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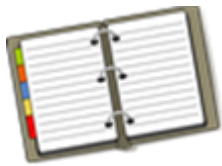
**Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism**

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 14th September 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

Dates for the Diary



- **Year 5 Swimming Starts** – Tuesday 19th September
- **Macmillan Coffee Morning** – Friday 29th September
- **Family STEAM Festival**- Saturday 23rd September
- **Harvest Festival Service & Bring your Parent to Lunch** – Monday 9th October

Headteacher's reflections

STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths

As many of our parents will know, one of the many highlights of our academic year is the Family Steam Festival organised by Mrs Young, The Spinney's Family Partnership and The Kite TSA Coordinator and Mrs Brooks Taylor. This is a not to be missed event and we hope that you will come along and bring your friends and neighbours to this wonderful Community event that once gain manifests The Spinney and The Kite TSA's Commitment to Schools as Communities of Learning!



FREE Family STEAM Festival for Spinney Parents and Local Community!

STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths.

Our annual Family **STEAM Festival** will take place this year on Saturday 23rd September, here at The Spinney Primary School. The event is free and all are welcome (not just Spinney Families!). We have an exciting programme of FREE hands-on workshops and shows, all themed around **STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths**. There is something for everyone in the family to enjoy and some really yummy festival food will be available to buy at a fair price. We hope to see as many of you there as possible and as we are opening this event to the Cambridge community please invite your friends, family and neighbours and point them in the direction of our website – www.familySTEAMfestival.com or search 'Family STEAM Festival' on Facebook or Twitter. We're very much in need of **VOLUNTEERS** to help us run this event. If you or your older children can spare all day or half a day to help us please do come and speak with Suzie in the school office or email info@familysteamfestival.com



Wheel of Well-being

Curriculum Maps – Well-Being

Your child's curriculum map for the term was sent home earlier this week. As you will see there is a Wheel of Well-Being in the corner of the Curriculum Map this is because well-being is one of the over-arching aims in our curriculum design. Please take time to read this through with your son/daughter and share with them the learning experiences they will enjoy over the next few weeks also possibly think about the ways that you create a Well-Being balance in your own homes. Please also consider the ways you can support the learning themes at home through visits to the local library or local museums and art galleries. Weekly timetables will also be sent home via ParentMail every Monday. Please also take time to share your child's class page on the school website, where you will find this and other information relevant to each class.



MindUP™ Parent Workshop

The MindUP™ team will be revisiting our school for an Extension Day Workshop. During this visit they will be holding a program workshop for parents, which you are encouraged to attend. During this interactive workshop you will learn about the MindUP™ curriculum and be given tools and tips on how to integrate MindUP™ into your home and family life. For Parents, MindUP™ provides new techniques to better cope with and manage the challenges of work/life stress. MindUP™ also helps parents build healthy relationships between siblings, their children and the community, and finally, between their children and themselves.

The workshop will date place on 4th October 2017 from 3:30pm and will take place at The Spinney Primary School (Main Hall)



Open Fridays

Find out more about what your child has been doing in school each week and celebrate their achievements and progress. We offer parents and carers the opportunity to come into the classroom with their child, so that the children can talk to you about their learning and show you the work they have been doing. Open Friday session will start this term on Friday 15th September, and then every Friday afternoon from 3:20pm until 4:00pm.



Harvest Festival Service and Bring your Parent to School Day.

On Monday 9th October, we are inviting you to join us for our annual Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church followed by 'Bring your Parent to School Lunch'. This is another highlight in our calendar event. Parents and Carers are the children's first teachers and at the Spinney we value our partnerships between school and home.

