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

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 23rd November 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

Dates for the Diary

- **Non-uniform Day** - Friday 1st December, please bring donations for pocket money stall
- **Friends Christmas Fair** - Sunday 3rd December 2.30-5pm in the school hall
- **Foundation visit to Cherry Hinton Library** – Monday 4th December
- **Year 6 Bikeability** – Week Commencing 4th 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:

We are delighted to be welcoming the English Pocket Opera Company into school tomorrow as they perform their latest interactive presentation "Opera Quest" to the whole school. This year the children will enjoy following a hero's journey with excerpts from different operas and other well known stories. Their visit always proves to be popular with the children and is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to experience and take part in a musical performance. Music plays an important role in education and in our school; helping children to work together, to think creatively and develop lasting tools to help them express themselves. We enjoy singing on a regular basis during our assembly times and this morning we were treated to a beautiful and heartfelt performance from our KS2 Choir as they sang "Lean on Me". I do hope you will get the opportunity to hear them on another occasion.



Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance. "Bethlehem's Buzzin"

KS1 have started to prepare for the Christmas Nativity production of "Bethlehem's Buzzin". There will be three performances, beginning with the dress rehearsal to KS2 children on Monday 11th December followed by the two main performances for families on the afternoon of Tuesday 12th at 1.30pm and the morning of Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am. Crèche facilities are available but please remember to book in advance via the ladies in the office.



Pupils' Christmas Lunch

On Thursday 14th December we will be having our special Christmas lunch in school. Those children having a school dinner will be enjoying roast turkey or roasted vegetable and cranberry parcels with roast potatoes, vegetables and gravy. For dessert there is Christmas pudding and custard or home made iced chocolate cake. All children will be able to enjoy the atmosphere together with crackers and festive cheer. There is no need for children to book in advance.

India Dance Performance

Ana Bingipur from Y3 was invited to perform a semi-classical India dance at the Cultural Day hosted by Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (www.cecf.co.uk). CECF provides racial equality services to individuals and groups. CECF also promotes a cultural diversity that fosters understanding between people from different ethnic groups. Ana was then awarded a certificate by Mayor of Cambridge - George Pippas. Well Done Ana!



We are delighted to share with you a film that was made during this year's STEAM Festival. It was a fun packed day enjoyed by many and this film highlights some of the wonderful activities and events on offer. Please do take a look. The film along with photographs from the day can be found on the STEAM Festival website, <https://www.familysteamfestival.com/about>

Year 6 Bikeability

Year 6 will be taking part in OutSpoken Bikeability training during the week commencing 4th December. Remember to bring your helmet, lock and of course your bike! Please note the correction to the previously advertised dates.



Children in Need

We are delighted to inform you that we raised a total of £225 for Children in need last week which includes £65 from the school council's refreshment stall that took place on Tuesday last week.



Winter Wonderland Fair



Winter fair raffle tickets: Winter fair raffle tickets: Raffle tickets for the fair were sent home last 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

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

Raise money for the school whilst you shop!: 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.



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



Mill Road Winter Fair is a celebration of the area's community. It's an event created and run by people from the Mill Road area with almost everyone joining in and contributing something; community groups, faith centres, businesses, entertainers, residents, visitors ... everyone has something individual to contribute.

This year's fair takes place on Saturday 4th December. There will be live music, signing and other performances at various venues through out the day. The Mayor formally opens the Mill Road Winter Fair at 10.30am at Ditchburn Gardens with activities continuing until 4.30pm. For more information visit the fair website

<http://www.millroadwinterfair.org>

A Very Cherry Christmas Saturday 25th November:

Cherry Hinton's free Community Christmas event takes place at Cherry Hinton Village Centre from 2pm. It will be opened by Santa who is arriving in style on a vintage lorry at 2pm. There will be a free Santa's Grotto, Christmas Craft Fair, huge raffle and The Christmas Cafe. There will also be an opportunity to write a letter to Santa. All materials will be provided in the Cafe including a post box. This year the event will be raising funds for The Arthur Rank Hospice.

Cherry Hinton Christmas lights will be turned on by the Mayor of Cambridge at 5pm with Christmas carols, lead by the Cherry Hinton Community Choir. There will be free hot chocolate and mince pies. All welcome.

Cambridge United Girls Christmas Football Camp

Cambridge United is holding a girls football camp during the Christmas holidays. Sessions will take place on 20th 21st and 22nd December at Comberton Village College for girls aged 7-15. For more information or to book a place go to www.cuyd.co.uk or call 01223 632770

Cambridge Kids Club @ Winter Holiday Play Scheme

If you are looking for fun and exciting activities for your children during the Christmas holidays. Cambridge Kids Club Holiday Play Scheme club can provide your children fun and exciting activities all week. You can book your children in for as many full days (8am until 6pm) or half days (AM or PM) as you wish.

This Winter Cambridge Kids Club will be running a holiday club from: Wednesday 20th– Friday 22nd December. We will be back open on Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd January 2018. The Christmas holiday theme is 'The End of Year Fun' where the children will explore a range of activities themed around Christmas, New Year, and winter. We have planned an enjoyable and exciting holiday programme to keep the kids busy while learning new skills. Please contact 07960 412 716 or info@cambridgekidsclub.com for more information or to book your place.

And Finally....



I know a number of Spinney Pupils are taking instrumental exams this weekend and I wish you all the best of luck.



Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.

Plato

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education