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

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 16th November 2017

**Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,
Dates for the Diary**



- **Year 3 & 4 Bikeability** – Friday 17th November
- **Children in Need Non Uniform Day**– Friday 17th November
- **Y2 Visit: Teddy Bear Hospital** – Tuesday 21st November
- **Foundation and Year 6 Weighing and Measuring** – Thursday 23rd November
- **Friends Christmas Fair** - Sunday 3rd December 2.30-5pm in the school hall
- **Year 6 Bikeability** – Week Commencing 11th December
- **KS1 Nativity Performance** – Tuesday 12th December 1.30pm Wednesday 13th December 9.30am
- **Pupil Christmas Lunch** – Thursday 14th December
- **KS2 Christmas Carol Service at St. Andrew's Church** – Thursday 14th December 6pm
- **Christmas Stay and Play** – Monday 18th December, morning session
- **End of Term Celebration Assembly** – Tuesday 19th December 1.30pm

Headteacher's reflections

It has been wonderful to hear some of the children's lovely stories about positive friendship this week as we have focused on being kind and friendly to each other. In every class the children have taken time to share their stories of how people have been kind and to them, what makes a good friend and the impact this has on our experiences in school. Year 3 have been making a "Friendship Quilt" with everyone thinking about what makes a good friend and how each of the class has positive friendship qualities that help the learning environment to be welcoming and friendly.

Please take time to ask your child about what they have discussed this week as I am sure you will be delighted to hear their wonderful thoughts and suggestions. I am very proud of their fantastic contributions to making the Spinney such a warm and positive place to be.



Children in Need : Tomorrow, Friday 17th November

On Friday 17th November, we will be holding a special non uniform day in support of this worthwhile charity. Children are invited to wear something stripy or spotty to school for a suggested minimum donation of £1. For those children in years 3 and 4, taking part in Bikeability don't forget to wear something that you can cycle in.

Parent workshop: Developing confidence and self-esteem in our children

Join us for an informal workshop on Tuesday 21st November from 1-3pm with Hannah Currington our Early Intervention Family Worker. During the workshop we will be exploring strategies to help develop your child's confidence and self-esteem and build emotional resilience. Please let Spinney office know if you need a crèche facility by Friday 17th November.



Up Coming dates

You will see from the diary section that there are a number of special events taking place towards the end of this term. There are a number of opportunities to take part in our Festive events, the KS1 Nativity and the KS2 Carol Service being two of the highlights. Please make a note of the dates and look out for information in Parentmail



Bikeability

We are looking forward to welcoming OutSpoken into school tomorrow for our Year 3 and 4 Bikeability. For those children taking part, don't forget to bring your bike into school and remember to lock securely in the bike shelters. Please also remember helmets are compulsory and make sure your Children in Need outfits are bike friendly.



Indoor shoes and Overs

Thank you to the many families who ensure that their child has a pair of indoor shoes to change into in class. This is particularly important at the moment as the field is becoming wet and muddy. The children thoroughly enjoy playing on the field and they are encouraged to go out in all weathers because we know how important regular active play is for the children's physical and social development. We strongly recommend that the children bring a pair of wellies or other sturdy shoes for this season and it is essential that they change into a soft pair of shoes when they come into class such as a pair of slippers or plimsolls. We would also recommend that you provide your child with a set of "Overs" i.e. a set of outdoor clothes that they can change out of at the end of playtime so that the children can keep their school uniform clean (and hopefully reduce your laundry time!).

Message From The Friends



Christmas card designs: Please note that orders must be in by tomorrow, Friday 17th November at the latest. Unfortunately we are unable to accept orders after this date.

Winter fair raffle tickets: Raffle tickets for the fair have been sent home this week so please check your child's school bag. Tickets cost £1 each and all money raised goes towards fundraising for the school. Please return completed stubs in a marked envelope to the school office (please retain the ticket). Cheques can be made to the 'Friends of the Spinney'. Please also return any unused tickets. Tickets will also be available to purchase at the Fair. Prizes include £50 cash, a Christmas hamper and a premier sports party voucher. If you are able to donate a raffle prize, please leave this with the school office. This year's Christmas Winter Wonderland fair is on Sunday 3rd December 2017 from 2.30-5pm in the school hall.

Help required: We still require more volunteers to help with this year's winter wonderland fair. If you are able to assist or if there is a group of you who would like to run a particular activity or stall please leave your details with the school office or let the Friends know by emailing the friends@spinney.cambs.sch.uk. A rota will be available next week to sign up to. Unfortunately if we don't get enough volunteers we will have to reduce the number of stalls and activities planned.



Spinney Christmas puddings: There are a few Spinney Christmas puddings left to buy. There are three scrumptious flavours to choose from - traditional, chocolate and sticky toffee (all non-alcoholic). These are priced at £6 each or two for £10. If you would like to purchase some puddings please inform the school office or let the Friends know by emailing the friends@spinney.cambs.sch.uk.

Non-uniform day: In preparation of the winter fair there will be a non-uniform day on Friday 1st December and in return children are asked to bring donations for the 'pocket money stall' as follows:

- o **Yousafzal** – Brother
- o **Marie Curie** – Sister
- o **Shakespeare** – Dad/Grandad
- o **Dahl** – Mum/Grandma



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

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



The Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (CECF) cordially invites you to an afternoon of cultural diversity on Sunday 19th November, from 2pm-4pm. The event will take place in the Atrium Hall at Netherhall School. There is a full programme of interesting and exciting performances ranging from poetry to dance. Refreshments and snacks will be on sale and donations are also welcome. Monies raised will go towards CECF's new Refugee Service. This is a free event however tickets must be obtained through Eventbrite booking. For further information phone 01223 655241.

CPD for Teachers at the Fitzwilliam Museum

Codebreakers and Groundbreakers with Dr. James Grime, a chance to refresh your creative energy, explore the museum collections and develop your knowledge.

There will be a Teacher Enrichment Session at the Fitzwilliam Museum on Saturday 9th December. You will have the chance to see an original Enigma machine up close and take part in a codebreaking session with Dr. James Grime one of the co-creators of this pioneering and highly acclaimed exhibition.

For more information and for other enrichment opportunities at the Fitzwilliam museum please visit <http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/learning/schools/inset>

And Finally....



“Making one person smile can change the world maybe not the whole world, but their world.”

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education