



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 28th September 2017



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



- **Macmillan Coffee Morning – Tomorrow, Friday 29th September**
- **The Selfish Giant** – Monday 2nd October
- **Friends AGM** – Monday 2nd October 8pm Team Room
- **MindUP Development Day** – Wednesday 4th October 3.30pm Team Room
- **Friends Pupil Disco** – Friday 6th October
- **Harvest Festival Service & Bring your Parent to Lunch** – Monday 9th October
- **Y5 Colne Valley Railway** – Wednesday 11th October

Headteacher's reflections

It was delightful to see so many people enjoying and being part of our Steam festival last weekend and I am very grateful to everyone who volunteered their time and skills to make the day such a memorable event. Those of you who were able to come and experience the amazing workshops and fantastic demonstrations will, I am sure, agree that it was a resounding success. A special thank you also goes to Mrs. Young and Anna Taylor for all their hard work and preparations. There was a real buzz of excitement and a fantastic festival atmosphere that represents the community ethos that we have here at the Spinney.

We are always keen to foster our Spinney community and we have a number of events though out the year, our next being the Harvest Festival and Parents' lunch which will be on Monday 9th October. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather together and celebrate this traditional festival.



MindUP™ Parent Workshop

The MindUP™ team will be revisiting our school for an Extension Day Workshop. During this visit they will be holding a program workshop for parents, which you are encouraged to attend. During this interactive workshop you will learn about the MindUP™ curriculum and be given tools and tips on how to integrate MindUP™ into your home and family life. For Parents, MindUP™ provides new techniques to better cope with and manage the challenges of work/life stress. MindUP™ also helps parents build healthy relationships between siblings, their children and the community, and finally, between their children and themselves.

In a change to the time advertised on last week's newsletter, the workshop will take place on Wednesday 4th October 2017 from 9am – 10am in the school hall. Please sign up for a place on the workshop with the ladies in the office.

We will be offering a crèche for pre-school children during the workshop; if you would like to book your child a place please do so via the office. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.



Harvest Festival Service and Bring your Parent to School Day.

On Monday 9th October, we are inviting you to join us for our annual Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church followed by 'Bring your Parent to School Lunch'. This is another highlight in our calendar event. Parents and Carers are the children's first teachers and at the Spinney we value our partnerships between school and home.

Come into school when you drop your child off and wait a few moments while your child is registered and then accompany your child's class as we walk together to St. Andrew's Church to share our traditional Harvest Festival Service which will start at approximately 10:00 am. After the service we will walk back to school and on our return to school at approximately 11:30-11:45am parents will be offered tea or coffee and biscuits. You can then join your child on the playground until it is time to go in with them for lunch at approximately 12:00. Foundation Stage Pupils and KS1 pupils will go in first with their parents, and siblings will be accommodated so that families can eat together. There will be a delicious lunch of beef or vegetarian casserole served with seasonal vegetables followed by chocolate sponge with chocolate custard or sliced fresh fruit and an assortment of yogurts. We love having parents in school but as ever we rely on your patience in ensuring that this process, which understandably takes a little longer than usual, can flow as smoothly as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

Tickets cost £3.50 and are available from the school office from Monday 18th September. Unfortunately they can only be purchased in cash and not via your Agora account. Payment must be made at the time of purchase.

Tickets for the lunch are on sale until **Wednesday 4th October** as the kitchen staff will need to have final numbers so please remember to buy your tickets in advance.

We would very much appreciate contributions for our Harvest Collection which will be passed on to Jimmy's Nightshelter. Children can start bringing in tins of soup, packets of biscuits, or maybe jars of jam from Wednesday 4th October.



Foundation Super Heroes

On Friday 21st October Foundation children and staff will be having a Super Heroes Day. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite Super Hero. It is not compulsory so if children would prefer to come in school uniform as usual, they are welcome.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE NEEDS TALENTED TEACHERS COULD THAT BE YOU?

Getting into Teaching Event

Find out different ways to apply, train, the associated costs, locations and time commitments. Speak to recently qualified teachers about their training and teaching experiences.

- Hear about career progression, opportunities in the teaching profession and being a leader in a Cambridgeshire school.
- Learn about the innovative good practice and sharing that is going on in Cambridgeshire schools.
- Speak to schools and ITT providers about the best teacher training route for you and get expert advice and guidance on applying for teacher training.

The event takes place at Anglia Ruskin University on Thursday 16th November 2017, 6-8pm.

