



Welcome!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to all our families across the Federation of Spixworth Schools, especially those new families joining us for the first time.

I hope you all had a great Summer, filled with fun and hopefully a little rest! With a number of new staff, an exciting plan for our enhanced curriculum and ever improving spaces, we can't wait to get going with the year ahead! Read on to find out more about our offer and what's coming up.

Happy New Academic Year Everyone!

Ms Jordan

Summer Premises Improvements



We are pleased to share our latest school improvements following a very busy summer period. The Junior car park improvements will help reduce congestion (the extra spaces are for Community Hub users and staff including an extra nursery space.) Access has been improved for disabled members of our community through improved parking, levelled pavements and dropped curbs. A toilet block refurbishment greatly improves the standard of facilities for the children. Electrical upgrades have also taken place as well as external decorations at both schools. 3 external doors have also been replaced with safety doors at the Infant school to improve safety and security.

Staffing Updates



Welcome to:

Miss Durban – Year 1 and 2 class teacher

Ms Watson – Year 3 and 4 class teacher

Mr Read – Year 6 class teacher

Miss Utting – 1:1 support and after-school play worker

Miss Judd – Junior midday supervisor

Also Mrs Gee who will be working on Mondays for the first half term, alongside Mrs Whiles, as Mrs Paterson recovers from a medical procedure.

Congratulations to Miss Engledow on her pregnancy. Miss Engledow will begin her maternity leave in October.

After her recent absence, Miss Waller has decided not to return to work. We wish her wellness and success for her future.

Medical Tracker Replaces Marvellous Me



Medical Tracker will make our recording and reporting of all first aid and medical incidents quicker and easier for parents and staff.

You will soon receive information on how to use this.

We will no longer be using the Marvellous Me app. Staff and parent feedback on this app supports this decision. Good news messages and class updates will be sent using Pupil Asset, Tapestry (infants) or Google Classroom (juniors).

A Spotlight on Support for Families

Here are some very useful websites covering a range of support for families that may be of interest.

[Health Advice & Support for Children - Just One Norfolk](#)

[Family Support Services - Family Action \(family-action.org.uk\)](#)

[Benefits and financial support for families - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\) | Family Lives](#)

We aim to support our families as far as possible. If there is something you need, something you would like to know about or just a question that has been playing on your mind, Mrs Kidd, our Family Support Advisor, will always make time for you.

Schools Improvement Plan



Every year the governors and leadership team look at what has been achieved and what is needed to improve our schools even further. Community, Adventure, Respect and Excellence remain at the heart of our plans. To read our aims for this year in full, please go to the Governance section of our website and view the Schools Improvement and Development Plan.

DSLs



The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) are:

Ms Jordan, Mrs Payne, Miss Owen
Mrs Jackson, Mrs Kidd and Mrs Betts

All DSLs work across the Federation

All safeguarding policies have been updated for this year and will be available on request or via our websites following governor approval.

Attendance



Government guidelines on school attendance were updated last year. Our policies follow national guidelines.

We will continue to:

- Ask you to phone the office on the first day of any absence so we know the reason for absence and that your child is safe.
- Phone you if we don't hear from you. If we still can't make contact, we will phone the other contacts for your child and make a home visit if necessary.
- Work closely with you and seek support from other agencies if needed to help you improve your child's attendance as soon as it becomes a concern.
- Not authorise term time holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. Children are only in school for 190 days each year. Children have a right to receive that education and parents have a legal responsibility to ensure they do. Holidays should be taken outside of this time. Referrals for fines are made for 4.5 days unauthorised holiday.

To read the full government guidance, please go to:
[Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)



Communication



At the Federation of Spixworth Schools we aim to communicate in ways that suit our families.

- Letters are sent via email, unless there is a tear off reply slip which we will send as paper copies.
- Letters and all other information are available on our websites.
- We have both Facebook and Twitter accounts. Please be careful to only use our official communication channels as we cannot guarantee the accuracy of information from elsewhere.
- Electronic forms and text messages are used as required

We take e-safety very seriously and have clear policies on how we will use the internet safely and teach the children to stay safe online.

Please be aware that some policies also relate to parents/carers. Your own use of technology including social media is a model to your children. You should not publish images or video of your child at school on social media and any negative comments or abuse online could be classed as harassment.

We are proud of our schools and know that a good reputation is hard to build yet easy to break. If you do have an issue or concern, please contact us directly either by telephone or email.

Our policies are available on our website or you can request paper copies from the offices.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thefederationofspixworthschools>
Twitter: @spixworthinfant
Website: www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thefederationofspixworthschools>
Twitter: @woodlandjs
Website: www.woodlandview.norfolk.sch.uk

Friends: spixworthfriends@gmail.com



Relationships and Behaviour Policy

Last academic year, we worked with children, parents and staff to update our Behaviour policy.

- Our Relationships and Behaviour policy now aligns closely with our vision and values.
- Relationships between staff and pupils are key
- We expect children to be Ready, Respectful and Safe
- We will support children with consistent routines and responses, use techniques that help them learn from their experiences and recognise the individual needs of children.
- We have clear boundaries and fair rewards and consequences.

To read our policy in full, please go to our website.



Reminder – Our Vision and Values



Our **community** supports our children to accept new challenges and be resilient in the face of adversity; to have humour, a willingness to laugh and be graceful in difficult situations.

We will open doors to opportunity and eyes to possibility - unlocking curious minds with knowledge that will allow our children to achieve **excellence** and realise their ambitions.

We proudly insist upon **respect** for all as we walk with every child to seize their best **adventure**.

We do this because we CARE.

General Reminders



- Please park considerately to our neighbours and safely for our whole community. Do not park in Elizabeth Close.
- 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.

Safety Reminders



- Only certain members of staff are allowed to let visitors into the school
- If you come into school you will be asked to sign in and out at the office
- Unless otherwise informed, push chairs should normally be left outside school in the buggy park or in the entrance
- Children should not be on the play equipment or on the playground on their own bikes/scooters before or after school

Thank you

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.

September

School opens for Year 1-6 children: Wednesday 6th

School opens for Reception children: Thursday 7th

Jeans for Genes Charity Day: Monday 18th

Parent/carer book looks: w/c 18th (WV Mon/Tue/Fri, SIS Wed/Thu/Fri)

Learn to Ride course: beginning 21st

Parent/Teacher Progress meetings online: w/c 25th

Year 6 residential: 20th – 22nd

October

Reception Curriculum meeting: Thursday 5th

Learn to Fix workshop (bikes): Tuesday 17th

School photographs: Wednesday 18th

Half term: 23th – 27th

