



Happy New Year

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a fantastic break over Christmas and have been able to re-charge a little ready for 2023! We have lots to look forward this term. Read on to find out more about our plans and priorities including many important dates for the term ahead.

Ms Jordan



A Reading Resolution?

Being able to read is one of the most important skills your child will ever learn. Reading opens doors to learning and success in every other area. It also allows children (and adults) to imagine, to relax and to dream. It is not easy to learn to read. It takes practise and skill to remember all of the sounds, to put them together, to notice the spelling patterns that are common and those that are not and over time, to be so familiar with words, you can just look at them and know what they say and mean. But the reward is huge. If you don't already, please read with your child every day. You will be giving them a gift for life.

Behaviour

At The Federation of Spixworth Schools, we recognise behaviour as communication. We are alert to changes in children's behaviour and know that at different times, children need different support. We will always work with families to ensure children learn from their behaviours and are supported to manage the feelings and needs that result in their behaviour choices. We will not however accept behaviours that disrupt learning without taking action. In line with our School Improvement Plan, we will only have the highest expectations for behaviour. There are times to talk and times to listen. Chatting, calling out, being rude or disrespectful will not be tolerated. The children learn to understand behaviour through our curriculum, their Learning Circles (more information coming soon on the website) and our behaviour policy is regularly shared and discussed with children. Our policy is reviewed each year and we welcome your comments. A parent forum to discuss our behaviour policy will be scheduled soon. Our policy can be found here: [Federation Policies – The Federation of Spixworth Schools](#)

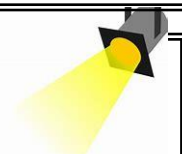
Orbit Homes

Thank you and well done to the Junior School representatives who took part in a pilot education project at Dovecote Gardens at Orbit homes last term. The children found out about the many skilled jobs involved in planning and building houses, worked together to build one of their own and got to explore a new build property too!



A Spotlight on Speech and Language

There have been many reports about the impact of Covid on children's speech and language development. Without the ability to use and understand speech, children struggle to interact with others. This can have a lasting impact on their achievement, mental health and long term goals. We are taking steps to increase spoken language opportunities within our curriculum but there are lots of things you can do to support at home too. For fun ideas or if you are concerned about your child's speech and language development, you can find advice and guidance here: [Speech and language therapy services - Norfolk County Council](#)



Premises Development

With thanks to Miss Owen, the pond area at the Infant School is gradually being restored. We look forward to the children being able to make use of this area very soon.
We are also continuing our project to replace the doors, at both sites over this term.



Staffing Update

We warmly welcome back Mrs Patterson to the Year 3 team this term. We also welcome Mrs Stubbs as our new Finance Officer.

Mrs Stubbs will be based at Woodland View and work 8.30am – 12.30pm Monday – Friday. You can contact Mrs Stubbs by telephone (select option 3) or via email: finance@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk



Attendance

The Department for Education has produced a short guide for parents/carers about attendance. The guide is in line with our policy. If you would like to read the guide, please follow this link: [DfE external document template \(childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\)](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

School Matters!



Safeguarding - Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying is any form of bullying which takes place online. Most young people will experience cyber bullying at some time. Cyber bullying should be reported through the service provider or to the police (101) if the unwanted contact continues. Most bullying is by people who were once friends. Posting untrue and nasty comments can be harassment, which is a criminal offence. Most parents do not know their children are taking part. To find out more visit: [Cyberbullying: What is it and how to stop it | UNICEF](#)



General Reminders

- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community.
- All children should have their own, name water bottle in school everyday
- Please name all your child's items.
- Please let us know if your details or circumstances have changed over the holiday.
- Our schools are nut-free zones. Please do not include any items containing nuts in packed lunches. Special diets can be catered for by the kitchen.



Coming soon...

Look out for a letter coming soon about Konflux Theatre. We hope to welcome some professional presenters to our schools soon to support our children to gain confidence and skills in speaking to an audience. Parents/carers will also be invited into school to see the outcome!



Key Dates for this Half Term

Please note a full list of key dates for the year was sent in July and is available on our website.

Friends meeting: 9th Jan 2pm

Y6 parents SATs Information meeting: 10th Jan 2.30pm

YR4 residential parent meeting 11th Jan 2.30pm

Parent Book Looks: Spixworth Infant School 1st, 2nd & 3rd Feb 2023 @ 2.45pm

Woodland View School 30th, 31st Jan & 3rd Feb 2023 @ 2.45pm

Children's Mental Health Week and School's Football Week: beginning 6th Feb

YR4 Residential: 6th – 7th Feb

Parent/Teacher meetings: 7th-9th Feb

Friends Bake Sale: 10th Feb 3pm

Half term 13th – 17th Feb

