



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to February and the final few weeks of this half of the Spring term. Please read on to find out more about recent changes and what's to come as well as a spotlight on Dyslexia.

Ms Jordan

Staffing Update

Welcome to Mrs O'Hanlon who will be joining us next week as a TA, HLTA and midday supervisor at Woodland View. Mrs O'Hanlon has many years of teaching experience in schools and we are pleased that her current direction is in a supporting role.

Parent Governor Update

Following a tight ballot, I am pleased to announce that Mr Daniel Jones has been elected by yourselves as our new Parent Governor. To find out more about our governors, their roles and responsibilities, please go to the Governors section of our website.

PE – Planning Ahead

In the January bulletin, I shared our plans to re-introduce changing for PE for the Year 6 and Reception children. Since Covid, our children have come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. This has saved lesson time meaning children spend more time in physical activity. We are aware however, that changing, quickly and efficiently is a life skill. In Reception, children are learning this skill and it is part of the self-care element of their curriculum to manage this. Changing in school will support parents in teaching these skills. At high school, children have limited time in which to change and we want to make sure our children are well-prepared for this. To offer a balance between learning a skill, perfecting it and making best use of curriculum time, we have decided that for the Summer term (from Easter to July), Reception and Year 6 children will come to school in their normal school uniform and change into their PE kit at school at the start of their PE lesson. They should bring their PE kit to school in a suitably sized bag that can be hung on their peg. All items must be named. They will go home in their PE kits, bringing their uniform with them in their bag. All other year groups will continue to wear PE kits for their PE days. We would encourage all parents to ensure their children continue to grow in independence in terms of dressing/undressing themselves, including after bathing as Key Stage 2 children will need to change themselves after their swimming lessons.

A Spotlight on Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a common learning difficulty that mainly causes problems with certain abilities used for reading and writing. Intelligence is not affected. It is estimated that up to 1 in every 10 people in the UK has some degree of dyslexia. It is a lifelong problem that can present challenges on a daily basis but support is available to help. **At The Federation of Spixworth Schools, we are thrilled to be working with the Dyslexia Outreach Service to progress toward the Norfolk Dyslexia Friendly Schools Quality Mark Award over the next two years.**

Signs of dyslexia can include: very slow reading or writing, confusing the order of letters in words, being confused by letters that look similar (such as b and d), struggling with spelling, finding it hard to follow a sequence of directions or struggling with planning and organising.

If you think your child may be showing signs of dyslexia, speak to their class teacher. There are many techniques and ways we can support.

For more information you can also go to: [Dyslexia - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Safeguarding – Cyberbullying



Cyberbullying includes any kind of bullying which takes place online. It can involve sending insulting or threatening messages. One person, or a group of people, may be involved in this form of bullying. At The Federation of Spixworth Schools we have a child-friendly version of our Child-on-Child Abuse policy which we are using to help all children understand how to behave toward others, the impact of what they say and do and ways to respond to unacceptable behaviour. Parents are key role models for their children. Please view our policies including our Parent Code of Conduct to support us in supporting your children:

[Child-on-Child-Abuse-Policy-child-friendly-2023.pdf \(spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk\)](#)

[Parent Code-of-Conduct 23-26.pdf \(spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk\)](#)

Attendance



Congratulations to Year 2 at the Infant school and Year 6 at the Junior school for the best attendance so far this academic year!

Overall, girls' attendance is higher than boys – boys, we hope you shake off those winter illnesses soon!

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.

February

Year 4 Swimming starts: 2nd

Parent/Teacher Progress meetings online: w/c 5th

Children's Mental Health Week: w/c 5th

Friends Cake Sale – Infant School; 12th

Friends Cake Sale – Woodland view: 15th

Non-School uniform day: 16th

Half term: 19th – 23rd

