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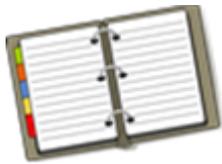
Child Centredness, Teamwork and Community, Excellence, Learning,
Improvement, Responsibility, Optimism

'THE SPINNEY STANDARD'

Thursday 7th September 2017

Dear Spinney Parents, Children and Carers,

Dates for the Diary



- Year 6 Visit to the Isle of Wight - Monday 11th – Friday 15th September
- Year 5 Swimming Starts – Tuesday 19th September
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – Thursday 21st September
- Family Learning Festival- Saturday 23rd September



Headteacher's reflections

It has been so exciting to see everyone returning back to school full of smiles and stories from their summer adventures. The children are happy and excited to be back at school and ready for the new learning opportunities ahead. Our theme for this year is "*Happiness is not ready made it comes from our own actions*" which will be linked to **The Wheel of Well-Being**. We will be focusing on how our health and happiness can be boosted by doing certain things on a regular basis: eating well, taking walks in nature, exercising, spending time with friends and family and being part of a community.

The Wheel of Well-being is a guide to some of these and we will be looking at the different segments of the wheel: Body, Mind, Spirit, People, Place and Planet. The Wheel of Well-Being helps us to remember the importance of each of these areas and gives us hints and tips to help improve our moods, reduce the risk of depression, strengthen relationships and keep us healthy. The Wheel of Well-Being is collaboration between the Mental Health Promotion Team at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and Uscreates, you can access their website at <https://www.wheelofwellbeing.org/>



Thank you very much. The staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the very wonderful gifts, cards and kind words we received at the end of last term. At the end of what was another busy and exciting year, we genuinely value your thoughtful words and appreciation. Thank you so very much!



Year 6 Residential Visit to the Isle of Wight

The Year 6 children are off on their traditional visit to The Isle of Wight on Monday. They are very excited and very much looking forward to a week of interesting and exciting excursions with their fellow classmates. We will

miss them in school but wish them all 'Bon Voyage' and look forward to hearing all about it on their return.
Year 6 - Remember to bring everything you need with you bright and early on Monday morning.

Meet The Teacher!

Our curriculum parents' meetings will take place over the few days. This is an opportunity for you to come and meet your child's new teacher, and for the teacher to provide an overview of the school year, including curriculum, special events, classroom organisation and expectations.

The meeting start at 3.30pm (unless indicated) and dates are as follows:

Thursday 7th September – year 1
Friday 8th September – Year 2
Mon 11th September – year 3

Wednesday 13th September – Year 5
Thursday 14th September (1pm) – Foundation Stage
Thursday 14th September – Year 4



Our annual **Family STEAM Festival** will take place this year on Saturday 23rd September, here at The Spinney Primary School. The event is free and all are welcome (not just Spinney Families!). We have an exciting programme of FREE hands-on workshops and shows, all themed around **STEAM** – **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths**. There is something for everyone in the family to enjoy and some really yummy festival food will be available to buy at a fair price. We hope to see as many of you there as possible and as we are opening this event to the Cambridge community please invite your friends, family and neighbours and point them in the direction of our website – www.familySTEAMfestival.com or search 'Family STEAM Festival' on Facebook or Twitter. We're very much in need of **VOLUNTEERS** to help us run this event. If you or your older children can spare all day or half a day to help us please do come and speak with Suzie in the school office or email info@familysteamfestival.com

Dinner Money

Over the last 4 years we have been able to keep the cost of children's school meals at £2.20, however due to rising food costs the cost of a meals is now £2.50. I hope that you understand the necessity of this increase especially as the food remains high quality and good value for money.

Dress Code

We would like to remind parent that children are not permitted to wear transfer tattoos, nail varnish or jewellery, except for a simple stud earring, which needs to be covered or removed for P.E. We appreciate you assistance.

