



Headteachers' Bulletin

January
2020

Spixworth Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term and Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you had a wonderful break and feel excited for what 2020 has to bring. This term our whole school topic is 'Near and Far.' I look forward to seeing how each class travels the world and what adventures they will have along the way. As always we have a busy half term planned. Please make sure you check the key diary dates at the end of this newsletter and look out for the 'what's coming up next week' emails each Friday.

Staffing Update



Welcome back Mrs Heley!

In a few weeks time, Mrs To will begin her maternity leave and Miss Tims will begin working in Oak Class. Wishing happiness and fun to both! Unfortunately Mrs Hanson has had to leave our support staff team however we are very pleased to welcome Mrs Orme to our school.

Miss Ellison and Miss Reeve also join us this term as students on the next stage of their career paths. We look forward to working with you all.

All of our teachers are available to help parents with any questions or concerns. If you would like a face-to-face, email or telephone appointment with your child's class teacher, please ask!

Festivities!



What fun we had!

Thank you to the Friends of the school, St Peter's Church helpers and all families for their input into making our Christmas events so special.



School Matters!



Attendance

Last term 35 children were presented with an attendance certificate for having 100% attendance for the whole of the Autumn term!
42 more children received a certificate for over 96% attendance for the whole term. Well done and thank you!

If you would like to find out more about attendance at our school, including a day in the life of a Spixworth school child, please see our website.

Our target is 96%. Results for December:

Beech Class: 94.6%

Oak Class: 94.8%

Maple Class: 94.4%

Sycamore Class: 95.1%

Congratulations Sycamore class!

Parent Questionnaires



Thank you to everyone who completed the online questionnaire at the end of last term. The Governors and I were thrilled to see how positive so many of them were. Every reply has been carefully considered including any comments added. Look out for the feedback from this including how your views will be used to shape our future decisions on the back of the next Governor's newsletter.

New Reception Intake 2020

Reminder: If you, or someone you know, has a child due to start school in September 2020, please ensure admission forms are completed and returned to Norfolk County Council by 15th January.



Improvements for our School

We are very pleased that all the school toilet blocks have been redecorated over the Christmas break. They are now much more pleasant for the children.

The Governors have now also agreed quotes for improvements to the back of the school building. A new window in Horse Chestnut class, a new entrance door from the playground and a new canopy will all be fitted between now and Easter. Government money for these projects can only be spent on buildings.

Thanks to comments from the parent questionnaire, we will also soon be introducing a new box system for incoming communication where reply slips and other notes can be placed directly for the office (and hopefully no longer be lost in the depths of book bags!) More information to follow.



Spring Term Enrichments

All pupils this term will continue to have Forest School lessons weekly. Additionally to this, this term we are also providing Singing and Percussion, Makaton sign language, Engineering and Child Whispering sessions.



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

Children's Mental Health

Reminder: Please come along to our next parent workshop on 13th January on Children's Mental Health at 9.10am.



Safeguarding



Please check your social media privacy settings and think carefully before posting pictures of your children on line – some people accessing pictures of children do not do so innocently. You may be interested in this short clip from Privacy for Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpX5R63eu98>

Key Spring Term Dates

Parent Workshop: Children's Mental Health – 13th January

Cafes: Reception – 23rd January; Year 1 – 21st January; Year 2 – 22nd January

Sharing afternoons: Jan 31st – Maple, Feb 3rd – Beech, Feb 4th – Sycamore, Feb 6th – Oak

Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings: February 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th all 3-4pm

Parent Forum: Apps - 14th February

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February: School closed for half term

Parent Workshop: Assessment – Monday 2nd March

Class Assemblies: Maple: 6th March; Sycamore: 13th March; Oak: 20th March; Beech: 27th March

NEW: Monday 23rd March – whole school educational visit to Pensthorpe Natural Park. Details to follow.

