

Positive, open channels of communication between home and school are Key!

Did you know . . .

The school **website** has lots of useful information for parents. This is regularly updated by Mr Ingram to include a ticker tape of upcoming events as well as a Notice Board and Term Dates to help you know what is going on.

A group of fabulous **Governors** support and help Mrs Snape and the SLT team in the strategic vision for the school. Please speak with them if you have some good ideas to help the school become an even better place for teaching and learning together or to find out about our suggestions and complaints procedure.

There is a **Blue Noticeboard** on the playground with updates of what is happening in school and what the lunch menu is going to be. There are **white boards** outside your child's classroom that are updated weekly with the curriculum information you need to know. Every week a copy of the **Curriculum Timetable** for your child is sent home to you. Please take time to look at it and talk about learning with your child.

There is a **suggestions box** in the front entrance for your comments, complaints and suggestions – As a school we are always keen to keep improving and we welcome constructive feedback and suggestions. You can also use OfSTED **ParentView** to give us your feedback, although we would prefer to hear from you in person if there is something we should know or we need to improve. The Spinney has an **Open Friday** afternoon every week where you are welcome to come into your child's class after school to look at their books and to find out what they have been learning that week.

You will receive a **termly report** about your child's learning and progress and there will be an opportunity to discuss this with your child's teacher during our parent and teacher meetings. However, if you ever want to talk to us at a different time, we will always be pleased to see you. Just make an appointment via the school office.

Mrs Snape, Mr Mawson, Ms Garrill and other members of the **Senior Leadership Team** are often around at the beginning and end of the day (except on Monday mornings when the staff have a weekly briefing) Please come and chat with us if there is anything you need to let us know or anything that we can help you with.

Mrs Jelliman, Mrs Barot and Mrs Varley – **The Office Ladies** – are able to answer your questions or will make appointment for you to meet other members of the teaching team including the Headteacher, Mrs Snape. Ask for their help and advice if there is something you are not sure of.

Everything you could want to know about what is going on in school is published in the weekly **Newsletter**. If you are not sure please search for it on the website in the first instance or ask another parent via **Sircles** which is a new social way for parents to connect and talk with each other on line. This is the only one endorsed by the school and Terms of Use for Sircles and other social media tools are outlined in our Acceptable Use Policy.

The school uses **Parent Mail** to ensure that parents receive information in an efficient way. Please ensure that you have signed up. There is a **weekly newsletter** every Thursday which is sent home via Parentmail but is also available on the school website www.spinney.cambs.sch.uk

The school **website** has lots of useful information for parents. There is also a **Noticeboard** with an up to date calendar of upcoming events for the week.

The Chair of **The Friends** Teresa Wallman works closely with the school in preparing this Termly Events Calendar. If you have any suggestions for other activities, please speak to Teresa via the school office. Please talk with her about ideas and suggestions for Friends events & get involved

Suzie Young is the **Spinney's Family Partnership Coordinator**. Suzie also works as the Alliance Coordinator for the Kite TSA which means she's in school on most days and able to offer her time flexibly in both roles. Call or text her on 07969 685971 or email syoung@spinney.cambs.sch.uk

Summer Term Teaching and Learning Together Calendar 2018



*“To be happy, you must be your own sunshine”
“Happiness is not ready made it comes from our own actions”*





The Dalai Lama

“Parents’ active engagement with their children’s school and their learning is the most important long-term influence on academic success and behaviour”

The Spinney School is committed to securing strong Family and Community Links so please look inside to find a number of ways that parents, carers and families can be involved in the life and learning of the school.

