



Headteachers' Bulletin

November 2018

Spixworth Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A special Congratulations to the Reception children who have now completed their first half term in school and a very warm Welcome Back to everyone for the second half of the Autumn term. Our whole school topic for this half term is: Lights, Camera, Action! Religion, Science and the Performing Arts will all take centre stage at different points throughout this half term. We are also looking forward to many special events this half term including our Christmas Cafés to ensure our halls are decked in time for the Christmas celebrations to begin!



October Events

It was fantastic to see the children enjoy both our 'Aspirations Day' and Harvest celebrations last half term. Thank you to all those parents who supported us.

Aspirations Day

Harvest Festival



Staffing Updates

The governors and I are very pleased to welcome Mrs Read to our admin team from this half term. We are sure she will settle in quickly and will soon be bringing you an improved admin service. We are also pleased to inform you that Mrs To will be returning to work in January. She will be teaching Sycamore class Monday – Wednesday. Mrs Heley will be staying with us on a permanent basis, teaching Sycamore children on Thursdays and Fridays. We are confident that Mrs To and Mrs Heley will work brilliantly together and continue to provide Sycamore children with a very high standard of education and care.

Strictly Come Spixworth!

In PE this half term the children are rehearsing their dance skills. In house teams, all willing performers will show off their moves in a class audition ready for a school final on Friday 23rd November! Families of finalists will be invited to attend this fun event.



School Matters!



Attendance

Our target is 96%. Results for October:

Beech Class: 98.38%

Oak Class: 95.54%

Maple Class: 96.88%

Sycamore Class: 91.35%

Congratulations Beech class!



Tapestry

Please may I remind you that Tapestry is a special place to celebrate your child's learning and progress. Whenever possible we use Tapestry to share home learning in class. Please do not use this forum as a place to chat with other parents or to share any concerns. If you do have a concern, please speak directly to your child's class teacher or call/email the office to make an appointment. Thank you

It is with regret that we must cancel our planned child health workshop. Although this was a very successful event last year, unfortunately due to increased workload and reduced staffing, the school nursing team are no longer able to support this type of work. If you have a specific question about your child's health, however small it may seem, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher, our SENDCo Miss Davies or myself. Together we have many years of experience supporting children and families with health issues such as diet, sleep or toileting and we will offer guidance where we can. Alternatively, you can speak to a health professional by calling Just One Number on 0300 300 0123 or contact your GP. Either way, when it comes to your child's health, there is no such thing as a silly question.

Outdoor Improvements

Over half term new gates have been added from the car park to the playground. We hope you agree these will make our school an even safer place for our children.



Christmas Events Information



1. Christmas Cafes are just around the corner. Held in class groups and with a focus on craft, there is a little more space and flexibility to allow us to invite younger siblings to attend if needed. Decorations made are hung in our school after the cafes and sent home at the end of term.
2. Rehearsals for Christmas plays will also begin soon. Class teachers will send letters if costumes are needed or support is required for learning lines. Reception perform one play while Year 1 and 2 work together on another. Tickets are allocated per family. A separate letter will be sent nearer the time to request yours.

General Reminders



- Please park considerately. Doing so makes our school and the surrounding area safer for everyone. The school car park is for staff only. The car park opposite is for residents only.



We are outside in most weathers. Please make sure your child has a named coat, wellies and water bottle in school every day.



- If any of your details or circumstances have changed, please let us know so our records are kept up-to-date.



- Children may play on the all-weather surface before/after school but may not play on the equipment or in the garden or forest school area

Safeguarding



New links have been added to the Safeguarding page of our website. The NSPCC links provide valuable information on a range of topics to help you to keep your child safe – well worth a look!



Funding Issues

1. I understand that many more families would support our after school clubs if they were all free. Unfortunately the school budget will not stretch to this. We try to offer a variety of clubs with a maximum charge of £2.50 per hour but appreciate where external providers are used, clubs have to be cancelled if minimum numbers are not met.
2. Children's University has unfortunately doubled its fees to schools this year. As many of our families make good use of this activity we have decided to continue for this year, but may not be able to in future years.

Key Autumn Term Dates

- Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings: 30th November, 3rd, 4th and 5th December all 3-4pm
- Parent Forum: 7th November
- Child Health Drop-In: w/c 12th November - CANCELLED
- Open Afternoon for 2019 intake: 22nd November
- Christmas Cafes: November 26th Beech; 27th Oak; 28th Maple; 29th Sycamore
- Christmas Lunch (children only): 12th December
- Christingle (children only): 17th December
- Christmas Plays: 13th and 14th December
- School closes for Christmas break 3.15pm on