Come into school when you drop your child off and wait a few moments while your child is registered and then accompany your child's class as we walk together to St. Andrew's Church to share our traditional Harvest Festival Service which will start at approximately 10:00 am. After the service we will walk back to school and on our return to school at approximately 11:30-11:45am parents will be offered tea or coffee and biscuits. You can then join your child on the playground until it is time to go in with them for lunch at approximately 12:00. Foundation Stage Pupils and KS1 pupils will go in first with their parents, and siblings will be accommodated so that families can eat together. There will be a delicious lunch of beef or vegetarian casserole served with seasonal vegetables followed by chocolate sponge with chocolate custard or sliced fresh fruit and an assortment of yogurts. We love having parents in school but as ever we rely on your patience in ensuring that this process, which understandably takes a little longer than usual, can flow as smoothly as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

Tickets cost £3.50 and are available from the school office from Monday 18th September. Unfortunately they can only be purchased in cash and not via your Agora account. Payment must be made at the time of purchase. Tickets for the lunch are on sale until **Wednesday 4th October** as the kitchen staff will need to have final numbers so please remember to buy your tickets in advance.

“Going up to Secondary School” Events

The Parents’ School Preference Adviser (PSPA) in conjunction with SENDIASS/Parent Partnership Service is holding a series of ‘Going up to Secondary School’ events throughout the county in September/October 2017.

These are free events for parents of all children in Year 6. The focus is to provide information about moving up from primary to secondary school, including the application process and information and strategies on how to support their child with making the move.

Parents of children in Year 5 with an EHCP/Statement are also invited. The process is slightly different for these children so the events give parents timely advice and information on making their secondary school application. Speakers will include staff from the Statutory Assessment and Resources Team, Educational Psychologists, the Parents’ School Preference Adviser and SENDIASS. The events are funded jointly by PSPA and SENDIASS. Information about these events will be included with all UID letters sent out for Year 6 children from the Admissions team and individual letters have been posted to parents who have a Year 6 or Year 5 child with an EHCP/Statement.



Outdoor Clothing and Indoor Shoes

To enable the children to play on the field during their lunch break, please can parents of Key Stage 2 children provide a set of old clothes for them to wear over their school uniform. It is also essential that they take their outdoor shoes off and change into a soft pair of shoes, such as a pair of slippers or plimsolls, when they come into class. These ‘overs’ and outdoor shoes really do help keep both your washing load down and school clean and tidy. Thank you.



Remember Once a Week Take a Peek!

Remember Thursday night is **Once a Week Take a Peek!** Please comb and check your child’s hair tonight, and re-check it every Thursday evening. Putting long hair in plaits or bunches may also reduce the possibility of headlice transferring from one head to another. Thank you to the many parents and children who are already doing this. Please do not keep your child away from school because they have lice.



A special message From Our Phonics Fairy

Many of the children will know our friend The Phonics Fairy. Parents are invited to subscribe to the fairy’s YouTube channel for access to her stories and adventures. Subscriptions are free, and you will then be notified when new videos are uploaded. First flying episode goes live on the 15th September.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ZodiakRights>



Organised by a wonderful team and led by another fabulous Spinney parent, Kate Jones, Event Manager **the Cherry Hinton Festival is THIS WEEKEND!**

Thanks to Kate and everyone who help to make this such a brilliant event. Don’t forget to go along and also support the Friends’ fundraising event at this year’s Cherry Hinton Festival on Saturday 16th September from 12 – 6pm at the Cherry Hinton recreation ground, High Street, Cherry Hinton. The Friends will be running a ‘goodie jar tombola’ where all money raised will go to the school. Further information on the festival can be found at <http://www.cherryhintonfestival.org/>. A big thank you to everyone who donated glass jars.

Vacancy

We are looking to appoint After School Club Assistants to help launch our brand new and exciting After School Club here at The Spinney Primary School. The club, for Spinney pupils only, will run from 3:15 – 6:00pm daily during term time only. For more information please visit our website http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school_office/vacancies.php or speak to Mrs. Jelliman.

After School Clubs



Le Club Français will continue to operate a French club in school this year on Mondays (Years 1 and 2) and Tuesdays (years 3-6) from 15:25 to 16:10. The club gives children an informal introduction to language learning through songs, games, stories and activities. Please contact Tim Morley on 01223 911575 for further information, or sign up online at <http://westcambs.com/> The Autumn term will run from the 11/12th September to 4/5th December.

