

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

Wholly inclusive, striving for fulfilment, empowering the flourishing of our world

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.'

July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

End of Term 6

As this academic year comes to an end, I have had the opportunity to reflect on the year gone by and all this has entailed. It has, once again, been a busy and challenging year, however, as always all members of the school community have taken it in their stride. It is also fair to say that there have been a number of ups and downs over the course of the year, however whilst there have been a number of challenges over the year, it has also been a year that has also seen great success. I will share more about our successes later in this newsletter, however I have to say how proud I am to be a part of the Spalding Parish family and how proud I also am of every single member for how they approach their own challenges and successes day to day.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say a number of thank yous. Firstly, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the children – thank you, thank you, thank you, you are all amazing! The children have made this academic year so rewarding and worthwhile - I burst with pride to see all that they have achieved over the course of this year – I know some of you have commented on this through your report feedback and am sure that my pride in the children is evident in my report comments over the course of the year. I wish them all continued success in their learning journeys as they move on to their new classes, year groups and, in some instances, schools.

Secondly, I'd also like to say thank you to you all, the parents and carers, for your continued support during the year. In what has been another busy year, your support for the pupils, staff and myself has been greatly appreciated. It has been fabulous to see you all at various events over the year and to be able to relaunch so many of our parental events, including Class Presentations, our Christmas Performances and our KS2 Carol Concert. We have also launched a couple of new approaches including our parent workshops. We have loved seeing you at these events and look forward to developing our parental engagement offer over the 2023-24 academic year. I know we continue to be united in our drive to ensure our pupils, your children, achieve their potential and only by working together can this be wholly achieved. Thank you for your continued support in the next academic year.

My final thanks must be extended to the SPCEDS Academy Committee (formally known as Board of Governors) and staff team for their continued drive, support and commitment to the children and families of SPCEDS. We are always looking for members for our Academy Committee and whilst our parent vacancies are all filled currently, if you do want to know more, please get in touch as the start of the academic year.





The Senior Leadership Team and I look forward to working with you all during the year ahead. Please remember that if you do have any worries or concerns with regards to your child or something else school related, a member of the SLT or myself makes themselves available every single day to speak to parents/carers. It has been lovely to speak to so many of you over the year and know many of you find daily access to the leadership team useful. I am aware that at times there are grumbles, be it on the playground, on social media or elsewhere, and would urge you to come in and have a chat with one of us. We are committed to working together for the benefit of all but, as I'm sure you'll appreciate, we can only support if we know about it.

Goodbye, Good Luck and God Bless

As you will know we always use the newsletter at the end of the year to say goodbye to staff. However, whilst we have said goodbye to a number of members of staff over the course of the year, we actually have no one leaving us at the end of the year which we are all very pleased about. Whilst change and progression is a key part of life, and we would also want staff to progress, we look forward to building on the consistency in approach we have seen across school this year.

Welcome to Spalding Parish

As we say goodbye to valued members of the staff, we welcome a number of new members of staff to the team including a new Sports Apprentice and a member of teaching staff. Please see below for an overview of Year Groups and class teachers for the next academic year alongside Year Group email addresses should you need to get in touch.

FS2 - Annabel Cooper and Kelly Baker – <u>fs2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk</u>

Year 1 – Paige Bacchus and Jasmin Turner – Y1@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 2 – Claire Hearth, Aaron Robinson and Danielle Owen – Y2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 3 – Susan Hirst, Sarah Durno and Tom Stanshall – Y3@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 4 – Katey Robinson, Sally Slade and Lucie Scott – Y4@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 5 – Beka Wakefield, Imogen Norris and Maya Jina – Y5@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 6 – Kim Bird, Amelia Siddall and Emma Weatherhill – Y6@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Year 6

We have said our final farewell to the Year 6 children who have been amazing. The celebrations have been enjoyed by all and it is fair to say that many tears have been shed. A copy of my Final Words to the Year 6 pupils from today's Church Service is attached to this email. We wish them all the very best as they continue their educational journeys down the purple brick road and beyond. Remember you have all you need to be successful – a brain, a heart and courage! We will be cheering for you and look forward to hearing updates from your lives – remember you will always be part of the Spalding Parish family. Good Bye Year 6, Good Luck, God Bless!

Parental Support

Just another quick note to thank parents and carers for your support of school events over the academic year. It has been wonderful to invite you back into school over the course of the year, particularly in relation to recent events — our Coronation celebrations, Sports Day, Year 6 Leavers Presentation, Year 6 French Cafe and our most recent Open Evening, alongside the events mentioned earlier in this newsletter including our Class Presentations, Christmas Celebrations and Family Workshops. We look forward to planning further events over the next year so there are more opportunities for you to join us in school. Look out for the school calendar which should be with you in early September for key dates.





