

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
Web: www.spinney.cambs.sch.uk



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

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 12th October 2017

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



- **Pupil Photographs – Tomorrow! Smart Spinney Uniform, neat hair and Smiles please!**
- **Last Day of Half Term – Friday 20th October**
- **Teacher Professional Training Day – (Non pupil day) Monday 30th October**
- **Pupils back to school - Tuesday 31st October**
- **Year 3 Visit to West Stow – Friday 3rd November**
- **Information Coffee Morning – Friday 10th November 9.15am**
- **Remembrance Assembly – Friday 10th November**
- **Parent Teacher Consultations Years 1-6 – Monday 13th November**
- **Positive Friendship Week – Week Commencing Monday 13th November**

Headteacher's reflections – Mrs Fasching

Tomorrow we will be remembering a wonderful friend and colleague whose passion for helping children to develop their interest in reading will have a lasting effect on our school community. It is truly fitting for such an amazingly colourful lady, that her family have requested bright colours to be worn at her funeral, which will be held at 4pm tomorrow at St. Laurence's Catholic Church Milton Road. The family would like to extend their invitation to the whole Spinney Family to come and pay tribute to her and celebrate her life.

We would also like to pay tribute to her by planting a beautiful magnolia tree in her memory and to that end we have organised a collection for Spinney friends and family to donate. A gift will also be given to the charity of her families choosing. I am sure that she would appreciate our thoughts and she will always hold a special place in the school's heart.



Individual Pupil Photographs

Kittle photographers will be in school tomorrow, Friday 20th October to take individual pupil photographs. As these are a lovely memento of your child's time here at The Spinney please remember smart clothes and big smiles for everyone. Pre school children are invited in from 8:30am so that sibling groups can be taken before school starts. Family groups of siblings will be taken during the morning.

Parents Information Coffee Morning

We will be holding a special coffee morning for parents on Friday 10th November. This is an opportunity for you to come and hear more about volunteer opportunities within the school. You are welcome to join us in the hall from 9.15am. Mrs. Young has also arranged for Hannah Currington, our Early Intervention Family worker to explain her role, how she can support families and her forthcoming workshop helping your children with their self esteem. You are also welcome to join us for our Remembrance Assembly which will follow on from this event.

Information Update Request

Your child will have brought home their data information sheets. Please take the time to check all the contact details are correct and return it to the school office by tomorrow, Friday 20th October. It is important that the school is up to date contact and health information for your child so that you can be easily contacted should it be necessary. There will also be a Video and Photography Consent form for this academic year for you to complete and return. Thank you

Congratulations to Thomas Widdowson who has won a fantastic poetry prize organised by award winning author Robert Macfarlane. Thomas created a delightful poem on the theme of nature and his prize is a stunning book written by Robert Macfarlane and illustrated by Jackie Morris which is described as "...a symphony to the wonders of the natural world, and a stand against the disappearance of wild childhood" Thomas's acrostic poem, below, won the 8-12 year olds' category. A fantastic achievement, well done! We are very proud of you!

Willow

Wondrous wind-catcher
Imagine emeralds fluttering beyond the stars
Landing in your swaying arms.
Long, rickety branches
Opening up to surround the gems with joy.
Would you please give me a hug with your astonishing, loving boughs?



By Thomas Widdowson
Age 8

Secondary School Transfer 2018

The Admissions Team would like to remind all parents and guardians of Year 6 children, that applications for your child's secondary school place must be received on or before the national closing date of 31 October 2017.

If you do not submit an application you will not be offered a school place.

You can submit your application online, and find copies of our "Next Steps" guidebook for parents or guardians at: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-&-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school/>

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place between 1 -7pm on Monday 13th November. Appointment sheets will be on display outside each classroom door from Wednesday 1st November, for families to secure a 10 minute appointment with the class teacher. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend a meeting. This really is an important opportunity to meet your class teacher, and for your child and class teacher to discuss their achievements, progress so far and how parents/carers can best support progress and learning at home. We strongly advise that you do not sign up siblings at immediately consecutive times around the school. If possible please arrive at least ten minutes before your appointment time so that you have the opportunity to look at your child's books ahead of the meeting.

Autumn-Winter Menus

The new autumn –winter lunchtime menus will begin on Tuesday 31st October. Please take time to look though the options with your child. The new menus are available at http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school_office/lunches.php

Messages From The Friends

Due to Mrs Fasching's funeral, the Friends will not be selling flumps and milky ways after school on Friday. This will be rescheduled for next term.