Circus Skill Club for KS1



Right Side Up Circus will be starting their afterschool club for KS1 and KS2 Spinney children on Tuesday 19th September. The sessions will take place in the Year 4 classroom from 3.30pm until 4.30pm.

Right Side Up workshops aim to improve your child's motor skills with juggling games, teach your child new tricks with old favourites like hula hoops and give them opportunities to express their creativity.

To book a place, please contact Right Side Up Circus at emma.wright@cantab.net

For more information about Right Side Up Circus please visit <http://www.rsu-circus.co.uk>

Key stage 2 choir will take place after school on Tuesdays from 3.20pm-4pm in the library. Choir will commence on Tuesday 19th September and everyone in years 3-6 are welcome. Please sign up with the ladies in the office.

Code Club

Please note that Code Club will now not start until Wednesday 27th September.

Message From The Friends

Please come and support the Friends' fundraising event at this year's **Cherry Hinton Festival** on Saturday 16th September from 12 – 6pm at the Cherry Hinton recreation ground, High Street, Cherry Hinton. We will be running a 'goodie jar tombola' where all money raised will go to the school. Further information on the festival can be found at <http://www.cherryhintonfestival.org/>. A big thank you to everyone who donated glass jars.

Frozen Fridays will be held after school every Friday until the end of September (weather permitting). Ice pops and mini milks are priced at 50p each.



The annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning** will be held on Friday 29th September from 9am in the school hall. This is open to everyone and is a good way to meet other parents over a cup of coffee and slice of cake whilst raising money for a good cause. We hope to see you there. Cake donations gratefully received. Straight after the Macmillan Coffee morning there will be a **free** taster fitness session with Premier Sports on the school field. 45 minutes of fitness with experienced instructors – including stretches, squats, lunges, sit-ups – what better way to burn off those cake calories! Exercises are tailored to your own fitness ability so people new/returning to fitness and seasoned professionals are all welcome. All that is required are comfortable clothing and trainers, a towel or mat and a bottle of water. Future sessions will be held every Friday straight after registration and cost £5.

The Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 2nd October at 8pm in the Spinney Team room. Everyone is welcome. Please come and find out what events took place last year, what is planned for the coming year and how much we raised for the school in 2016/17.

There will be a **School Disco** on Friday 6th October in the school hall. The Foundation and KS1 disco takes place from 4.30-5.45pm and the KS2 disco will be held 6-7.30pm. This is a drop-off event and costs £3 on the door. The price includes a drink and a packet of crisps for each child.



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>

My Cambridge invites Headteachers, Teachers and Arts and Culture Subject Leaders to **Marketplace 2017**. A day of talks and workshops entitled, "Constructing Cultural Lives, creative skills for attainment, employability and wellbeing". The event takes place on Monday 25th September from 6pm-8pm at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Tickets are £5/10 and available via Eventbrite. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mycambridge-marketplace-2017-constructing-cultural-lives-tickets-36440895700?aff=es2>



52 Stories

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

Cambridge Festival of Ideas- Monday 16th to 29th October

The Cambridge Festival of Ideas celebrates its 10th anniversary with a line-up of distinguished speakers and a host of exhibitions and events.

Truth has dominated the news agenda in the last year and is the driving force of academic research. This year's Cambridge Festival of Ideas puts truth under the spotlight, discussing everything from whether we can still believe in experts and how conspiracy theories stake their claim to truth to what has driven populism around the world to whether we can still keep secrets in an age of technology. For more information please visit the festival website. <http://www.festivalofideas.cam.ac.uk/>

And Finally....



Wheel of Well-being



*"Happiness is not ready made it comes from our own actions"
The Dalai Lama*

If you should pop into school in the next few days, you will see that our Dream Board in the front entrance is being updated to reflect this year's theme of Well-Being and HOPE. Thanks to Mrs Shepherd for your creativity and your skills!

With very best wishes,

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education