



Spixworth Infant School



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

Governors Newsletter July 2017

Dear parents and carers

What a jam packed half term it has been, and with just a few days left now until a well deserved summer break, I would like to say a massive congratulations to all the children for another successful year of learning. Their energy, determination, commitment and spirit is infectious and it has been a pleasure to be able to witness this over the year at the various opportunities the school offers to enable us to share in the children's learning experiences, from sharing afternoons and cafe's to enrichment trips.

A big thank you goes to the Friends of Spixworth Infant School for their continued support to the school through fundraising events. With government funding to schools being tighter than ever, the support of the friends committee enables us to provide educational and recreational facilities over and above those available from LA funding alone.

Special thanks also goes to you, our families for supporting these events and the school. Without parent support, some of the experiences offered by the school could not take place.

We will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Wyatt, Miss Cresswell, Miss Buller, Miss Thompson, Miss Eaton and Miss O'Brien at the end of this week and I hope you will join me in thanking each of them for everything they have done for the school during their time with us and wish them every success in the future. But let's not forget our year 2 pupils who are getting themselves ready for moving on to new schools. They have been working really hard on their leavers assembly performance which will take place this Thursday (20th July) at 1.45pm and if previous years are anything to go by, it is set to be an emotional afternoon. Don't forget your tissues!

I wish you all a fantastic summer full of fun and adventure and look forward to welcoming families, old and new, back on 6th September for what is planned to be a very exciting year.

Angela Eastick, Chair of Governors

Siblings in school

A full schedule of school events is made available at the start of the school year, with regular reminders on class newsletters. A full list of events can also be found on the school website.

We try, where possible, to make these events accessible to all, including those with younger children however, there are some occasions whereby health & safety prevents us from being able to accommodate younger siblings. By providing the diary early in the school year, it provides sufficient time for all families to make appropriate arrangements.

We will be reviewing our policy with regards to push-chairs in school in the Autumn term in the meantime, if you wish to attend an event and can only do so with push-chair access, please contact the school office.

Governor vacancies

We will have 3 vacancies on the Governing Body from September.

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.

chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

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 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 lead courses and can range from 1-2 hours to 6 hours.

Who we are



Alison Corfield, Co-opted Governors

I joined the Governing Body in February 2017. My responsibilities are Safeguarding and leadership and management but I also have an overview of the Foundation subjects. I am currently Head of Norfolk Music Service and Lead Norfolk Music Education Hub and have worked as a manager and teacher in a Music Service capacity for the last 15 years. Prior to that, I had studied to be an Opera Singer and still regularly enjoy playing and singing in concerts whenever I get the chance! I joined the Governing Body as I am really keen to make a difference in the lives of children and young people and it offers me a more in-depth insight into the strategic workings of a school. I have a son (Angus), who will be going into Reception in September and so felt that this would be the perfect time to increase my knowledge of EYFS and KS1. In my spare time I enjoy building sandcastles and enjoying ice-cream on the beach!

| Name | Role | Name | Role |
|----------------|---|---|-------------------|
| Angela Eastick | Co-opted Governor Chair of Governors | Scott Wilkinson | Parent Governor |
| | | Alison Corfield | 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 | Angela Eastick, Chair of Governors - chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk | |
| Emma Cresswell | Co-opted Governor | | |

