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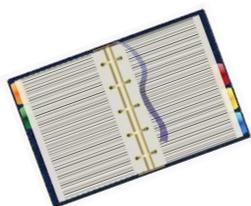
**Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,  
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism**



# 'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,



- **Sports Day** - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Spinney Jump Up Days** – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July
- **Race for Life Schools** – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July
- **Year 6 Graduation Event: St. Andrew's Church** - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2pm
- **Summer Production** – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July
- **Open Afternoon** – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July from 1.15pm
- **Y6 Leavers Assembly** – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- **Y6 BBQ** – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July

## Headteacher's reflections:

Next week the children will be "Jumping up" to their classes for next year, our Year 6 children are visiting their new secondary schools and we will be welcoming our new Foundation Stage intake for September. These events are a reminder that we are rapidly approaching the end of another academic year and I am once again mindful of how quickly time passes and how our children grow and mature during their time at The Spinney. At this time of the year, when we are busy looking forward to our summer holidays and new schools it is also a time for us to look back at our progress and celebrate our achievements. The children will be taking time to share in their classes, some of the learning that has taken place this year and they have also started practicing for the celebration assembly next month.

There are however still lots of events to look forward to – we are pleased to welcome families to our Sports Day Stay and Play tomorrow, where we hope you will enjoy joining in the carousel of activities. Year 6 and the KS2 chorus are busily rehearsing for their fantastic summer production, and on 16<sup>th</sup> July, there is the opportunity for you to join us in school for Open Afternoon to reflect on how much your child has learnt this year and what they are looking to improve on next year.

## End of Year Reports and Open Afternoon

The children will be bringing home their end of year reports on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. This is an important opportunity for you to share in your child's achievements and celebrate their successes. We hope that you spend time with your children congratulating them on their achievements and their growth over the past academic year.

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July school will be open to parents and carers, to celebrate all that your children's successes over this past year. The school will be open from 1:00 – 4:00pm. You are invited to visit your child's classroom and view the work they have completed over this past year. You will have the opportunity to look at your child's books. You are invited to discuss with your child what they have enjoyed, what they have learnt and made progress in and what they are looking forward to next year. No appointment is necessary.



### **Family Stay and Play, Sports Day. Tomorrow. Please remember Sun Cream and a Hat!**

As you will be aware, we are holding our traditional family friendly Summer Stay and Play and Sports Day tomorrow. In the morning we hope that you will be able to come along and join in the fun of our summer term 'Stay and Play' session that will start from 9:30am. This will be a chance for parents to join their children in a carousel of sporting activities whilst contributing towards collecting points for their Houses. Parents might therefore like to consider wearing PE kits too! Premier will be leading a whole school warm up and will also be on hand during the morning to offer encouragement and support. Although none of the activities will be particularly strenuous please remember that all adults participate at their own risk.

The weather forecast is for a hot sunny day, with little breeze. Temperatures are predicted to potentially reach 30 degrees. Could we therefore kindly remind parents to provide all children with hats and water bottles for use throughout the day? Water bottles will be refilled as frequently as required. Please apply a high factor sun cream to your child before bringing them to school.

Additionally, in light of this predicted high temperature, we have decided to adjust arrangements for the afternoon Sports Day races. Children will still participate in both a standard running race and an egg and spoon race. In order to reduce the children's exposure to the high temperatures, Sports Day will be completed in two parts. The first part of the afternoon will be for Key Stage one races. Once these are completed, the Key Stage two races will take place.

If you would like to take your child early at the end of the races, please remember to deregister them with their class teacher.

### **A Message From the Friends**

A big thank you to everyone that came along and helped at the Summer Fair on Sunday. Also a big thank you to Carter Jonas Estate Agents for sponsoring the fair. We hope you and your family enjoyed the sunshine, stalls and the activities that were on offer.

The Friends undertook a final count on Wednesday night and are pleased to report that the fair made £1,652 for the school. So a big well done to everyone.

At sports day tomorrow, the Friends will be selling drinks as follows:

Cans/Bottles of water £1

Cartons 50p

Please note that the drinks are for spectators only during the races. Parents have already been asked to provide their children with a water bottle.



### **Jump up Days**

Next week on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July the children from Foundation to year 5 will be meeting their new class teachers and learning about the rules, routines and expectations for their new class. We will also be welcoming our new Foundation 2018 children into school this week as they come to familiarise themselves with their new school.

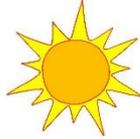
We would also like to inform you that Mrs Lane, who currently works as our Music teacher, will be working along side Mrs Williman in Year 1 next year. Mr Palmer, our new year 5 teacher will also be joining us for the jump up days.

We are also delighted that Mrs Lane, our year 4 teacher will be back to her usual working pattern alongside Miss Bennett from next week. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Miss Bennett for all the extra work she has done over the past months.



