

Spotlight on Spaxton C of E Primary



Thursday 28th March 2024

Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of our Community

We have reached the end of the Spring term and it feels like we have achieved so much in a relatively short space of time. A huge well done and thank you to the children who come to school smiling and ready to learn everyday.

Thank you for the incredible support for the Ethos Ambassadors' fundraiser for Comic Relief. The generosity in terms of the cakes provided for the cake sale was incredible and the children enjoyed being in non-school uniform for the day. In total we raised a fantastic £160 for the charity.

World Book Day was held on the 7th March. Children came to school dressed in their pyjamas and entered a competition for the best decorated plate. These could be linked to a book character or a scene from a book. All entries were fantastic and are on display in our school library.

On Friday 8th March, staff attending the QET conference at Haygrove where the focus was on inclusive education. Part of this day was the introduction of the QET UCARE awards and I am pleased to say the Mrs Ball, class teacher of Starling was our winner from Spaxton for her aspirations for all the children in her care and for her own professional development. Well done Mrs Ball, we are delighted your contribution to Spaxton School has been recognised across the trust.



On Tuesday 26th March, we opened our doors for our open afternoon. Thank you so much to all those who attended to see what the children have been learning this term. It was great to see so many mums and dads as well as siblings, grandmothers and even aunts and cousins. It was wonderful to walk into the classrooms and feel such a positive atmosphere as the children were busy sharing their learning.

After the Easter holidays, we are thrilled to welcome back Mrs Clarke to Peregrine class. She will be teaching the class Wednesday – Friday and Mrs Elsley will continue teaching on a Monday and Tuesday. We also welcome Mrs Olivers who will be running our afterschool club on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday with Mrs Edwards continuing to supervise the provision on a Wednesday and Thursday. Miss Holden will continue to run breakfast club but a huge thank you to her for running so much of our extended schools provision this term. We would also like to say thank you and farewell to Izzy who has spent every Thursday in school, supporting both Starling and Kingfisher. We wish her lots of luck as she continues with her course at Bridgwater and Taunton College.

Thank you for your continued support and please remember if you have any questions or concerns, do get in touch with the relevant member of staff.

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 15th April.

Mrs Rood

Upcoming events/ Diary

- 15th April – Swimming starts for Years 3, 4 and 5
- 16th April – PTFA meeting @ 6pm
- 19th April – Easter (post) service @ 2.45pm
- 22nd -24th April – Bikeability for Year 5 and 6
- 24th April – Starling Class visit to Rodway Farm
- 26th April – Cricket taster Day with the Somerset Cricket Foundation (all classes)
- 3rd May – First Family Friday Service @ 3pm
- 6th May – Bank Holiday
- 13th May – KS2 SATs week (Year 6 only) – Monday - Thursday
- 14th May – Kingfisher class on Kingfisher project field trip (PM)
- WB 27th May – Half Term
- 7th June - First Family Friday Service @ 3pm
- 19th June – Sports Day @9.30am
- 28th June – PTFA Summer Fair @3.30pm
- 5th July - First Family Friday Service @ 3pm
- 8th July – KS2 Swimming Gala @1.30pm
- 9th July – KS2 at Bristol Museum
- 10th July – Kingfisher Project picnic and awards @ 3.30pm for Kingfisher class
- WB 15th July – Year 6 Church Tower climb, Date TBC
- 24th July – Leavers’ service @ 9.15am



PTFA News

Thank you so much to all those who supported the film night on Thursday 21st March. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching 'The Minions' together with a squash and hot dog. With your support, you have helped raise another £155 for the PTFA pot which will go towards resources and events for the children.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th April at 6pm in school. At this meeting, we will be discussing plans for the Summer Fair. If you are able to help and support the fair in any way or have any ideas, please do attend the meeting. If you are unable to attend but have ideas, please get in touch with any of the committee members. New ideas are always welcome!

Attendance



We know that good attendance leads to good outcomes for children. Children learn best if they are in school regularly and avoid gaps in their learning. We have set ourselves an ambitious target to achieve at least 95% this year. We have slipped just below target for the year but for the Spring term the average is 95.4%. There has definitely been an improvement in attendance over the last couple of weeks so thank you for your support in this. You can continue to help us reach our target by minimizing the number of sessions your child misses each year. No one can help being poorly and it is important to stay at home if you are sick, but other absences such as holidays or appointments should be avoided, wherever possible.

Attendance Target	Current attendance (Year Average)	Current attendance (Term Average)
95%	93%	95.4%

Free School Meals

Is your child entitled to free school meals? Please note this is different from the universal free school meals that children in Starling class receive.

Parents and carers who receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support (IS)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Universal Credit with an annual household income of less than £7400 after tax
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190

It is the responsibility of the parents or carers to register their entitlement and request free school meals for their children.

If you think this could be you, please go to the Somerset Council website: [Free School Meals](#) to apply.

Safeguarding

Spaxton CofE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you are worried about a child, please use the SHARP reporting tool on the website: [Spaxton Sharp Reporting](#) or ring Somerset Council directly on 0300 1232224.



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INSET Days 2024/2025

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Friday 22nd November 2024

Monday 6th January 2025

Friday 14th March 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

All term dates and INSET days can be found on the school website: [Spaxton CE Primary School - Academic Calendar with INSETS \(eschools.co.uk\)](#)