Books and Bubble Wrap for Year 4

Year 4 would like your help revamping their reading corner. If you have any books that you no longer need and would like to donate them, please hand them into the year 4 class or the ladies in the office. They would also welcome donations of bean bag chairs, if you have one in good condition that you would like to rehome, the Year 4 children would be delighted to take it off your hands.

Year 4 also need old pieces of bubble wrap and a cereal box for a project next week. If you have any available your donations would be appreciated. Many thanks.

Children's Centre Funding

There are a number of local organisations campaigning against the proposed cuts Children's Centre funding. Kate Jones, mother of Billy and Daniel is collecting signatures petitioning against these cuts and she will be in the playground during drop off and collection time, however she might not be able to speak to everyone in the playground. If you would like to know more or would like to sign the petition please visit http://www.cambridgelibdems.org.uk/no_childrens_centre_cuts

We are aware that other political parties are also campaigning against these cuts and further information can also be found at, http://www.danielzeichner.co.uk/cambridge_nursery_schools_under_threat



Open Fridays

Find out more about what your child has been doing in school each week and celebrate their achievements and progress. We offer parents and carers the opportunity to come into the classroom with their child, so that the children can talk to you about their learning and show you the work they have been doing. Open Friday session will start this term on Friday 15th September, and then every Friday afternoon from 3:20pm until 4:00pm.

“Going up to Secondary School” Events

The Parents’ School Preference Adviser (PSPA) in conjunction with SENDIASS/Parent Partnership Service is holding a series of ‘Going up to Secondary School’ events throughout the county in September/October 2017.

These are free events for parents of all children in Year 6. The focus is to provide information about moving up from primary to secondary school, including the application process and information and strategies on how to support their child with making the move.

Parents of children in Year 5 with an EHCP/Statement are also invited. The process is slightly different for these children so the events give parents timely advice and information on making their secondary school application. Speakers will include staff from the Statutory Assessment and Resources Team, Educational Psychologists, the Parents’ School Preference Adviser and SENDIASS. The events are funded jointly by PSPA and SENDIASS. Information about these events will be included with all UID letters sent out for Year 6 children from the Admissions team and individual letters have been posted to parents who have a Year 6 or Year 5 child with an EHCP/Statement.

A message From The Phonics Fairy

Many of the children will know our friend The Phonics Fairy. Parents are invited to subscribe to the fairy’s youtube channel for access to her stories and adventures. Subscriptions are free, and you will then be notified when new videos are uploaded. First flying episode goes live on the 15th September.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ZodiakRights>

Vacancy

We are looking to appoint After School Club Assistants to help launch our brand new and exciting After School Club here at The Spinney Primary School. The club, for Spinney pupils only, will run from 3:15 – 6:00pm daily during term time only. For more information please visit our website

http://spinney.cambs.sch.uk/school_office/vacancies.php or speak to Mrs. Jelliman.

After School Clubs



Premier Sport organise The Spinney’s After School Football Clubs. These sessions are run by professional coaches and give children the opportunity to end the day with a healthy bout of exercise and fun. This year they are running two separate clubs: KS2 (Years 3-6) on Wednesdays 3.15-4.30pm. and KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) on Thursdays from 3.15pm -4.30pm. The next sessions will start on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th September respectively. It is recommended that children in Foundation Class start after the half term break. Forms will be sent home with the children next week or you can register on line at <http://sport.premier-education.com/> Places are limited and on-line registration is open.



Le Club Français will continue to operate a French club in school this year on Mondays (Years 1 and 2) and Tuesdays (years 3-6) from 15:25 to 16:10. The club gives children an informal introduction to language learning through songs, games, stories and activities. Please contact Tim Morley on 01223 911575 for further information, or sign up online at <http://westcambs.com/> The Autumn term will run from the 11/12th September to 4/5th December.

