

Executive Headteachers' Bulletin June 2023





I hope you all had a lovely half term and a very warm welcome back to June and the last half term of the academic year! Transition becomes a real focus this half term for all children, whether they are joining our infant school for the first time, moving to the junior school, onto their high school or moving up to the next year group within our schools. Read on to find out more about special events and changes as well as information on our classes for next year.

Ms Jordan

Reading for Pleasure

This term every class has been challenged to make their reading area as inspiring as possible! When complete we would love to show off our reading areas. You are invited to come to your child's class on July 7th to see the reading area and to spend time reading with us (8.40am Juniors, 2.45pm Infants).



Well Done, Year 6!

Year 6 SATs are not only a test of children's English and Maths skills, but also a test of their resilience, determination and maturity. It is not easy to walk into an exam hall, overcome any feelings of anxiety and do your best, but our children did just that. Well done! We are all proud of you and hope that the experience has given you confidence for many experiences to come.

Thank you!



Thank you to our very small, but hugely beneficial Behaviour policy review group. Suggestions from the meeting, and those shared in other ways, will shape our policy for next year.

Reminder: 23rd June at 9am: Enhanced offer review group meeting (visits, visitors and other exciting experiences!)

Thank you to Mr Woor for kindly collecting some donated paving slabs! These will be used to widen the path from the Lilian Road entrance to the infant school.

Thank you also to The Friends for managing a very successful Garage sale last month and all the work that is already going into the Summer Fete.

Thank you to Jon and the team from Little Riders for servicing over 33 bikes last month. The next part of our cycling program is training for children and maintenance classes for parents. Booking opening soon!

A Spotlight on: Numeracy for Adults



National Numeracy Day inspires everyone to feel better about numbers at school, at work and at home – including teachers, parents, and carers!

The <u>National Numeracy Challenge</u> is a great place to start for anyone looking to boost their number skills and confidence – it only takes 10 minutes to start improving your numeracy.

With a dedicated toolkit for adults, National Numeracy's resources cover numeracy for supporting children, work, and money management. Celebrities and case studies tell 'real-life' stories about the transformational power of numeracy improvement, helping to break down the stigma around maths.

For parents wanting to improve their numeracy skills, there are also free <u>courses</u> available across the country through our <u>Multiply</u> and adult skills programmes.

Staffing Update



I am proud to share that Mrs Clarke and Mr Noble have both been successful in gaining the next step in their careers. Mrs Clarke will become the Primary Specialist teacher at Sprowston High School from September and Mr Noble is joining a large Trust to move toward leadership. Both have been committed, caring and valuable members of our team over many years and both will be missed by staff and children alike. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking them both for all they have done for our Federation, especially at Woodland View Junior School, and wish them every success in their next adventures.

I am excited to share that the vacant positions were extremely popular and at the end of last half term, we held a very successful interview progress. We are now in the final stages of completing all necessary checks meaning I will be able to share details of our new team members with you very soon.

Attendance



Congratulations to Positive Panda's class – currently in the lead for best attendance at the Infant school and The Explorers class at the Junior school!

The attendance page on our website has been updated. Please take a look at the information available.

Safeguarding



Safe Spaces – Ask for ANI

Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) is a government code word scheme where any victim of domestic abuse can access help and a safe place within pharmacies, banks and some job centres. Safe spaces can be used as needed to reach friends, family or other services. To find out more and where your nearest safe space is go to: Safe Spaces
Locations - UK SAYS NO MORE

General Reminders



- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community.
- All children should have their own, named, 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.

Key Dates for this Half Term

14th June: Spixworth Infant Sports morning 15th June: Year 3 and 4 Sports afternoon

15th June: Learn to Fix workshop for parents 6.30 – 9.30pm

16th June: Year 5 and 6 Sports afternoon

23rd June: Parent view workshop – Enhancement planning 9 - 10am

27th June: Learn to Ride course 1 begins (further courses begin 5th 11th and 18th July)

28th June: Year 5 Norfolk Show visit 29th June: New Reception picnic

30th June: Spixworth Infant library assembly (parents/carers invited)

4th July: Transition afternoon

7th July: Reading together 8.40am Juniors, 2.45pm Infants

8th July: Summer Fete

From 10th July: Year group end-of-year presentations begin (Y6 10th; Y5 11th; Y4 12th; Y3 13th;

Y2 17th; Y1 18th; YR 19th All at 2.30pm)

11th July: Reports to parents/carers

13th July: Open Evening including Community Information event

14th July: Transition morning

21st July: Leavers' assembly – 9.15am Year 2; 2.30pm Year 6



Class Structure - September 2023

You will be aware from recent media coverage that schools across England are finding it increasingly difficult to balance the funds they are provided with, with the costs of running a school. In the past year our energy costs have increased by 170%, catering has increased by 47%, the cost of essentials such as exercise books has increased by 66%, even cleaning materials have seen increases in the region of 32%. The minimum wage has increased and support staff have, quite deservedly, been awarded a pay increase. Teaching staff across the country continue with strike action to gain a fair wage that is funded – only 0.5% of the last offer to teachers was being funded. The government is keen to say they have increased school budgets, but this increase falls far short of what is needed.

The Governors and I have worked exceptionally hard over many years now to meet the needs of the children at our schools on the budget we have. To keep doing this, without staffing cuts, is becoming very challenging and we are having to be as creative as possible with the money we have to maintain our offer.

Based on the number of children we expect to have in September, the structure of our Federation will be (number of children per class is approximate):

Spixworth Infant School

Reception	Reception	Years 1 and 2	Years 1 and 2	Years 1 and 2
20 children	20 children	25 children	25 children	25 children

Woodland View Junior School

Years 3 and 4	Years 3 and 4	Years 3 and 4	Year 5	Year 6
26 children	26 children	26 children	31 children	33 children

This model means we keep our current staff numbers. The classes will be more evenly sized, with the youngest children, who need the greatest adult support, benefitting from the slightly smaller class sizes.

We understand that change can be unsettling and some parents may have been expecting the current structure to continue. However, we hope you can understand the reasons for the adjustments and see the positives of these changes.

Your child's class and their teacher will be shared with you shortly.

If you have any questions on the changes, or would like more information, please speak to Mrs Payne, Miss Owen or Ms Jordan.

Thank you

