

# End of Autumn Term Update from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Reflecting on a Successful Autumn Term

As we reach the end of another successful and very busy term at Spinfield, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our entire school community. The support from parents, hard work of staff, and the enthusiasm of our pupils have all contributed to another productive and enjoyable term.

## Application to Join Marlow Education Trust

Throughout the term, we have kept you fully informed about our decision to apply to join the Marlow Education Trust. Detailed work on this process will continue over the coming months, and we are hopeful that Spinfield will become part of the Trust by mid-2026. Should you have any questions about this transition, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at [academy@spinfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:academy@spinfieldschool.co.uk).

## Changes in the Local School Community

You may be aware that both St Peters and Little Marlow School are closing. This is a clear indication that there are currently more primary school places in Marlow than are needed, which is largely due to the falling birth rate.

Despite these changes, our school is currently oversubscribed with 216 pupils. This is a tremendous testament to our dedicated staff and wonderful pupils, who together deliver an outstanding holistic educational experience. It is also important to note that our main funding is allocated on a per pupil basis making our full enrolment particularly significant.

## Celebrating Our School's Success

We continue to drive ambitious school improvements through our School Development Plan and our Curriculum Development plan despite having to operate below optimum resource levels due to continually tightening budgets.

Our school's performance has been highlighted in the Sunday Times Parent Power Guide to the top schools in the UK. Based on our 2024 Year 6 SATs results, Spinfield has once again been ranked in the top 5% of schools nationally. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our entire school community.

Spinfield has recently been awarded the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Award, which serves as a testament to our commitment to environmental education and our dedication to preparing our children for a journey of global citizenship.

## Looking Ahead

As we look forward to joining the Marlow Education Trust, we believe the school will benefit from being part of a wider community of schools, with access to

improved central services, sharing of best practice and a somewhat stronger financial position. However, it is still possible that we may need to ask our parent community for further contributions to support the operational costs of our school in the coming year.

## A Very Big Thank You to the Parents' Association

I would like to extend particular thanks to Alys and Gemma, who have taken over as co-chairs of the Parents' Association, and to Maidlin, who has returned to become secretary. The Christmas Fair was a great success—enjoyable for all and it raised significant funds to help with the running of our school.

So far this year the PA have made many invaluable contributions to our school – Forest School, software licensing, contribution towards ground maintenance, music equipment, KS2 VR Workshop, KS1 Norden Farm theatre trip and student's Christmas lunch.

## Welcome to our two new Governors

This term, we are delighted to welcome two new governors to our board – Roxy Jahansouz and Duncan Lewin. Their experience and fresh perspectives will be invaluable as we navigate the opportunities and challenges ahead. I am confident that, with their support, our governing body will continue to serve the best interests of the school and its families.

In closing, I thank you again for your engagement, encouragement, and partnership throughout this term. On behalf of the Governing Board, I wish you and your families a restful and joyful festive season, and I very much look forward to working with our wonderful school in 2026.

With best wishes  
Keith Spence  
Chair of Governors  
Spinfield School

If you have any questions, please email me at [chairofgovernors@spinfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:chairofgovernors@spinfieldschool.co.uk)