Circus Skill Club for KS1



Right Side Up Circus will be starting their afterschool club for KS1 and KS2 Spinney children on Tuesday 19th September. The sessions will take place in the Year 4 classroom from 3.30pm until 4.30pm.

Right Side Up workshops aim to improve your child's motor skills with juggling games, teach your child new tricks with old favourites like hula hoops and give them opportunities to express their creativity.

To book a place, please contact Right Side Up Circus at emma.wright@cantab.net. For more information about Right Side Up Circus please visit <http://www.rsu-circus.co.uk>

Code Club



We are planning to start Code club on Wednesday 20th September. Code club is open to children in years 5 and 6 and is part of CodeClub.org.uk network of clubs for children aged 9-11. For information about CodeClubs, please visit, <http://www.codeclub.org.uk/start-a-club/parents>

There are a very limited number of spaces which are offered on a first come first served basis. If you would like your child to attend, letters and permission forms can be collected from the school office. You will be informed if your child has a place prior to the first session when we will also confirm the start date. Please also let the office know if you will be picking your child up or if they are going home independently after the club.

Code club takes place from 3:30 to 4:15pm in the year 5 class room.



Key stage 1 choir with Mrs. Rigby will begin with a taster session on Tuesday 12th September at 8:30am in the library. Please come through the main entrance. This term it is open to children in Year 1 and Year 2. The cost will be £20 for the term. Foundation children are welcome to join in the Spring Term

Mrs. Rigby will send information letters home with children after the taster session on 12th September.

Key stage 2 choir will take place after school on Tuesdays from 3.20pm-4pm in the library. Choir will commence on Tuesday 19th September and everyone in years 3-6 are welcome. Please sign up with the ladies in the office.

Message From The Friends



Goodie Jar Tombola

If you have saved any glass jars over the summer holidays for the Goodie Jar Tombola can we ask that these are washed and handed into the school office by Monday 11th September 2017. Please note that we cannot accept any jars that have contained nuts (i.e. peanut butter). The Goodie Jar Tombola will be run by the Friends of the Spinney at the Cherry Hinton Festival on Saturday 16th September 2017 to raise money for the school. Further information on the festival can be found at <http://www.cherryhintonfestival.org/>

Frozen Fridays will be held after school every Friday until the end of September (weather permitting). Ice pops and mini milks are priced at 50p each.



The annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning** will be held on 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.

The Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 2nd October at 8pm in the Staff Tearoom at the Spinney School. All 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 will be held 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.



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>

My Cambridge invites Headteachers, Teachers and Arts and Culture Subject Leaders to **Marketplace 2017**. A day of talks and workshops entitled, “Constructing Cultural Lives, creative skills for attainment, employability and wellbeing”. The event takes place on Monday 25th September from 6pm-8pm at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Tickets are £5/10 and available via Eventbrite. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mycambridge-marketplace-2017-constructing-cultural-lives-tickets-36440895700?aff=es2>



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

Cherry Hinton Festival a week of events from 9th to 16th September 2017.

There are 22 brilliant community events running from 9th to 15th September. New for 2017 are Family Glow Sports, the Young at Heart Club and an evening with author Guinevere Glasfurd. Visit the programme page for a list of all the events. <http://www.cherryhintonfestival.org/>

Festival Day 2017 – Explorers!

Saturday 16th September is Festival Day on the Recreation Ground with a theme of Explorers! There will be a Community Performance Arena, Children’s Activities Marquee, Sports Area and Music Stage. All the attractions on Festival Day are FREE. All the latest Festival Day news can be found on our Festival Day page.

<http://www.cherryhintonfestival.org/programme/festival-day/>

And Finally....

In our first assembly this week we talked about making sure we “Look Up” and take time enjoy the wonderful things and the people around us. Looking up gives us a greater perspective and helps us to see the bigger picture.



“Happiness is not ready made it comes from our own actions”

The Dalai Lama

With very best wishes,

Rachel Snape

Rachel Snape
Head Teacher
National Leader of Education