



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)



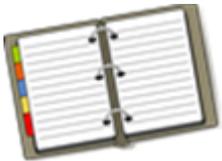
**Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,  
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism**

# 'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

## Dates for the Diary



- **St. Georges Day Pupil Lunch** – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April
- **Foundation Visit to South Angle Farm** – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April
- **Y2 Roman Day** – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- **Year 3 Swimming Commences** - Tuesday- 25<sup>th</sup> April
- **Bank Holiday Monday (School Closed)** – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May
- **KS2 SATS Week** – 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May



## Headteacher's reflections for the week:

I hope you had a wonderful break over the Easter period, and that you have been able to see some new sights and enjoy new experiences. I was pleased to be able to appreciate the glorious weather and spend some quality time together with my family and Bramble our lovely scruffy Scotty Cairn Cross. We were able to walk along the lode near Anglesey Abbey, delighting in the beauty of the trees in full blossom and listening to the sound of the birds in the spring sunshine. I was recently talking to a colleague about the importance of "feeding your eyes", taking time to enjoy the beauty of our surroundings, and how seeing something new and awe inspiring can improve our sense of well being and mental health. This is also true of experiencing art and culture, visiting galleries and historic places. I am delighted that we are able to offer some of these within our enriched curriculum and I would encourage you all to make the most of the wonderful opportunities available to all in Cambridge.

## Curriculum Maps

Your child's curriculum map for term will be sent home shortly. 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. 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.



## Homework via Parentmail

Following feedback from parents we will now be sending homework, spelling and times table practice home via parentmail every Friday. 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.

## Supervising Your Child – After School

Children and families are welcome to stay in the school grounds and play at the end of the school day. However, children must not be left unsupervised specifically after the end of the school day. We would like to remind you that from 3.15pm children are the responsibility of their parents or carers and should be supervised at all times. We would also like to advise you that the school gates are closed each day at 4pm.

## National Curriculum Assessments: Information for Parents

The Standards and Testing Agency have produced a new leaflet and 2 videos aimed at parents with children in year 2 and year 6. These provide basic information on the purpose and format of the tests, how parents can best support their child and how the results will be reported.

Both videos and the leaflet can be accessed via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>



## Foundation Stage Wild Wood: Helpers Required

Foundation Stage will be visiting the woods on; Friday 12th May, Friday 19th May and Friday 26th May. The class are reliant on volunteers to enable them to use this wonderful resource and need at least 4 parent/career helpers each week from 9.00am-11.30am. Please speak to Mrs Williman if you are available to accompany the children into the wood, your assistance is very much appreciated.



## Congratulations

A number of children took music exams at the end of last term, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating them. Benji, Year 4 passed his initial in Piano and Kamilia, Year 2 gained a merit in her initial grade Violin. Anna, Year 4 and Emily, year 5, both passed their grade 1 violin and George, Year 5 passed his Piano grade 1. Well done all of you.



## Lunchtime: New Menus

We have new lunch menus for the summer term. These can be found on the school website or by following the link below. Please take time to talk to your child about the choices available to them.

[http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school\\_office/lunches.php](http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school_office/lunches.php)



## 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. Every Friday afternoon from 3:20pm until 4:00pm.

## Amazon Wish List [amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)

The Spinney School now has an Amazon Wish List. If you would like to donate to the school this is a wonderful way of giving something that has been requested by the teaching team. To view the wish list or purchase something from it, sign in to your own Amazon account and via the 'Your Wish Lists' drop down menu chose 'Find a List'. You will then be able to search for The Spinney Primary School and purchase goods via your own account; these can be posted to the address listed as Sarah Jelliman. The Breakfast Club also has their own wish list and this can be found in the same way by searching for The Spinney Breakfast Club.

Thank you to those who have already bought items from the list, your generosity is very much appreciated.



### Look Smart Be Smart

We are hoping there will be a chance to enjoy some warmer dryer weather now that the Summer Term has arrived. Please note the school summer uniform consists of grey or black trousers or shorts (not sport shorts please), white polo shirts and a red spinney fleece or sweatshirt as necessary. Girls can choose to wear red and white gingham checked dresses if they wish and a red cardigan as necessary. Indoor shoes are an essential part of the school uniform and can be either slippers or plimsolls or something similar. Children are required to change their shoes every time they come in after playtime and this makes a huge difference to the cleanliness of the school. School PE kits comprise of a plain white t-shirt with black sports shorts and either plimsolls or trainers as required. Thank you for your help in providing your child with the appropriate wear – we find that school uniform promotes a good sense of well being and belonging. Items of school uniform can be purchased on line from [www.myschooluniform.co.uk](http://www.myschooluniform.co.uk) or from good local supermarkets.

### Music Lessons, Clubs and SATS Week

Please be aware that there will be no Drama Club (8<sup>th</sup> May) or Multi-Skills (10<sup>th</sup> May) during SATS week. There will be no instrumental lessons with Mrs. Rigby during this time so that the school is quiet and ready for tests.

### After School Club Summer Term Start Dates

**Code Club**, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April



**Drama Club**- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April



**KS2 Choir** –Will restart on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Please note the new finish time of 4pm.

**Multi-Skills** will begin again on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. All children who attended during the spring term are welcome to attend.



### Circus Skills Clubs

Wish your children were more active? Looking for something different to the school sports teams? Come try circus skills at The Spinney! Improve your child’s physical abilities through fun skills like juggling, hula hooping, spinning plates and more. The first session is free to try. Spaces are available for Key Stage 1 and Foundation on Tuesdays, starting on 18<sup>th</sup> April, and KS2 on Fridays from 28<sup>th</sup> April. Both sessions run from 3:15-4:15pm. Contact [emma.wright@cantab.net](mailto:emma.wright@cantab.net) for more details.



### 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. The first session will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May and will continue until 6<sup>th</sup> July. Information about how to sign up will be sent home with the children on April 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information about Mad Science please visit <https://register.madscience.org/east/>



**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 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](https://www.facebook.com/52stores)



## Free English Lessons!

There will be free English Lessons taking place at Chesterton Community College on Friday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am/ for more information or to book a place please contact Sarah Adams [sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk)



The Reach Ride takes place on the day of the historic country fair in the village of Reach at the end of Devil's Dyke. This year's ride will take place on the Bank Holiday Monday 1st May. Cyclists assemble in front of the Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge from 9am for a 10am departure. Arriving at Reach riders can enjoy all the fun of the 800-year-old fair, Maypole, rides, beer and food tents, entertainment and meeting fellow cyclists. For more information please visit

<https://www.camcycle.org.uk/events/rides/>

Cambridge United are hosting a brand new, all girls soccer school. The firs will take place from Tuesday 30th May - Friday 2nd June at Chesterton Community College. You can register your child online or find out more information at [www.cuyd.co.uk](http://www.cuyd.co.uk) or call 01223 566500

## And finally. . .

This poem by W.H. Davies reminds us of the importance of “feeding the eyes”

*What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare?  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.  
No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.  
No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.  
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.  
No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.  
A poor life this if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.*

*W.H. Davies*

With very best wishes,

*Rachel Snape*

Rachel Snape  
Head Teacher  
National Leader of Education