

**April  
2018**

## Spixworth Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. We hope you all had a relaxing, fun-filled Easter break. Our Castles and Dragons topic continues for the first half of this term hopefully enhanced from a visit by the fire service to ensure we are all safe from those fire-breathing dragons! This half term will also see our Year 2 children complete their 'special work' and many plans are already being made for the final half term of the school year. Read on for more details.



### Family Response Feedback

Thank you to all those families who completed the Family Response questionnaire at the end of last term. A summary of the responses are attached. Our next Parent Forum on 20<sup>th</sup> April will focus on School Improvement as a result of your comments.

### Lost Property

A number of NAMED items of uniform have gone missing. This is very frustrating for the families involved. Please could you check your child's uniform and return anything that has mistakenly ended up with the wrong owner. Thank you.



### Enrichment

Forest School will form part of our Enrichment afternoon this term as well as Ocarina, Stop Motion, French and Contemporary Art



### Attendance

Good attendance is important all year round for children to access as much learning as possible. May (Year 2 SATs) and June (Year 1 Phonics) are particularly important for the children. Please ensure no holiday or unessential appointments are taken during this time. Congratulations to the 99 children who took home an attendance certificate for last half term and the 81 children who were awarded an attendance certificate for the whole of the Spring term!

**Number of learning hours lost in March:**

**483**

### Spelling

### Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the Red Robins House Team who were awarded the trophy for our first Spelling Bee!



### Easter Service

Thank you to the volunteers at St Peter's Church, and our own parent volunteers for supporting our Easter Service this year.



### Acorn Tree SEND Show

This year the annual FREE event for school staff and families is being held at Dunston Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Exhibitors, seminars and workshops will be available related to Special Educational Needs and Mental Health. To find out more and reserve your place visit: [www.acorntreepcs.co.uk](http://www.acorntreepcs.co.uk)



## Year 2 Special Work (SATs)



Throughout May, all Year 2 children across the country will be completing statutory assessments (SATs). The results from these assessments are used to inform how teachers grade a child's overall achievements in English and Maths at the end of Year 2. We aim for every child to be able to do their best in these assessments but recognise that children learn at different rates. While most children will meet the government's expected standard at this time, others will exceed this and others will not meet this standard yet. For all children, please read regularly, complete other homework tasks set, promote sleep, a healthy active life-style and avoid placing pressure on children. For more information on the assessments please see the workshop information on our website under the Parents tab and watch the video at <https://registration.livegroup.co.uk/sta/ContentTabs/Embed.aspx?dfid=33381>.

### Planning Ahead - Visits



You will shortly be receiving a letter regarding a visit for the children in June linked to our next topic, 'Journeys.'

The Year 1 and 2 children will be visiting Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse Museum on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

The Reception children will be spending the day at Catton Park and Haymen Lodge on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Both groups of children will be completing activities that link English with our topic at a level appropriate for their different ages.

More information including the reply slip will be included on the letter.

### Year 1 Special work (Phonic Screening)

During the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> June, all Year 1 children (and those children in Year 2 who did not pass the phonics check in Year 1) will be taking their phonic screening check. The children will be asked to read 40 words with a teacher. Some of the words are real while others are made-up words. This makes sure that only phonic skills, not sight reading skills, are checked. Please help your child by reading regularly and practising with the phonic card sheets that are sent home weekly. For more information please see the workshop information on our website under the Parents tab.



### Safeguarding

We currently allow families to take photographs or videos using their mobile phones or other devices during assemblies. Please can I remind you that at other times, for example during sharing afternoons or open days, mobile phones are not allowed to be used for any reason. If you need to make or accept a call during these times, please leave the school premises first. Thank you.



### General Reminders

- Please make sure your child has a named coat, wellies and water bottle in school every day.
- Please park considerately to our neighbours and other parents and safely for our children
- If your details or circumstances change, please let us know.

### Key Summer Term Dates

Parent Forum: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April (Topic: Whole School Improvement Plans)

Cafes: Y2 - 25<sup>th</sup> April; Y1 - 2<sup>nd</sup> May; YR - 9<sup>th</sup> May

Purple Mash Drop-in Workshop: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April

Friends Cake Sale Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May

SCHOOL CLOSED MAY DAY: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Sharing Afternoon: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings **YR and Y1 ONLY**: May 18<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>

SCHOOL CLOSED HALF TERM: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Class Assemblies: Horse Chestnut - 15<sup>th</sup> June; Maple – 21<sup>st</sup> June; Sycamore – 22<sup>nd</sup> June; Oak – 28<sup>th</sup> June; Beech – 29<sup>th</sup> June

Sports morning and picnic: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Open Evening: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July

SCHOOL CLOSED SUMMER HOLIDAY: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

