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Governors' news

The School Council invited two of the School's governors, Leanne Warner and Eamonn Barrett, to lunch on 20th June. We were warmly welcomed to the School Council table, after collecting our portions of one of the children's most popular lunches (baked potato and baked beans – hooray!). The School Council members were very confident and articulate, and we covered a number of subjects over lunch. We asked the Year 2 members of the Council about their imminent move to their next school, and were impressed by the awareness and understanding they showed in describing their feelings about moving on to the next stage of their educational journey. We spoke about the School Council and how it worked, and had some very good descriptions of how the Council set objectives for the whole School, such as “no arguments for a week”: it was clear they take their role on the Council as a “force for good” very seriously. We also asked about favourite subjects, what the School needed in the way of extra outdoor equipment (a zip-wire? really?!), and why girls didn't take part in after-school clubs as much as boys. We left with a strong impression of a group of 5-7 year-olds who were already aware about responsibilities, and who were taking an attitude, which showed maturity beyond their years. Thanks to the School Council for their hospitality!

We have been busy producing marketing material to promote the school to the wider area and thank parents for sharing a copy with friends. Speen CE School shall be joining forces with Speen Pre School to have a presence at the upcoming Horses Heroes and Hounds event on 16th July at the Horse Trust in Slad Lane. We would be extremely grateful if a few current parents are willing to join us as our best ambassadors on the day for a few hours to reach out to an expected 2000 visitors and help do what we can to increase our future intake. Please contact Katherine Matthews via the school office if you can help in this way.

The FGB, General purposes, Finance Committee, Health and Safety, Communications committees have all met this term to discuss their School Development Plan objectives with Curriculum and pastoral committees meeting on 5th and 6th July respectively.

The whole board of governors undertook Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) training in school delivered by Bucks Learning Trust (BLT). There are still vacancies for parent governors.

News

June is always a busy month at Speen CE School. For the children (and parents) there are sporting events, Speenschoolfest, end of year assessments and celebrations.

Speenschoolfest 2017 w/b 19th June

Copies of this newsletter are sent by email to parents and governors and posted on the school website. Hard copies are available on request and also posted on the school notice boards.



This annual event is planned and delivered by an army of talented and enthusiastic parents. The village marquee was erected on the school playing field and used for 3 days despite the blistering heat. The many trees in the school grounds provided much needed shade through the week. On Monday, Year Two joined their peers at St. John's school for a day preparing for the Superhero Academy. At Speen YN/R/1 stayed in school where they created their superhero character in drama with Mrs Lomas, painted their tee-shirts and learned songs ready for Wednesday when St. John's Y2 came and joined us. On Tuesday we were very pleased to host Speen Pre-school who enjoyed their own everyday superhero activities with Mrs Hayman's class.



The children performed their songs and poems to their parents at the end of Wednesday afternoon. After an exciting three days for the children, parents were rewarded with the Speen Village Masquerade Black and White Ball. Organised by the School PTA and Speen Pre-school this annual extravaganza was supported by many villagers, current and past parents. Their generosity will be appreciated by the children at Speen CE School and Speen Pre-school. Thanks go to the organising committee led by Helen Davies and Cat Cook and all who prepared for and cleared up after the event.



Dad's Day

This year's surprise activity was making and flying a kite. Dads were up to the task and there was just enough wind to get them airborne. Thank you for coming and enjoying our beautiful school grounds. I hope you enjoyed your hand decorated cake too.

Gardening party

The school grounds are greatly enhanced by the efforts of parents and the successful gardening party in May will be repeated after school on Friday 14th July. All welcome.

Speen Baptist Church

Rev. Heather continues to visit us to take assembly and I look forward to working with her when she joins the governing board. Year One have been learning to play the recorder in music lessons and will continue in Year Two in September. This year's Year Two had the opportunity to demonstrate their musical skills on the violin when they entertained guests at the opening of their spacious new facilities at Speen Baptist Church.

Relaxkids Assembly

Angela Gomes took the whole school through a series of activities which helped us recognise and understand how our feelings affect our behaviour and what we can do to calm ourselves. Mindfulness, relaxation and movement contribute to this programme. Parents can contact the school to find out more information about this.

Staff Training

Speen CE School is fortunate to have a highly qualified and experienced staff. Professional development is important to every member of staff in order to meet the changing needs of children and to respond to research and government's changing policy. Teachers and teaching assistants need to keep up to date. This term, staff have received training from external providers in the following areas: Moderation of writing assessments, mentally ill parents and their children, handwriting, attachment theory, Special Education Needs, Maths, English, Computing, Occupational Therapy, Team Teach behaviour management and Child Protection

Staffing

I am sorry to tell you that two members of staff are moving on at the end of this term. Mrs Clark and Mrs Brewer have been valued members of the team for nearly two years now and I wish them every success in their new posts. They will be missed.

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After school clubs. There will be no out of school activities after Thursday 13th July.

Still to come this term

July 3rd Y2 Gym and dance festival rehearsal.
4th County Transfer day when children will spend time in their new class.

5th New date for Golden Welly competition at Bledlow Ridge School

July 6th Speen Pre-school Sports day. All the children will walk over to the playing fields to cheer them on.

6th/7th G&D performances at Princes Risborough Secondary School. Y2 children who take part in this event may arrive late on Friday but before 10:00am please to be in time for Padre Mike's assembly.

8th Speen Fete The PTA have a stall and timetable for helpers. There are competitions and KS1 children will be performing a programme of country dancing accompanied by Rev Tony and his band at 3:00pm.

13th A new headteacher(s) has been appointed for this day. Mr Warner(s) will be in charge. 2:00pm Helpers tea.

7:00pm New Parents meeting.

14th PTA Gardening club after school

15th Year Two Camp in the school grounds

16th Horse Hounds and Heroes at The Horse Trust, Speen Farm

18th 1:30pm Sports day, Year Two will plan the competition and the PTA will provide refreshments. All families welcome. Which house will win this year?

20th LAST DAY OF the YEAR.

9:15 Leavers service at St. John's Church. All welcome.

School finishes at 2:00pm

21st School Closed for In-service training.

Dates for next Year.

Sept 4th/5th School closed for In-service training

6th First day of term for the children.

12th KS1 parents curriculum meeting 7:00pm

21st Governors meeting with Parents and PTA AGM 7:30pm

Oct 11th Whole school trip to Music for Youth Primary Proms, Royal Albert Hall

30th school closed for In-service training

Dec. 14th Christmas Play

Denise Nayna