

Headteacher: Mrs R Snape  
Deputy head: Mr L Mawson  
School Business Manager: Mrs S Jelliman

Telephone/Fax: 01223-568836  
Email: [office@spinney.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@spinney.cambs.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.spinney.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.spinney.cambs.sch.uk)



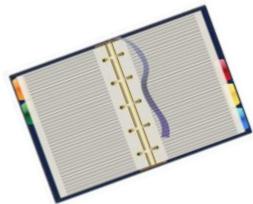
**Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,  
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism**

# 'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

## Dates for the Diary



- **Class Photographs** – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March **Smart Dress and Spinney Smiles Please**
- **Y5 Science Festival Lecture** – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March
- **Y4 Golden Hinde Visit** – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March
- **Y5 Big Read and Write** – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March
- **KS2 Choir SingFest Cluster Festival** – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- **Easter Stay and Play** – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- **Easter Bonnet Parade** – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March
- **End of Term Celebration Assembly** – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**Headteacher's reflections: This is an important consultation. Please take the time to read the documents available on the website and let's keep talking.**

We are aware of the recent activity around the school by a Local Councillor, a National Education Union Representative and others, who are petitioning about the proposed Multi-Academy Trust. As they are on the highway they are well within their democratic right to do this and we broadly support of this. Some people found their actions to be very helpful which is encouraging, whilst other parents have reported that it has been distressing. The petition you are being asked to sign is for a proposal to extend the period of consultation for the transfer of assets to Innovation Trust.

However, I would like to be clear on this point and repeat my comments in the newsletter from last week. As you would expect of us, although the "formal" period of consultation, as stated on the letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> January, is now over, as I said in the newsletter last week, *we are still keen to keep the channels of communication with the community open, and your ideas are greatly valued.* It is vitally important that everyone is able to participate in this process. No decision has been taken and I would encourage anyone to come and speak with me or Mrs. Child (Chair of Governors) if you have any questions or thoughts you would like to share. I am at the gate two or three times a week (not Mondays) in the morning and would like to think I am quite approachable. Governors are also often around on the playground after school and can answer questions. If an appointment instead of a chat at the gate is helpful, please do not hesitate to speak to the office ladies and they will help to find a mutually convenient time.

It has always been our intention for this process to be open and accessible to our families and community and we have been in regular communication about this proposal *for nearly two years, since May 2016.* Everyone has been invited to attend consultation meetings which were very helpful in shaping our thinking and I would again like to thank those who attended for the quality of their questions, thoughts and suggestions.

The presentation given at the meeting, questions raised by Spinney parents, questions raised at all three schools' consultation meetings, and a strengths and weaknesses document can be found [here](#) on the school website.

**This is an important consultation. Please take the time to read the documents and let's keep talking!**

If parents would find another meeting helpful then as in the above invitation, please let us know.



### Class Photographs Day, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Polite Reminder: Dress Smart for Photographs

Our school photographer will be in school tomorrow, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March, to take class photographs. These are a lovely souvenir of your child's time here at The Spinney so please remember to wear smart school dress and your biggest smiles. Year 6 will also have their class pictures taken and will form part of their leavers pack later in the year.



### School Council Tuck Shop for KS2 Pupils

Over the next few weeks the School Council will be running a Tuck Shop selling apples, bananas and boxes of raisins. It will be open every Tuesday during morning break time in the school playground. Each item costs 15 pence each. If you would like your child to purchase an item from the Tuck Shop, please provide them with the correct money. If the Tuck Shop becomes popular, the School Council plan for it to continue into the summer term.

### 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.



### Easter Stay & Play

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March sees our Easter Special Stay & Play taking place in school. Come and join your child in class and help them to make a special Easter gift to take home. Sessions run from 9.15 – 10.15am and then again from 10.45 – 11.45 noon.

**Year 6 and Foundation** will be offering the first session only. Year 6 will be having a Stay and Revise session from 9.15-9.20 and Foundation will go to the Wild Wood from 09.15. Please note that the planned Tuesday visit to the Wild Wood will not take place on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

Sign up sheets are available so that you can book your place in class. A crèche will be available for pre-school children but please remember that spaces in the crèche are limited so booking is required, please see the ladies in the office. We hope that many of you can join us in school for another fun session of Stay & Play.



### Easter Bonnet Parade

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March the annual Easter Bonnet Competition Parade takes place in the playground during the morning. As usual the children will come into class briefly to register and then will parade in the playground for families to see. There will be a prize for the best Easter Bonnet from each class.



