# Head of School Newsletter
# Summer 2 2026

Community Adventure Respect Excellence

This has been the busiest half term of the year, absolutely jam packed with learning opportunities, fun adventures and new experiences!

All our transition events have been great fun, you should be very proud of your children who have shown their maturity and their embedded growth mindsets through these. I am particularly proud of how our Year 2s have prepared for Year 3. Their visits to Woodland View, and other schools, have been supportive and pupils have returned full of excitement, looking forward to the next stage in their education.

I also want to thank the many volunteers who come into school frequently, and infrequently, each term and who help us on trips and visits. You are a great asset to our school and a vital part of our community. We are very lucky to have you! We appreciate all the time and energy you put into supporting us all. A heartfelt thank you from all at the infant school.



As always, thank you for your continued support at the infant school and see you all back at school in September 2026. Have a fantastic Summer holiday, Miss Owen.

## *Out and about, staying in and around!*

Here is a small selection of photos exemplifying some of our adventures and experiences this term…



## *Key Dates*

Full diary dates for the year ahead can be accessed in a separate document sent alongside this newsletter and on our website.

Friday 17th July: End of term!
Thursday 3rd Sept: School opens for Year 1-2 children
Monday 7th Sept: School opens for Reception children
Wednesday 9th Sept: 1:30pm Reception curriculum and phonics workshop for parents (Crèche will be on offer)

## *Adult Learning Opportunities at SIS coming up next year*

Look out for our adult learning offers in the posters coming out in September, advertising some informal, informative and fun sessions for parents to take part in. Details on how to sign up will be on the posters.

30th September 9 – 11.30am **'Once upon a times'** – A one off introductory session explaining how your children are taught in school these days. This is for adults only, all are welcome.

7th, 14th, 21st October 9 – 11.30am - **'Supporting behaviour together'** – A 3 week course for adults to help you understand what behaviours are commonly seen and how to understand and support these at home.

22nd Feb & 1st, 8th, 15th March – **'Supporting SEND together'** A 4 week course for adults to help you understand how to support children with SEND needs.

13th, 20th, 27th April and 4th May - **'English through Story Sacks'** A 4 week course for adults and their child (for the last 30 minutes) to help you understand how to support reading and literacy skills at home.

8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th June - **'Protecting children online'** A 4 week course for adults to help you understand how to protect your child in an increasingly online digitally dominant world.

## *Children's Survey*

Recently the children undertook our annual survey. At a glance, here are some of the highlights…

| Highlight | Result |
|---|---|
| 😊 Feel safe at school | *95%+ positive overall*<br>**99%** of pupils said 'There is an adult I can talk to if I feel worried about something'.<br>**97%** of pupils reported 'If anyone is bullied, teachers are really good at resolving it'. |
| Enjoy learning | *90%+ positive overall*<br>**93%** reported 'Teachers help me do my best and learn from my mistakes'. |

Overall, pupil voice shows exceptionally positive views of safety, learning and wellbeing, with only a tiny number of pupils expressing concerns about reading frequency and readiness for the next stage of school.

Transition is an expected concern at this time of year, our established programme of transition events for all year groups, from home visits for new reception children to regular trips to Woodland View Juniors ensures that this is minimised.

For reading, we promote reading both at school and at home. Our termly 'Reading Challenge' for all and the Accelerated Reader scheme for Year 2's are both very motivational strategies and continue to be impactful. We need to ensure that these tools are more widely understood by children and families and that we continue to find opportunities within the school day for regular individual, as well as group, reading each week.

## Staffing

We welcome Mr McCluskey, or Mr Mac, to our school in September to teach Reception. He arrives as an experienced teacher who has worked in a range of roles giving him lots of teaching and SEND experience.

We also welcome Miss Morton to our team, as the teacher of our new flexi school class. She also arrives at our school with an abundance of experience and energy!

We also say goodbye to Miss Holm who is pursuing her ambition to complete her ECT teacher training in the role of a full time class teacher. And to Mrs Aston who is sadly leaving us this term.

Although it is always sad to say goodbye to staff, we wish them all well in their new ventures ahead.

## Our Enhanced Offer

On top of the curriculum, the children have taken in part in numerous enhanced curriculum activities including:

Learning Circles
Book looks
KS1 Spanish
Day of Welcome
Outdoor learning
Gardening club

The Friends of Spixworth Schools are an invaluable group of volunteers who work tirelessly to plan events to raise funding for our schools.

Thank you to the Friends for organising the Garage Sale last weekend, the weather was great for this, the recent ice cream and lolly sales and non uniform day this term. All raising vital funds currently to help upgrade the pupil's computers in school. Look out for more information in the weekly bulletins and on their social media pages for the exciting calendar of events coming up next year!

Further volunteers are always welcome too! Please contact them via email: spixworthfriends@gmail.com or via their social media accounts.

## Safeguarding

The summer holidays can be great fun, but they can also be a stressful time.
If you, or someone you know is struggling, please reach out.

**Mind:** Find information and support | Mental health | Mind (this site includes tips, support, contacts and emergency advice)
**The Samaritans:** 116 123
**National Domestic Abuse helpline:** 0808 2000 247
**Report a concern about a child:** 0344 800 8020

## 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 change 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.

## House Points

Our sports morning earned all houses lots of points but the winners at the infant school were Chittock with a huge 325 points!

| CHITTOCK | FRERE | HOWES | LONGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 325 | 305 | 310 | 295 |

These have been added into our grand totals… Massive congratulations to **Chittock** who have won this year!

| CHITTOCK | FRERE | HOWES | LONGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5114 | 4284 | 4452 | 5009 |

## Attendance Matters!

Well done to **Milky Way Class** who lead in attendance with an amazing 97.04% achieved this half term! This year Orion Class achieved the highest % with 96.45%

Our whole school has achieved 95.5%, so close to our 96% target!