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 buy a pudding or two please speak to one of the Friends in the playground or let the school office know.

Did you know that you can **raise money for the school** whilst shopping on-line and it won't cost you a penny? To raise money, instead of going directly to the retailer website, log into <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> first and click on the retailer you want to shop with. You'll then be taken to the retailer's website where you shop as you would normally. But because you visited easyfundraising first, the school will get a donation. There are over 3,000 retailers which include Amazon, M&S, Clarks, ebay, John Lewis and Argos. The donation is usually a percentage of how much you spend or a set amount. For all first time users you will need to join by setting up an account and registering that you are supporting The Friends of the Spinney School – Cambridge, Cherry Hinton.

Date for your diary: This year's **Christmas Winter Wonderland fair** will be on Sunday 3rd December 2017 from 2.30-5.30pm in the school hall.



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

Reformation 500 - Family Activity Day

Cambridge Remembers the Reformation is taking place at Great St Mary's Church on Saturday 28th October from 11am-4pm. Explore the events of the Reformation with hands-on craft activities, Tudor music, story-telling and drama. Meet King Henry VIII and a host of Tudor heroes, villains, heretics and villagers and experience the sights and sounds of long ago. Fun for all ages!

Theatrical Spectacular 7pm

Drama, music, kings, queens, martyrdom, tragedy and redemption! The tumultuous events of the Reformation in Cambridge are brought to life in our spectacular dramatisation.

FREE admission to both events. No booking required.

Festival of Ideas

The Faculty of Education is delighted to be hosting a 'Playful Learning' day for children and their families as part of this year's Festival of Ideas. Children will have the opportunity to try out fun activities with PEDAL, explore fantasy and fiction with creative writing and see science experiments in action.

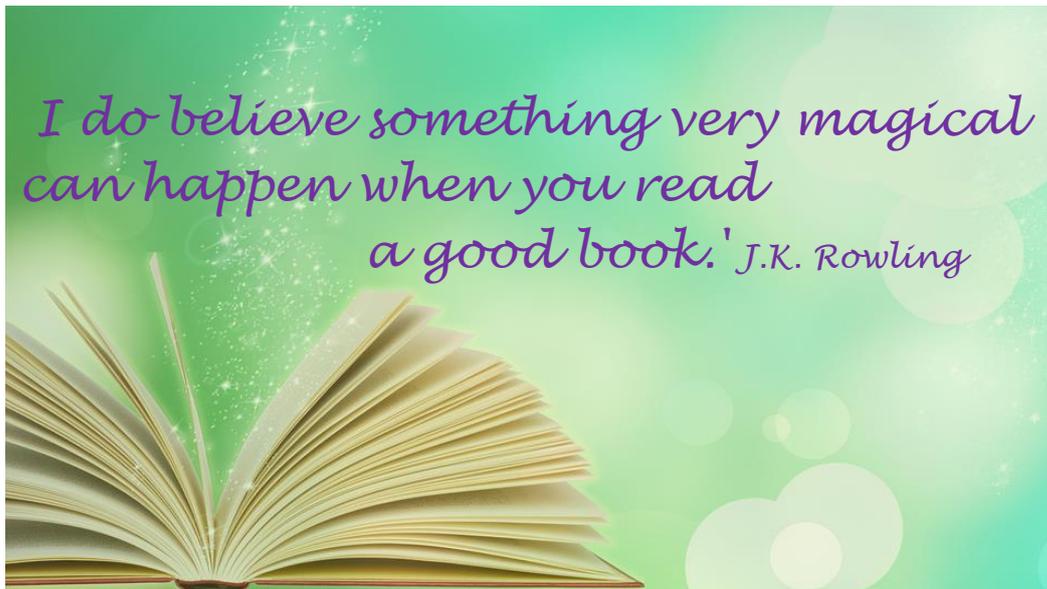
The event will take place on Friday 27 October, 10am - 2pm (drop-in) at the Faculty of Education, 184 Hills Road (CB2 8PQ). No booking is required for this event. Please note that we are unfortunately unable to provide parking at the Faculty of Education on the day.

And Finally....

Mrs. Fasching's passion for books and her love of reading has inspired so many people. I hope that over this half term you will be able to have a good break and take time to enjoy a good read. With the nights drawing in and the temperatures dropping there is nothing better than curling up on the sofa with a good book.

I would also like to wish a Happy Diwali all those celebrating with their family and friends. We hope you have a wonderful time together during this festive period.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 31st October for some more fun and "Teaching and Learning Together".



Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education