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

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 25th May 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

Dates for the Diary



- **Year 5 Visit to Fitzwilliam Museum** – Friday 26th May
- **Last day of Half Term**– Friday 26th May
- **Professional Training Day (School Closed)**– Monday 5th June
- **Pupils back to school** - Tuesday 6th June
- **Cambridge Science Centre visit Y5** – Thursday 8th June

**BECOME A
FLAMINGO
OF HOPE**



Headteacher's reflections for the week:

As we look forward to the next half term, the last of this academic year, we have a fabulous number of events, activities and performances planned. Amongst other educational visits, Year 5 has a visit from the science centre, Year 3 will be visiting Kentwell Hall and Years 3 and 4 are taking part in a Olympic festival. We will also be coming together as a community for our annual Sports Day and of course the Year 6s and KS2 are already extremely excited about the summer production of *The Wind in the Willows*. It is also a time when we reflect on the year that has passed, taking time to celebrate our successes and enjoy "jumping up" to our classes for the year ahead as well as welcoming our new Foundation Stage children to The Spinney for their Teddy Bear Picnic. I am sure you will agree that this next half term promises to be a wonderful time of Teaching and Learning Together.



The Wind in the Willows, Costume Information for years 3, 4 and 5.

The Wind in the Willows promises to be a wonderful production. In order to make the play as much fun as possible, we ask that you help your child(ren) to find a costume.

Any kind of costume to represent an animal would be great. Obviously it would be best if your child(ren) were dressed as a woodland animal, but if you have a great costume for a different kind of creature then that is also fine.

Use your imagination! Do bear in mind though that your child(ren) will have to sit down for some time in the costume (and be able to walk up several stairs on to the stage). As a result it would be better if the children did not wear a mask! We need to see who they are - and they need to be able to see the steps up to the stage.

Wind in the Willows; Request for Props

If you have anything at all that you think may be useful for our summer production of The Wind in the Willows then please do bring it in and show it Mr. Mawson. You might have possible props or items that we could use as part of someone's costume hiding away in a cupboard of attic! (If you do donate clothes then please let us know if you want it back in the same state in which you brought it.)

Here are some of the things that we need: any old 'animal' costumes; fake fur coats and jackets; any old, unused alicebands; barrister's or judge's wigs and a graduation gown. Thank you in advance.

Year 6 BBQ and Leavers' Assembly

We would like to inform parents that the date of the Year 6 BBQ and Leavers' Assembly has been moved to Thursday 20th July. Parents will be invited to join the Year 6 class for their special assembly in the morning. We hope you will be able to join us.



Cambridgeshire Festival of Education



We are very excited that the Spinney, as lead school of The Kite Teaching School Alliance, has been working hard leading a steering group to organise the inaugural Cambridgeshire Festival of Education. The team has been busy coordinating a week of professional networking and learning events for teachers across Cambridgeshire, culminating in a jam-packed conference day at Anglia Ruskin University on Saturday 1st of July. The festival is all about celebrating the joy, optimism and hope in education and aims to leave teachers feeling informed, inspired and energised. You might have spotted a few flamingos in the school! These birds are the festival's emblem and we're inviting everyone involved in education (or those considering entering the profession) to join the flamboyance! We're delighted that we have Cambridge Independent newspaper as a media partner. They're running a series of articles about the festival <http://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk/education>. Please do help to spread the word if you have friends in Cambridgeshire connected with education. Just simply google 'CambsEdFest'.

Term Date Correction

We would like to make you aware of a correction to the Autumn Term dates for the academic year 2017/18, that have been advertised on the school website. Please note that our first training day of the year will be on Monday 4th September and not Friday 1st as previously advised. Pupils will return to school on Tuesday 5th September 2017. Sorry for any confusion.



Breakfast Club

Mr. Ingram is in the process of creating a Breakfast Club page on the school website. This page will provide information for current and prospective parents about what we offer before school. The page will include the booking form for the relevant half term to enable parents to access this at their convenience. We have also created an email address, breakfastclub@spinney.cambs.sch.uk, so that parents can contact Mrs. Cordy directly with queries, this will be checked every weekday morning. This email address can also be used to forward your completed booking forms. We hope to have this in place after the half term holiday and we hope you will find it useful.

Fair Funding For All Schools is calling parents and children to take part in after school assemblies on Friday 26th May, to demonstrate their concern over the education budget cuts that are being imposed on schools.

For this day of action I've helped them create a map of events, which is at: <http://fairfunding.incodia.com>

The idea is that after school, parents and children all head towards a local park or meeting point, make a lot of noise, have a picnic, play games - do whatever really to get noticed! Bring homemade banners drawing attention to the cuts. Please see Fair Funding's facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fairfundingforallschools/>

And twitter: <https://twitter.com/fairfundschoo>

If there's no event on the map near you, and you want to take part, then please ask someone to add a pin using this link: <http://fairfunding.incodia.com/#/publicadd>

From The Friends

Second Hand School Uniform

This year there are plans to have a second-hand uniform sale at the Summer Fair. Therefore, if you have any logood items (e.g. book bags, fleeces, polo shirts, t-shirts and jumpers) that you no longer need, and they are clean and in good condition (no stains or holes please) can you please hand them into the school office or to Becky Hawker (Years 2 & 4). We would be grateful if any name labels are removed in advance. Many thanks for your help.

Raffle Prizes

If anyone is able to donate a raffle prize for this year's summer fair being held on Sunday 2nd July please let one of the Friends know or inform the school office. This may be an unwanted gift or if you have your own business, possibly a voucher. Any donations are greatly appreciated. All donations can be left with the school office. Many thanks.



Congratulations to Roland Kreiter for gaining a distinction in his Initial Piano exam. Keep up the good work!



Take Everything Home. Tomorrow Friday 26th June

Tomorrow we will be asking the children to take all their personal belongings home with them, PE Kits, indoor shoes, book bags, extra fleeces, summer hats etc. Unfortunately, we are unable to store property over the half term holiday. Please support your child by providing them with a named carrier bag to help them to get everything home. Many thanks.



The month of Ramadan commences this week end and for those families celebrating, we would like to wish you all "Ramadan Mubarak".



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

Come and See Science in Action

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



ChYpS Half Term Activities

ChYpPS have lots of fun sessions happening for children and their families over half term. All the sessions are free and you can just turn up on the day. For more information please visit their Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/chypps>



Great Entertainment in the Summer Holidays - 250 places.

If you're thinking about the summer holidays, please note that there will be a Holiday Bible Club for 5-11 yr olds between Monday 24th July and Friday 28th July; 10am-12:30pm. Now in its 28th year, the holiday club will have the usual mix of drama, songs, craft, games and the soaking of the yellow shirted helpers. Although it takes place at Colville School it is run by Cherry Hinton Churches and is open to children from all schools. It costs only £10 per child for the week (or £5 if on pupil premium) and this year has the theme of the Seaside. Book places now at www.ch-bc.org.uk/HolidayClub or on forms which will come out through schools at the end of June.

Family Guide To Cambridge



Family Guide To Cambridge is a resource for families in Cambridge who are looking for one place to go where they can find out about family friendly local events, things to do, classes, groups and places to eat and drink.

The information on the site is not just a listings service, but pulls together other useful local information and blogs articles of use to families. <http://familyguideto.co.uk>

And finally . . .

This next half term will be my son Charlie's last at secondary school. I recently took him to collect his Prom suit, he looked amazing, very smart and handsome and very grown up! It was a delightful reminder that seasons come to an end but as they do new seasons flourish and new opportunities arise.

*"Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over,
he became a butterfly."*

Proverb



With very best wishes,

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher
National Leader of Education