### Children's Easter Egg Hunt

The fun children's Easter Egg hunt takes place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm. Foundation Stage's Easter Egg Hunt will take place in their outside learning area. Key Stage 1's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on the meadow, and Key Stage 2's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on the field. Parents/carers are welcome to collect their child when they have successfully located their egg. However, parents/carers **MUST** sign to de-register their child from each class before taking your child home.



**Egg for an Egg, Egg Decoration Competition** – Our amazingly dedicated and creative Caretaking team (Mrs. Payne and Mrs. Cordy) have been decorating the front entrance with a traditional Easter Display and children are invited to bring in their beautifully decorated eggs to enter into our annual Easter egg decoration competition. There is a prize for each entry and the winners will be announced at our end of term Celebration Assembly on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March.



## End of Term Celebration Assembly

Everyone is warmly invited to our end of term Celebration assembly which will take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm. As on previous occasions the assembly will be an informal opportunity for the children to share their thoughts, ideas and singing with you. We hope that everyone, families, friends and governors will join the children and staff to celebrate the end of another exciting term at The Spinney! We look forward to seeing you there.



### Congratulations

I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating the following students who have recently taken music examinations.

Angelica Guerri gained a Merit for Initial Grade Violin and Kamilia Koziol was awarded a Distinction for her Grade 1 Violin. Alicia Burrows was awarded a pass, Lucy Stephens achieved a Merit and Samika Goud received a Distinction in their Initial Piano. Well done all of you, another wonderfully successful set of exam results.

## New Afterschool Clubs for the Summer Term

### I ♥ Spanish

#### Spanish Club is Coming to The Spinney! Just wish I could speak it better

A new language adventure is waiting for your child. Mayte Romero a Spanish native, currently working as a Teaching Assistant at the Spinney, will be running the Spanish language sessions while having so much fun! An informal introduction to language learning, we will sing, dance, listen, play games and many more surprises...Sorpresa! The sessions will be on Thursdays from 3.30pm to 4.30 pm. The maximum number of learners will be 10 students from KS1 and KS2. If enough people interested, the lessons will start on Thursday the 19th of April, the first week after Easter. The course will be run for 5 weeks. The price for 5 weeks, including resources is £55 pounds per child. For more information or to book a place for your child, please contact Mayte Romero, mayteflamingo@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you in Spanish lesson. **Adiós amigo! Gracias!**

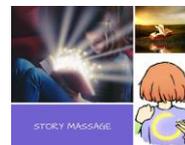


#### Inamojo Social and Emotional Learning Programme

Inamojo Social and Emotional Learning Programme Inamojo™ is a unique Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programme for children of primary school age (5-8 yrs), weaving together stories, movement, art, meditation and originally composed music. Designed to assist children with lessons, tools, and skills that will help them to navigate life's challenges with a greater understanding of themselves and others and build a greater resilience. Inamojo club runs on Wednesdays 3.15-4.45 for nine weeks.

Price £100 (9-weeks)

Please contact Tina via <http://allaboutchildren.org.uk> for further information.



#### Story Massage Club

Story Massage clubs runs on Thursdays 3.15 to 4-15. Story Massage is a unique and enchanting new storytelling class combined with positive touch (peer to peer).

The magical combination of storytelling and positive touch can be incorporated into stories, songs, poems, quotes, nursery rhymes and also inspires personalised stories to be created. Over six weeks we will explore Story Massage through different themes and create our own Story Massages for the children to share with each other and their families. Price: £36 (6 weeks)

Please contact Tina Say via <http://allaboutchildren.org.uk> for further information.



#### Mad Science New Club

There will be a new Mad Science Club taking place after school on Thursdays from 3:15-4:15pm during the summer term. There will be separate sessions for KS1 and KS2 which will run consecutively. More information will be available next week.



**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 Information

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](http://www.52stories.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/52stores](http://www.facebook.com/52stores)



### Science Festival-

The 2018 Science Festival takes place from 12th- 25nd of March and as well as being great fun, encourages young people to consider a career in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. There are a wide variety of talks, interactive demonstrations, hands-on activities, film showings and debates covering a variety of subjects from astronomy to zoology. Some events have a charge or need to be booked in advance but the majority of events are free. For more information visit, <http://www.cam.ac.uk/science-festival>



### And Finally....

*I look forward to seeing many of you in school over the course of next two weeks, we have some wonderfully creative opportunities for you to enjoy with your children. I am always delighted by the beautifully diverse designs and often amusing decorations of eggs and bonnets at this time of year.*

*“You can't use up creativity.  
The more you use, the more you have.”*

*Maya Angelou*

With very best wishes,

*Rachel Snape*

Rachel Snape  
Head Teacher  
National Leader of Education