TEN TOP WAYS TO GET INVOLVED THIS TERM

1. Make a concerted effort to get involved, contribute to the school and join the **Friends of The Spinney this term**. It's fun and a great way to meet other wonderful Spinney parents and find out about ways to support events and enrichment activities for the children
2. Offer to help at the **School Disco**, and share in the fun and games the children experience at this noisy event
3. Remember to put your PE kits on and join in with our **Summer Stay and Play** as well as **Sports Day** later on this term.
4. Attend the end of term **Celebration Assembly**.
5. Leave the car at home and join in with **Walk to School Week**. This is a lovely opportunity to enjoy a walk, a talk and (hopefully) the sunshine!
6. Volunteer as a **Learning Partner** in school (ask the ladies in the school office for more details) Mrs Hanadi would love to welcome you to the Learning Partner team.
7. Come along and share a delicious lunch with your child on our special **Bring your Parent** to lunch day.
8. Pop in to your child's class after school for **Open Friday**, where you have an opportunity to see your child's books and talk with your child about their learning and progress
9. Volunteer to accompany your child on their **Educational Visit** this term. Both you and your child will gain a lot from this experience and it will give you lots to share and talk about at home.
10. Take time to **share the curriculum map** and think of ways to extend your child's learning at home.

DATE	EVENT	HOW TO GET INVOLVED
16 th April	Term Starts	For more fun and teaching and learning together!
16 th April	Memorial Event or Mrs Fasching	We hope many of you will join us to share thoughts of Mrs Fasching as we plant a magnolia tree to blossom in her memory.
w.c 14 th May	KS2 SATS week	National Tests for all Year 6 pupils take place this week
w.c 21 st May	KS1 SATS	National Tests for all Year 2 pupils take place this week
25 th May	 Pupil Disco	*After school Discos for both Key Stages. Parent volunteers to help run these events are much appreciated.
21 st – 25 th May	Walk to School Week	Try to leave the car at home and enjoy a walk and a talk on your way to school at the start and end of the day,
28 th May – 1 st June	Half Term Holiday	Relax and enjoy some well earned time together
5 th June	Children return to school	For more fun and teaching and learning together!
12 th June	Empathy Day	This is a lovely day where children will become 'Empathy Spotters' and share books highlighting when characters show kindness towards each other.
14 th June	New Parents evening	*An evening for the parents of our new foundation class to meet the Spinney staff and Friends and find out more about our school.
14 th June	Y3 Educational Visit to Kentwell Hall	A memorable day that is out of this world! The children will dress-up in traditional Tudor clothes and step back in time!
20 th June	Bring your Parent to lunch	Come and enjoy a summer lunch with your child – hopefully in some glorious summer sunshine!
22 nd June	Stay & Play and  Sports Day	*Another fun Learning Together Family event with a sporting theme followed by traditional races in the afternoon.
24 th June	Friends' Summer Fete	*Come and Enjoy this annual extravaganza organised by the Friends.
3 rd & 4 th July	Spinney "Jump Up" Days	Your child will be meeting their new teacher this week and learning about the rules, routines and expectations for their new class.
3 rd July	New Foundation morning	An opportunity for our new to foundation children to come and explore their new school
3 rd July	New Foundation afternoon	
4 th July	Teddy Bears' picnic	The new foundation class will come to meet The Spinney Teddy Bear for a special Teddy Bears picnic and will bring their own teddies.
4 th July	The Big Write Assembly	Ask your child about the special assembly and what the whole school writing activity was.
6 th July	End of year reports	Share your child's achievements and celebrate their successes
11 th July	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony at St Andrew's Church	A fabulous opportunity for Spinney Year 6 to meet other year 6 children from Cherry Hinton and to think about forging new friendships.
11 – 12 th July	Y6 Production 	Come and see our fantastic "The Tempest" performances on stage at Netherhall
16 th July	Open Afternoon	An opportunity to call into school if you would like to discuss your child's end of year report.
18 th July	Y6 Educational Visit to Thorpe Woodland	A fantastic day of sporting activities for Year 6! Kayaking, Orienteering & Powerfan are on offer!
20 th July	Y6 Leavers' BBQ Y6 Leavers' Assembly	A special celebration assembly for our Y6 leavers and their families followed by a pupil fun barbecue
23 rd July	The Big Count 	On this day, the children work in House Teams to complete an exciting interactive Maths Challenge. At the end of the day ask your child about all the mathematical learning they have done.
24 th July	End of term Celebrations Assembly	Come and join us for our end of term assembly and see all that we have learnt this term.

*Activities in conjunction with the Friends of The Spinney, please speak to Mrs Wallman via the office