To book a place for the event, please follow this link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/getting-into-teaching-information-event-tickets-37992374214>

Cambridge Centre for Family Research

A PhD student from the University of Cambridge Centre for Family Research is undertaking a study of stay-at-home fathers and their children aged 6 years-old and under. The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. This study will examine child development and parent-child relationships in families with young children. They are asking different types of families to take part in this study in order to explore similarities and differences in parenting and family relationships. This study aims to look at stay-at-home fathers, stay-at-home mothers and families where both parents work. Few studies have given focus to families in which the father is the primary caregiver, which is why we have included stay-at-home fathers as one of the family types. We hope to add depth to knowledge of the role of parenting in children's development.

If you would be interested in taking part in this research, please email researchonfamilies@gmail.com

Message From The Friends



The annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning** will be held on tomorrow Friday 29th September from 9am in the school hall. This is open to everyone and is a good way to meet other parents over a cup of coffee and slice of cake whilst raising money for a good cause. We hope to see you there. Cake donations gratefully received.

Straight after the Macmillan Coffee morning there will be a **free** taster fitness session with Premier Sports on the school field. 45 minutes of fitness with experienced instructors – including stretches, squats, lunges, sit-ups – what better way to burn off those cake calories! Exercises are tailored to your own fitness ability so people new/returning to fitness and seasoned professionals are all welcome. All that is required are comfortable clothing and trainers, a towel or mat and a bottle of water. Future sessions will be held every Friday straight after registration and cost £5.

The Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 2nd October at 8pm in the Spinney Team room. Everyone is welcome. Please come and find out what events took place last year, what is planned for the coming year and how much we raised for the school in 2016/17.

There will be a **School Disco** on Friday 6th October in the school hall. The Foundation and KS1 disco takes place from 4.30-5.45pm and the KS2 disco will be held 6-7.30pm. This is a drop-off event and costs £3 on the door. The price includes a drink and a packet of crisps for each child.

With the festive period fast approaching, the Friends will once again be selling their **Christmas puddings**. There are three scrumptious flavours to choose from (or perhaps get one of each) - traditional, chocolate and sticky toffee (all non-alcoholic). These puddings are always very popular, so please make sure you don't miss out. There will be an opportunity to buy them during refreshments on Harvest Festival Day on Friday 9th October 2016. They are very reasonably priced at £6 each or two for £10.



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

Free Exercise Classes

Alicia's (year 4) mum, Anna would like to invite everyone for the free exercise classes which she runs on Tuesdays during the school term and in the fine weather. The meeting takes place at 9.30am until 10.30am by the duck pond at the Cherry Hinton Hall.

The class is called Treasure Hunt. The treasures are benches, red boxes and big stones. Once the treasure is found, corresponding exercises are performed which are squats, burpees and press ups. Do come and join in. Alicia's mum holds a degree in PE from Poland and Postgraduate Certificate in Managing Leisure from the Metropolitan University.

Travel Through Time: Come and help create a fun mural in the library

You are invited to help create a mural using collage materials with author/illustrator Marion Lindsay at Cherry Hinton Library on Monday 23rd October from 10.30am -12 midday. All families are welcome to this drop in session but please remember that parents/carers must stay with their children.

Cambridge Festival of Ideas- Monday 16th to 29th October

The Cambridge Festival of Ideas celebrates its 10th anniversary with a line-up of distinguished speakers and a host of exhibitions and events.

Truth has dominated the news agenda in the last year and is the driving force of academic research. This year's Cambridge Festival of Ideas puts truth under the spotlight, discussing everything from whether we can still believe in experts and how conspiracy theories stake their claim to truth to what has driven populism around the world to whether we can still keep secrets in an age of technology. For more information please visit the festival website.

<http://www.festivalofideas.cam.ac.uk/>

Wonderful Wandlebury Archaeology & History fun day

Cambridge Past Present and Future are holding an Archaeology & History fun day on Saturday 7 October 12 noon - 4.30pm at Wandlebury Country Park. Learn about the landscape from local archaeologists - presentations start at 12 noon with 'Iron Age Hillforts'. Enjoy the fascinating trails around the hillfort and 19th century estate, Cambridge Storytellers, Cambridge Beekeepers, puppets with Vital Spark Theatre, archery, cord making, face painting, costumes, chainmail making and basket weaving. For more information visit www.cambridgeppf.org. Entry is free but normal parking charges apply.

BRAND NEW COURSE FOR GIRLS AT CAMBRIDGE UNITED!!!

Cambridge United is offering a course for girls to develop their football. They are encouraging girls from local clubs to attend in the half term holiday. The course is for committed girls who are serious about developing their football and who love football. To book please visit: <https://goo.gl/Z1hqvD> or call 01223 632770

And Finally....

I am very excited to be welcoming the **MindUP™** team into school on Wednesday next week. The morning workshop for parents promises to be both informative and invaluable, as we work together to promote positive relationships and mental health within our school and families. I do hope you will be able to join us.



Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education