



Information for Parents/Carers.

**October
2016**

Spixworth Infant School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to see the children settle so well into their new classes. If you have still been coming into school with your child, now is the time to encourage them to come in by themselves. We have already been very busy this term with our Shakespeare week and now our topic of 'Jungles.' The children really enjoyed celebrating Harvest at the church and have shown real enthusiasm for learning through our Pobble and Children's University launches. If you missed the University launch, we will be sending further information out soon. Our first cafés also got off to a great start with lots of parent support, so thank you!

Accidents at school

As you know young children often trip or have bumps. All minor bumps are dealt with in school by one of our First Aid trained members of staff. If an ice-pack was needed or the injury was to the face or head, you will receive a note at the end of the day. If we are in any way concerned about an injury, we will contact you immediately by telephone.

Sometimes young children have wet and messy accidents in school. These are dealt with sensitively and children are assisted with cleaning and changing themselves. Your child will again be given a note at the end of the day detailing the type of accident and how it was dealt with. We ask that you return any washed, spare clothes your child was given to change into as soon as possible.

Occasionally, children do not tell a member of staff when they need help. To further support children to share their feelings, each class now has a system in place where children can use images/name tags to show how they feel and when they need support.

Contact Us

All staff and Governors at Spixworth Infant School are committed to providing the best possible support for all of our children and families. If you have a question, a concern or a comment, be it positive or constructive; please do feel able to contact us in person, by phone or email. We are currently also exploring our options for communication through social media and will be looking to parents as well as Governors to help to develop this.

Working Party

Are you brave? Are you willing to take risks, challenge yourself and your thinking? Do you have a desire to help your children to become positive learners by reflecting on your own feelings and attitudes? If so, Spixworth Infant School needs you!

I am looking to work with a group of up to 10 parents from across year groups and classes to explore how we, as adults, can change the way our children think about their abilities by studying ourselves. If you are interested and have a little time to spare, join me from 9am on **Thursday 20th October**. There is no fixed agenda, we will be working and learning together. A cup of tea and biscuit included!

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations for all children will take place on **Wednesday 19th October and Thursday 20th October**. Thank you for completing the forms stating the times you are able to meet with your child's class teacher. We have tried to accommodate everyone's choice as far as possible. If you are now unable to make the time allocated to you please could you let your child's teacher know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Year 2 Responsibilities

House captains for each of our 4 houses are enjoying the responsibility of counting the house points each week. Playground buddies are helping to ensure that children are playing sensibly, everyone has someone to play with and children that have hurt themselves seek help. E-Safety Champions will be supporting their peers across the school to stay safe when using computing equipment. School Council representatives for each class have also been appointed, led by the Y2 executive committee, to provide a clear Pupil Voice across the school.

Reminders

Please clearly label all items of clothing. Even if named items do from time-to-time end up in somebody else's PE bag or indeed are accidentally worn home by another child, if the clothing is named, it will usually get back to the rightful owner before long. Children's classroom **drink bottles should only contain water please.** As I am sure you know, sipping acidic drinks throughout the day can seriously damage teeth over time.

Pobble

If you have not yet returned your signed permission slip and agreed the conditions online, please do so as soon as possible. The children that have had their work published so far have been rightly proud of their efforts and are already inspiring others.

Achievements outside school

We are very keen to celebrate as many of our children's achievements as possible. If your child has succeeded in something outside of school we would love to share it inside school. This could be a swimming certificate or a special achievement in football or other clubs. Please send any award in to your child's class teacher. We will take a copy to display and give your child the original back.

Safer Schools Parking

Andrew Mason, our community engagement officer is keen to understand how parking affects our school. Please complete his survey to share your views:

[Safer schools parking survey - Have your say](#)

He is also interested in using parent volunteers to take the registration numbers of any vehicles that cause concern. The police could use this information to issue advisory letters. Angela Eastick, one of our Parent Governors would be pleased to pass on your feedback on this.

Equipment

As you may have seen, the large climbing equipment on the main field is no longer in use. It has given many years of fun but is no longer fit for purpose. The Friends of the school have kindly agreed to target their fund raising efforts to provide a new, all weather, play area in this space. We will be working with the children to plan this new area and would love your ideas too. Please add your suggestions to our ideas board when you come to your Parents evening appointment.

Homework Support makes a Real Difference

Little and often when it comes to homework really does go a long way: 10 minutes reading practise 4 times each week gives your child 8 extra hours of reading each term; 10 minutes phonics practise 3 times each week gives your child 6 extra hours of practise each term; 15 minutes each week sharing a homework pack gives your child 3 extra hours of practise each term. Thank you to all those families who are supporting our homework activities, your partnership in this is very much appreciated and valued. If you feel you need any support or advice with homework, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

Other Key Autumn Term Dates

Friday 21st October 2016 close for half term. School reopens Monday 31st October 2016

Sharing Afternoon: Thursday 17th November 2.45 p.m.

School Photographs: Tuesday 22nd November

SATs meeting for Year 2 parents: Wednesday 9th November 9.05 a.m.

Open afternoon for new families: Wednesday 30th November 1.45 p.m. – 2.45 p.m. – please tell your friends!

Christmas Performances: Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December

Christmas lunch, parties and Christingle: Thursday 15th December

Year 2 visit to St Mary's for carol singing: Friday 16th December