### **Race for Life**

In support of Mrs Lane and to raise money for Cancer Research, 25 members of the Spinney staff team are taking part in Race for Life Cambridge on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July. We would also like to give children the opportunity to take part in the Race for Life Schools 2018. On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, each class will do a number of laps of the school field to highlight the work of this fantastic charity. Children can bring in a suggested donation of £1 on the day or you can donate via the Events section of your Simms Agora account. Thank you in advance for your kind support



## Sun Protection and Hydration

We are experiencing some lovely weather at the moment and the children are enjoying playing in the sunshine. We would like to remind all parents to provide their child with a water bottle and a sun hat so that they can stay safe in the sun. Please apply sun cream before coming to school.



## The Post Box Has Moved

The post box in the front entrance can now be found on the left hand side of the reception foyer, opposite the office window. The box can be used for all communications with the office including dinner money, absences requests, and letters for teachers and education visit payments. The post box is emptied on a regular basis and at least once a day. If you need to speak to one of the office team, please be aware the School Office is open between the hours of 8.30 -9.30am and 3pm-4pm.



## Lost Property

We currently have a large amount of lost property. As the box in the front entrance was overflowing, we have relocated some items to another area. If your child has lost anything or you would like to look through the bag, please speak to the office team. The box in the front entrance will still be in use for property that is found from today onwards.



## Ticks

Last week we discovered a small number of ticks in the wood. It is common for ticks to be found in wooded areas especially where deer are present. Ticks can bite and although most tick bites are harmless, a small number of ticks are infected with bacteria that cause Lyme disease.

As a precaution, we would like to ask parents to make themselves aware of the signs and symptoms of tick bites and Lyme disease. Detailed Information can be found on the NHS website.

If going into the wood, all children must wear long trousers, ideally tucked into their boots and we ask that you please carefully check your children after each visit. It is also possible to purchase tick repellent from most outdoor shops. We will make you aware of any planned class visits to the wood.



## Make The Most of Storytime **FREE EVENT for Spinney Parents of EYFS, Y1 and Y2 Children**

As parents and carers will be aware we have been involved in a year long project as a pioneer school with [EmpathyLab](#). This has been a very successful initiative and in partnership with Bewick Bridge we have worked on various elements including Teacher Training, the EmpathyLab Big Read and Write at Lady Mitchell Hall and The Empathy Awards. Last week all of KS2 visited Bewick Bridge for an Empathy afternoon which included a visit from Ross Montgomery (which can actually be seen on the [EmpathyLab website!](#)) and now we would like to tell you about another wonderful activity for Spinney and Bewick Bridge families too.

A **Reading Together Workshop** will take place on Wednesday 27th June at Cherry Hinton Library and is being led by Courtney Froehlig. The aim is to help you to promote thinking and communication through storytime. Topics covered include bringing more enjoyment, connection, and conversation to storytime, supporting your child's social perspective-taking and relational reasoning, building your child's confidence in communicating and explaining their ideas. The focus is for parents and carers of children in Early Years Foundation Stage and Years 1 and 2, however it will be useful for all parents. More information will be sent home to EYFS and KS1 family shortly. To reserve your place, please email Courtney at [cef51@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cef51@cam.ac.uk)



**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 Information

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](http://www.52stories.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/52stories](https://www.facebook.com/52stories)



This year's theme is 'Mischief Makers', in partnership with The Beano. Explore a map of Beanotown to find the mysterious buried treasure and become an ultimate mischief maker! Solve clues and collect stickers, have lots of fun and adventures along the way! There is a medal and certificate for all children who read 6 books to complete the challenge.

The Summer Reading Challenge is open to pre-school and primary school aged children and is designed for all reading abilities.

Children will be able to sign up for the challenge from Saturday 14 July.

We also have lots of opportunities for young people to volunteer to help with the challenge. From helping host events and activities to registering readers and listening to the children talk about the books they have read. Ask at your local library for details of how to sign up as a volunteer.

This year we are also offering young people aged 13-24 the opportunity to become a Reading Hack and develop their volunteering experience - find out more at

<http://readinghack.org.uk/>

### Finally....

I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone involved in making the Summer Fair such a beautiful and brilliant success. The Friends team organised a wonderful array of activities and events for us all to enjoy. The weather and the atmosphere was spectacular and there was a wonderful Spinney community feel across school. The Friends have been an amazing group of parents and because of their hard work and effort. So, thank you! We send huge thanks to the Friends team, their spouses and everyone who helped on the day for this wonderful afternoon and for raising such a terrific sum of money.

*"When your legs can't run anymore run with your heart"*

With very best wishes,

*Rachel Snape*

Headteacher

National Leader of Education

