



Information for Parents/Carers.

**March
2017**

Spixworth Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term!

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. This term's topic, 'Spixworth' is off to an exciting start in every class. The children have already received road safety training: the behaviour of the Year 1 children, who were learning at the roadside, was exemplary. With visits planned to St. Mary's and a talk by a member of the Northern Distributor Road work team, there will be many opportunities for the children to gain a deeper understanding of their community and their place within it.

We Are Writers!

This World Book Day will see the launch of our very own school book. The children will become authors, illustrators and editors as they begin to craft their own chapter of a book to be published by Scholastic in the Summer term! We will keep you updated of our progress but hope you will be as excited as we are at the prospect of being able to purchase a professional book and a very special memento of your child's work.

Working Party

Thanks to our Growth Mindset working party and the creative skills of Mrs Betts, we now have Growth Mindset mascots and homework diaries that link with the Children's Learning Policy. Over the coming weeks and months these will be circulated around all children and classes. We look forward to the children sharing their understanding with you and seeing how they are developing their Growth Mindset skills, not just at school, but at home too.

World Poetry Day

We will join this celebration on 21st March. Year 2 children will be sharing some poems with the residents of St Mary's while Reception and Year 1 will engage with poetry at school through books and online recitals.

Reminders

- Please park considerately and be aware of the potential effect from fumes emitted from your vehicles when stationary on pedestrians
- The car park is for staff only. The pedestrian entrances are the safest way into/out of school
- Please check all clothes, water bottles and other possessions are named
- Please share any question or concern with us so we can solve any problems ASAP

Top Dog!

I hope you have joined the Top Dog scheme which is helping to keep our area clean and hygienic for everyone. For more information visit:
www.broadland.gov.uk/topdog

Key Spring Term Dates

***New Event - a one-off change to this half term's previously published sharing afternoon* Forest School Sharing afternoons: Maple: Monday 13th March; Horse Chestnut: Tuesday 14th March; Oak: Wednesday 15th March; Beech: Thursday 23rd March – More information to follow!**

Coffee morning: Wednesday 8th March

Class Assemblies: Beech: 10th March; Horse Chestnut: 17th March

Cafes: Reception: 16th March; Year 1: 9th March; Year 2: 2nd March

Easter Activities at Church (children only): Tuesday 28th March

Easter: School closes at 3.15pm on Friday 31st March. School reopens Tuesday 18th April.

Family Response Questionnaire – February 17

Spixworth Infant School Leadership and Management Team

Thank you for completing our family response questionnaire.

Here is a brief overview of the responses you gave and some of the ideas shared.

Please note: If your idea has not been responded to directly here, it has still been heard and is still important to us as we make decisions about future improvements to our school.

Over 95% of families felt we are supporting children in developing a Growth Mindset – a belief that through effort, anything is achievable.

The Growth Mindset Working Party is open to all. We will continue to embed this ethos across all classes and the children will become the teachers in their class assemblies.

We will also be introducing Growth Mindset mascots and class homework diaries to support links between home and school.

Over 98% of families felt we are using our website to communicate more information to families.

Our website is full of information. Please take a look if you have not yet done so.

We do try to keep the site as up-to-date and accurate as possible. If you do spot an irregularity please let us know so we can fix it ASAP.

We are also now looking into the possibility of a mobile app for our website.

Over 98% of families felt we are providing enrichment activities for every topic to make learning more engaging and purposeful (e.g. Christmas stalls, planetarium, London visit).

A few parents had questions or concerns about the planned London visit. This is understandable.

Hopefully many have now been answered.

We will continue to plan a range of exciting experiences across each year.

Thanks to your ideas, we are now looking to include a family event as one of our enrichment activities.

Over 97% of families felt we are increasing learning opportunities outside of school (Purple Mash, Pobble, Mathseeds, Children's University).

If you have not accessed these with your child yet, or are having trouble doing so, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Children's University is not available for children under 5. For fairness we offer this to Y1 and 2 only.

Thanks to your ideas, we are looking at ways we can use our website to celebrate more achievements for all children.

We will also be looking at the possibility of introducing a Reading App in the future.

Your ideas on how we could **raise parental attendance at school events** have been very useful.

- We understand how difficult it can be to take time off work frequently. We will continue to set dates for the year in September and aim to spread these evenly across the year. If you can't make an event yourself, we are always happy for another family member to attend on your behalf.
- As siblings are unable to attend Reading/Writing/Maths cafes we are now looking at the possibility of altering one of the cafes to a 'family' café with an Art/creative focus from next year.

Your ideas for the **future development of our school** have also been very useful.

- Smaller, single-aged classes seem ideal. We, of course, manage our classes based on the number of children admitted to our school each September. We will continue to plan very carefully, and creatively where possible, to provide the best education for the children of Spixworth.
- We are now introducing 'The Week Ahead' messages to support your personal planning and diaries.
- The Friends are currently supporting the school in improving our outdoor, physical play spaces. We agree that we could improve our sporting facilities. Plans are afoot!