parties and Christingle: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 2 visit to St Mary's for carol singing: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December close for Christmas. School reopens Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017

# Parent Questionnaire – Your Responses

## Spixworth Infant School Governing Body

Thank you for completing our parent questionnaire.

Your views and opinions are very important to us as we make decisions about future improvements to our school.

Here is a brief overview of the responses you gave and some of things we have already planned to address the few concerns that were raised.

### 100%

Of parents/carers felt:

- their child was happy at school
- their child is making progress
- their child was safe and well cared for at school
- they could speak to their child's teacher
- the school supports them in providing opportunities to find out about and share in their child's learning
- the newsletters are informative
- that any problems would be dealt with quickly and effectively
- that pupils' behaviour is good
- that the school provides a range of learning opportunities to support the curriculum

You said: A few parents/carers said they would like to know more about the work their children are doing in class.

We did: We will continue to provide half termly class newsletters and sharing afternoons. We are also going to enhance our class pages on the school website to include 'weekly highlights' from each class

You said: You do not all know the school Governors or what they do

We did: The Governing Body is now sending half termly newsletters to families and are aiming to attend more school events. The Governing Body and Headteacher are also planning to hold termly 'surgeries' on the playground where we will be happy to listen to your views, answer questions or simply have a chat

You said: A few parents would like more information about their child's achievement, well-being and development

We did: Our class teachers are always willing to have a brief chat after school, or longer on request. If you cannot catch your child's teacher for any reason we are more than happy for you to send an email via [office@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk) We will forward the email and the teacher will get back to you as soon as is reasonably possible

### Over 97%

Of parents/carers felt:

- they were happy with the amount of homework given
- that the school's rewards and consequences have a positive effect on behaviour
- the school knows about and supports children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- they were able to speak to the Headteacher
- their child enjoys break and lunchtimes
- the school is continually looking for ways to improve

You said: Not all children want to or are able to attend school clubs

We did: Our clubs are an optional extra. We understand work commitments can make changing pick up times difficult. Through Children's University a vast range of out-of-school learning can be recognised. Please ask for more details at the school office if a club your child attends outside of school has not yet registered with the University

You said: Some families were not aware of the home/school agreement

We did: The home/school agreement outlines the commitment of staff and parents in working together to most benefit our children. This is signed as part of the on entry to school paperwork before your child starts in Reception. We have put a copy of the agreement on our website. If you would like to view your own copy, please see Mrs Halton in the office