

Vice Chair's page

Dear parents and carers,

Hi, I'm Matt, the Vice Chair of Governors, and I'm taking over the Governors Newsletter this time round! I'm going to use this space to reflect on what this year has been like for me as a first time governor, and to highlight the great work that's being going on within the school in one of my areas of responsibility - Premises, Health & Safety.

I joined as a governor at the start of this academic year, shortly after my son Michael began YR in Beech class, Before I knew it I'd also offered to take over the vacant Vice Chair role as well - nothing like diving in at the deep end!

My (nearly) first year's experience of volunteering as a governor has been really positive. It has been a great opportunity to contribute to the school and make use of the skills I've learnt from my work. Whilst it seemed quite daunting at first, since getting into the rhythm of governor meetings, and going through some of the free governor training available, it has become much less so!

The highlights for me so far have been

contributing to the planning of the cookery room conversion project and getting to do my best Paul Hollywood impression judging at the Friends cake sale (congratulations to Poppy and Susan McCallum, see their winning entry above)!



I'd really encourage anyone who has ever considered volunteering as a governor to see myself or one of the other governors for a chat to find out more about what is involved.

The other side of this newsletter highlights the improvements made to the school premises this academic year, in line with the ambition set out in our School Improvement Development Plan. I'd like to extend a big thankyou to all who have made these a reality.

I hope you all enjoy the remaining weeks of this school year and have a fun summer holidays!



Matt Ward
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Angela Eastick

- Chair of Governors
- Finance
- Leadership & staff development

Matt Ward

- Vice Chair
- Data & outcomes
- Premises, health & safety

Heidi Jordan

- Head teacher

Juliette Kidd

- Pupil Premium
- SEND
- Foundation subjects

Scott Wilkinson

- Parents & community
- Values & aims

Neil Campbell

- Safeguarding & attendance
- EYFS

Kerry Goodhew

- Curriculum
- Core subjects

Governor appointments, resignations and vacancies

We still have three vacancies on the Governing Body, two of which are for co-opted governors.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the governing body. They are people who in the opinion of the governing body have the skills and commitment required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

Whilst we are looking for individuals with specific skills in legal, premises or health & safety, we would be delighted to hear

from anyone who shares our interest in the performance and direction of the school with the motivation, desire and willingness to contribute to the strategic management of the school. Full training is provided.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in joining the governing body, please contact either the chair of governors or the school office:

chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk
office@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

Entrance Foyer

To make the best use of the available office space within the school, last half-term we unveiled the new reception within the school entrance foyer. This has allowed us to create additional meeting and office space in the previous reception room. It also provides a more visible presence at the main entrance, which is both more welcoming for visitors to the school, as well as improving safety. It also made temporary storage space available for our biggest renovation project of the year....



The new reception area in the entrance foyer

Cookery room

Whilst we were all off relaxing over the half-term holidays, there was a hive of activity in the old 'bonsai' room at the school. This marked the final stages of the room's conversion to a brand new cookery room, with units being fitted



The cookery room - before...



...and after!

and everything plumbed in and wired up (see before and after below images). I for one am really excited about all the great learning activities our children will get to experience (and the tasty goodies produced)!

Use of the cookery room is being prioritised for Y2 this half-term, with all children using the room from September, when it will be in use daily. I'd like to add a personal thanks to all the parents, staff, governors and contractors who have contributed to getting this project across the line.

Future improvements

Whilst we've already undertaken an huge amount to improve the school premises this academic year - with the installation of the EYFS outdoor canopy, blinds for the hall and classroom redecoration all taking place in addition to the above - there are more changes to come. NPS will be in over the summer break, renovating the outside of the building. We are also investigating the possibility of securing funding to replace the main boiler and/or resurfacing of the playground.

2017/18 SIDP Premises priorities

- Redecoration of 3 classrooms
- Installation of EYFS outdoor canopy
- Blinds for hall
- Redevelopment of bonsai room
- Redesigned entrance foyer