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Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

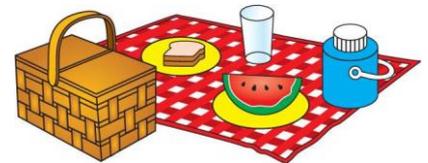
Thursday 11th May 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

Dates for the Diary



- **Walk to School Week** – 15th - 19th May
- **Pupil Disco** – Friday 19th May
- **Drama Club Performance** – Monday 22nd May
- **Year 5 Visit to Fitzwilliam Museum** – Friday 26th May



Headteacher's reflections for the week:

I am SO PROUD of our year 6 children who have completed the final National Assessment test this morning. They have worked extremely hard and have conducted themselves in a calm and composed manner throughout this week. A wonderful start to each day has been the morning club, where children have thoroughly enjoyed milkshakes and cereal bars, strawberry flavour proving the most popular. I hope that the sun is shining tomorrow for you to enjoy your post SATs picnic, you all really deserve it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the teaching staff, Mr Mawson, Mrs Massey and Mrs Hunt for their wonderful effort and support which has enabled year 6 to perform so well this week. I am also appreciative of the entire Spinney TEAM, parents, teachers, teaching assistants, our essential support teams, governors and Friends for all that they have also contributed. I am also thankful to all the Spinney children who have been extremely respectful and considerate during the mornings, keeping the noise to a minimum. Thank you.



Walk to School Week 2017 takes place as part of National Walking Month each May, bringing together nearly one million school children, teachers and parents. This year's Walk to School Week runs from Monday 15th – Friday 19th May. The Spinney will be taking part in this campaign to encourage and promote sustainable means of transport. We would like to encourage all the children to try to walk, cycle or scoot to school each day.

Please ensure that you remember your bicycle lock so that you can secure your bike or scooter in the cycle shed and always wear your cycle helmet on your journey. Each class will record the number of children who have walked to school that week and children will be given a sticker to confirm their participation. Please note that whilst we urge you to bring a bike lock and to secure your cycle safely, unfortunately, the school can not be held responsible for any loss or damage to bikes brought onto the school site.



Pupil Disco School disco

The next Friends disco is on Friday 19th May. Entrance costs £3 on the door. The Foundation and KS1 disco takes place between 4.30 and 5.45pm and the KS2 disco will run from 6 to 7.30pm. Please note that this is a drop off event. If any parent or carer is able to help at either disco please contact the Friends.

Pint Sized Pete: Drama Club Performance

Drama Club are very much looking forward to performing their production of 'Pint Sized Pete' on Monday 22nd May at 4.30p.m.

The performance is still a work in progress so you may see a few scripts flying about and there maybe a few stops and starts!! All of the children in Drama club have worked extremely hard and we have had lots and lots of fun!

The play is all about pirates, sea creatures and monsters and all are welcome to attend.



Homework via Parentmail

We would like to remind you that following feedback from parents we will now be sending homework, spelling and times table practice home via parentmail every Friday. Please make sure you check for the e-mails and write out spellings for your child to practice.

We hope that this will significantly reduce the incidences of lost or forgotten work. As an Eco School we have been looking at ways to "reduce reuse and recycle" and we hope this will significantly reduce our use of paper.



£5 Notes

We would like to remind you that last week the old paper £5 notes will cease to be legal tender. We are therefore no longer able to accept them as payment.



Sainsbury's Vouchers

The Sainsbury's Active Kids Voucher promotion has now ended. If you have any remaining vouchers at home, please bring them into school as soon as possible. We are looking forward to ordering some new sports equipment and the more vouchers we receive the more we can order. Thank you



My Cambridge is a growing partnership of organisations and individuals committed to making sure that all young people feel part of the rich variety of culture in Cambridge. This link will help you to discover all the latest events, news and training opportunities for adults working with young people plus creative activities for children in Cambridge <http://www.cambridgeartsnetwork.com/my-cambridge>



52 Stories

Come and See Science in Action

Cambridge Science Centre are bringing a series of fun, hands-on science workshops to Cambridge and the surrounding area, including at Cherry Hinton Library's 52 Stories on Saturday 20th May 10-30-11.30am. For more information about the Cambridge Science Centre visit their facebook page.

52 Stories Takes place every week at Cherry Hinton Library on Saturdays from 10.30am – 11.15am.

If you would like to become a 52 Stories Reader or become a volunteer to help us please come along to Cherry Hinton Library during one of our sessions and talk to one of the 52 Story Team Members. www.52stories.co.uk

www.facebook.com/52stores

Drop-in activities at the Fen Drayton Lakes Reserve

There are lots of free drop-in activities you can join at the Fen Drayton Lakes reserve on Sunday 14th may from 10am-4pm. Activities include Lake Dipping – explore the underwater world, have a go at pond dipping and discover the magnificent underwater minibeasts that live in our lakes Bug Hunting – go on a minibeast safari, play bug bingo and have a go at sweep netting to discover the minibeasts that live here – a bug adventure.

For more information contact: 01954 233260 or fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk or visit the RSPB website

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/find-a-reserve/reserves-a-z/reserves-by-name/f/fendraytonlakes/events.aspx>

Family Guide To Cambridge



Family Guide To Cambridge is a resource for families in Cambridge who are looking for one place to go where they can find out about family friendly local events, things to do, classes, groups and places to eat and drink.

The information on the site is not just a listings service, but pulls together other useful local information and blogs articles of use to families. <http://familyguideto.co.uk>

And finally . . .

Don't forget next week is Walk to School Week and I would like to encourage you all to consider leaving the car behind and walking, cycling or scootering to school next week. Research consistently shows that children benefit from walking or biking to school not only physically, but it also improves their performance, concentration and emotional well-being levels. Walking to school as a family is very sociable – it's a great way for parents to model pro-social skills and also a great way to catch up, meet other families along the way and strengthen the community cohesion of our school.

“All truly great thoughts are conceived by walking.”

Friedrich Nietzsche



With very best wishes,

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape

Head Teacher

National Leader of Education