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

# 'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

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



## Wheel of Well-being

- **Year 3 Visit to West Stow** – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- **Bonfire Night Lunchtime Special** – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November
- **Information Coffee Morning** – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 9.15am
- **Remembrance Assembly** – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10.40am
- **Parent Teacher Consultations Years 1-6** – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November
- **Positive Friendship Week** – Week Commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November
- **Travelling Book Fair** – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 3.15-4pm

### Headteacher's reflections: "One hour makes a huge difference!"

I am delighted that here at the Spinney we are blessed with a small team of volunteers whose time and dedication make a huge difference to our school community. The work they do has a great impact on the children they work with and it is well documented that there is a great health benefit to the volunteers themselves. I was interested to read recently that the NHS recommends volunteering as a healthy way to boost self-confidence, develop new skills and build new relationships also fitting perfectly into the **Spirit** segment of the Wheel of Wellbeing, which we have been looking at together with the children this term.

I would like to encourage parents and anyone who is interested in volunteering at The Spinney to come to our **Special Coffee Morning at 9:00am next Friday** to find out more about volunteering in school and how you could play a vital and important role in our community. There no commitment necessary, just turn up and take the opportunity to hear from those who already volunteer. In a recent conversation with one of our wonderful parent volunteers, Mrs. Kerdasi commented "One hour makes a huge difference"

### Parents Information Coffee Morning

We will be holding a special coffee morning for parents on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. This is an opportunity for you to come and hear more about volunteer opportunities within the school. You are welcome to join us in the hall from 9.15am. Mrs. Young has also arranged for Hannah Currington, our Early Intervention Family worker to explain her role, how she can support families and her forthcoming workshop helping your children with their self esteem. You are also welcome to join us for our Remembrance Assembly which will follow on from this event.



### Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Assembly

As usual the Spinney is taking part in this important national appeal. Pupils are able to buy poppies taken around school by the Year 6 pupils for a suggested minimum donation of 20p. Other amounts are of course welcome eg 50p/£1 We will also be holding a special assembly on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10.40am, which parents are welcome to attend.

## Parent/Teacher Consultations for Years 1-6

Parent Consultations for Years 1-6 will take place between 1-7pm on Monday 13th November. Appointment sheets are on display outside each classroom door for families to secure a 10 minute appointment with the class teacher. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend a meeting. This really is an important opportunity to meet your class teacher, and for your child and class teacher to talk about their achievements, progress so far and how parents/carers can best support progress and learning at home. We strongly advise that you do not sign up siblings at immediately consecutive times around the school. If possible please arrive at least ten minutes before your appointment time so that you have the opportunity to look at your child's books ahead of the meeting.



## Congratulations

I am sure you will join us in congratulating Mr. and Mrs Williaman (year 1) on the birth of George. Mum and baby are both doing well and we look forward to them popping in to say hello.

## Autumn-Winter Menus

The new autumn –winter lunchtime menus began on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Please take time to look though the options with your child. The new menus are available at [http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school\\_office/lunches.php](http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school_office/lunches.php)

## Travelling Book Fair - Tuesday 14th -Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>November

This year we are again holding the terrific Children's book fair in school. From Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November until Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November a display of excellent children's books will be on offer for you to purchase, at prices from as low as £2.99. Books from author's such as Michael Morpurgo, Jacqueline Wilson and Julia Donaldson plus many others will be available so please pop into the school hall between 3:15 – 4:00 pm and see if any of them take your fancy! If you would like to purchase pre-paid internet book vouchers so that your child can make their selection and pay themselves, visit [www.travellingbooks.co.uk](http://www.travellingbooks.co.uk)

Please note the book fair will not be taking place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

## English for Women, Free Lessons

Chesterton Community College is offering free lessons for women who would like to improve their English. The lessons will take place on Tuesdays for 4 weeks starting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 1pm-2pm at Chesterton Community College, CB4 3NY. Please contact Sarah Adams [sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk) to book your free place.

There will also be an extra class on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 9am-10am here at The Spinney. Places for this can also be booked at the email address above.

## Message From The Friends



**Christmas card designs:** Your child has been busy designing their Christmas cards and design proofs will be sent home next week with information on how to order. Please keep an eye out for them in your child's school bag. Please note that orders must be in by Friday 17th November at the latest. Unfortunately we are unable to accept orders after this date.

**Winter fair raffle tickets:** Raffle tickets for the fair will be sent home week commencing 13th November 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. We already have many prizes to be won but further donations would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate a raffle prize, please leave this with the school office. This year's Christmas Winter Wonderland fair is on Sunday 3rd December 2017 from 2.30-5pm in the school hall.

**Help required:** As always we require help with the many stalls and activities planned for 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](mailto:friends@spinney.cambs.sch.uk). A rota will be available shortly to sign up to.

**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.

**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 retailers 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](http://www.52stories.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/52stores](https://www.facebook.com/52stores)

### **And Finally....**

I hope you have a wonderful bonfire weekend, take care and enjoy the fireworks.



*“Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless,  
but because they're priceless.”*

*Rachel Snape*

Rachel Snape  
Head Teacher

National Leader of Education