Curriculum Enhancement

Another aspect of our school provision that it has been brilliant to be able to fully reintroduce over the course of the school year has been that of curriculum enhancements, in the form of extra curricular clubs alongside a range of trips and visits. Over the course of the year we have been able to offer a wide range of activities and we look forward to continuing the development in this area over the year ahead. Parents and carers will receive a letter early in Term 1 giving details of planned visits for the year so please look out for it. Booking forms for extra-curricular clubs will also be with you in the first couple of weeks of the new term in order to allow you to get booked in. Thank you all - your continued support with such events is invaluable.

I also just wanted to share some thoughts from Heather Bafico and Emma Rains, both members of our Academy Committee, who recently joined us in school for events.

Heather Bafico - I joined Year 6 on their trip to see The Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium. The visit was linked to the PSHE curriculum as well as supporting and stimulating writing in school. It was very evident to see how much the children enjoyed the theatre, they were absolutely captivated whilst watching the performance. The children also provided me with some quotes about the day.

'It was a fun and interesting show, very colourful and I loved it.'

'Fabulous singing, we really enjoyed it.'

'It was very inspiring and I was happy that I saw Jason Manford and Ashley Banjo.'

The children also enjoyed looking for landmarks whilst on the coach in London. We spotted London Zoo and Wembley Stadium.

Their behaviour was superb and was commented on by a member of the audience. It was a fantastic experience and a unique opportunity for so many children. A great part of their end of term celebrations enabling them to take lovely memories with them as they move on to the next stage in their education.

Emma Rains - As the academic year comes to a close I just wanted to take an opportunity to reflect on some of the wonderful events this summer term has provided. Highlights have included Sports Day, Class Presentations, EYFS taster sessions and some very special celebrations for the Year 6 leavers. The Year 6 children have made £5 grow and have done a fantastic job of selling ice lollies after school. They have also enjoyed many wonderful events such as their residential trip to Caythorpe - that looked like lots of fun, a theatre trip to see the Wizard of Oz, their leavers assembly which was a very special reflection of their time at SPCEDS, the French Cafe which allowed some French speaking to be practised! The leavers celebrations of ice creams, fish and chips and bowling and the church service finish the school year and the Year 6 celebrations. I hope they have enjoyed all the fun activities and that they are looking forward to their next adventure. Sending them lots of best wishes and also to our whole school community for a wonderful summer break.

Pupil Outcomes

As you will know from receiving your child's report recently, staff have been very busy assessing the pupils so that we can share with parents and carers both their successes and their next steps. We know many of you have commented on how useful you have found this information as it gives you a really clear picture of what their child is learning over the course of the academic year. This will continue into the year ahead through our termly reports, although we are currently reviewing the format – meaning you will have this information three times a year. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who have returned the report slip – it is invaluable information as we endeavour to ensure we are doing all we can for the benefit of all.





We are also very pleased to be able to share that outcomes for the academic year across the vast majority of outcomes are in line with National figures which is really positive and a huge achievement by all. This sustains our pre-pandemic performance where again pupil outcomes were in line with National figures. This only goes to show how brilliant all the pupils are given the disruption faced in recent years. Further detail will follow in September re our outcomes once these have been finalised. As always I am so, so proud to be part of such a fantastic learning community.

Parent Feedback

A massive thank you to all the parents and carers who have taken the time to return their report slips with feedback, both in this termly cycle of reports and over the course of the academic year. We really value the feedback of our parent/carer body and all responses are reviewed and used to inform next steps on our school improvement journey. Further details will follow regarding this in September as we hope to share our 'You said, we listened' feedback. We are also really proud of the responses to our annual Parent/Carer Questionnaire. This year 98.8% of parents/carers responding said their child is happy in school with 98.1% of parents/carers agreeing that their child feels safe at school. Again further details re this will follow, including our responses to the overall outcomes. Thank you again for your feedback — only by working together and open communication can we continue to improve.

Attendance

A huge well done and thank you to you all for your support with attendance this year. We are also very pleased to be able to report that we have seen an improving picture this year with attendance. Currently our attendance for the academic year is 94.9% and whilst this is not yet at the National target for attendance, it does exceed the current National attendance figure which currently sits at 92.5%. This is a positive achievement and hopefully one on which we can continue to build next year.

Volunteers

We are always keen to welcome volunteers into school, be it to listen to readers, support school events etc. If you do have a couple of hours spare and would like to become more involved in the life of the school, please get in touch via the school office or via feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk. It would be fantastic to hear from you and to see more volunteers in school.

Stranger Danger

Please, please, please stay safe during the coming weeks. Make sure your child tells you where they are going and who they will be with. Arrange a time that you all know when you should be returning.

If they have a mobile phone, ask them to check in with you. Remind them that if anyone makes them feel uncomfortable to move away and to let you know immediately. We would like to welcome everyone back in September having had a fun, exciting and safe holiday. There are links on our website to support with keeping everybody safe.

And Finally...

I wish you all a fantastic summer break. Please keep safe in the sun, ensure sun cream is on and hats are worn. Spend time as a family, enjoy ice-creams and hopefully long, hot days. I hope you all are able to just take some time to relax and recuperate. The staff and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Wednesday 6th September. Have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Kind Regards,





