



Spixworth Infant School



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

Governors Newsletter April 2017

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the summer term, I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break.

The governing body met on 20th March, minutes of which are available from the school on request.

The governing body approved the plans for the new outdoor all weather surface and multi purpose goal which replaces the condemned climbing frame in the school playground. The installation of this commenced over the Easter break and is going to enable outdoor learning and play all year round for the children. Our thanks go to the Friends of Spixworth Infant School for their donation towards this project and to you, our families for supporting their fund-raising events.

Also during the Easter break, the next stage of our internal redecoration plan was carried out with the entrance hall and corridors completed. I hope you agree that the school entrance is now looking and feeling welcoming, especially with the addition of the display units filled with the children's work.

The 2017-18 budget recommendation was also presented and agreed by the governing body. This will continue to build on the improvements already achieved by the 2016-17 budget and includes plans to improve the boundary fencing and continue our internal redecoration into some of the classrooms, which will hopefully take place over the summer break and is in line with the school improvement and development plan (available on the school website).

The next full governing body meeting is 18 May 2017.

Thank you to all those who completed and returned the parent questionnaires handed out at the parent/teacher evenings in February. The results of these were attached to the March 2017 Information for Parents/carers newsletter (available on the website). Your feedback is an important factor in the decisions made by the governing body. Parent questionnaires are distributed twice a year however, please do not wait until then to share any ideas or opinions you may have.

Angela Eastick, Chair of Governors

Coffee Morning

Our next coffee morning is 10 May at 9am. This is a great opportunity to come and meet some of the governors and have an informal chat with us and other members of the school leadership team. Younger siblings are welcome to attend the coffee mornings. We look forward to seeing you there.

Support

The school are once again taking part in the Sainsbury's active kids initiative. Vouchers collected can be exchanged for cookery or sporting resources. A collection box is located outside the school office. To support your school, please donate your vouchers by 5th May 2017.

Thank you.

Governor vacancies

We have 3 vacancies on the Governing Body. Whilst we are looking for people to join us who have specific skills (legal or premises, health & safety), we would be delighted to hear from anyone who shares our interest in the performance and direction of the school and a desire and willingness to contribute to the strategic management of the school. Please contact either myself or Ms Jordan for further information.

What we do

Governors 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. Our responsibilities include approving the annual budget and appointing the head teacher.

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 provide independent challenge by asking questions to ensure continuous improvement and ensure the School is being taken in the right direction. We do not 'criticise' the head teacher or staff.

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

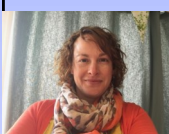
How much time?

We meet as a full governing body once every half-term to discuss the school development plan, policies, budgets, admissions, risk management, and the latest school performance data. These meetings last between 2 to 3 hours.

We carry out monitoring visits within school, in advance of each meeting. These can take between 30 minutes to an hour.

Training is completed as and when required, either online or at tutor led courses and can range from 1-2 hours to 6 hours.

Who we are



Kate Reeve, Vice Chair of Governors

I joined the Governing body as a Parent Governor back in November 2014. My areas of responsibility are Parents and Partnership and more recently as the EYFS link governor. I am also the Vice Chair. I worked for a number of years in Human Resources and have assisted with the recruitment of staff at the school. My son attended the school and is now in year 3 at Woodland View. My daughter attends Spixworth Infant and is in Horse Chestnut class. I enjoy being involved with the school as a Governor, it is rewarding and it offers a different perspective of the school. I get a real understanding as to how hard the school and staff work behind the scenes to make all our children's first stages of education special and enjoyable.

Name	Role	Name	Role
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Angela Eastick	Co-opted Governor	Scott Wilkinson	Parent Governor
	Chair of Governors		

		Alison Corfield	Co-opted Governor
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Kate Reeve	Parent Governor		
	Vice Chair		

Heidi Jordan	Head teacher		
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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		
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Angela Eastick, Chair of Governors - chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

Emma Cresswell	Co-opted Governor		
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