Dates for the Diary

- **Friends End of Term Picnic** – Friday 19th July
- **Y6 Leavers Assembly** – Monday 22nd July 9.15am
- **Open Afternoon** – Monday 22nd July from 1.15pm
- **Y6 Bowling** – Tuesday 23rd July
- **End of Term Celebration Assembly** – Wednesday 24th July 09.15am

**Headteacher’s reflections:**

Once again I am stunned by our fantastically talented children who performed so brilliantly in last night’s production of Mary Poppins Jr. What a delight it was! I am sure everyone who came along would like to join me in congratulating all the children from Year 6, and the younger KS2 children whose performances were so impressive and just so professional. A huge WELL DONE to all of you! We are very proud of you. Each year, and this this year is no exception, I am also impressed with the quality of the costumes, scenery and props; thank you to everyone who helped make this possible, creating such a wonderfully entertaining and accomplished performance. If you are planning to see the production this evening you are in for a real treat!

I would also like to say a big thank you to Mr. Mawson and all the Key Stage 2 team of teachers and TAs and all the other staff (School custodians, midday supervisors, teaching assistants, office team and teachers) who helped with the preparations and the smooth running on the night: It was a marvellous Spinney TEAM success!

**Farewell to Year 6**

We have a few events taking place next week as we begin to say goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 pupils. On Monday 22nd July there will be our fantastic traditional leavers’ barbecue for the year 6 children and staff. This is a lovely fun event that brings the children and teaching team together as an opportunity to look back on all the happy years in the school and we are all very much looking forward to it. Also on Monday 22nd July we will hold our leavers’ assembly at 9.30am after which parents can join year six in our traditional “Spot the Baby Competition”. We hope Year 6 families will be able to join us. Once again, as last year The Friends are kindly supporting the school with an end of term Y6 treat for the children to go Ten Pin Bowling which we know they will enjoy. Consent forms will be sent home for this. This will take place on Tuesday 23rd July.
**Open Afternoon**

The report that you received on Friday last week, is the final report on your child’s progress and achievement this year. If however you would like to review their school books and visit their class room, you are very welcome to join us for the Open Afternoon on Monday 22nd July from 1.15pm. It is very affirming for the children when they see how much parents and families take an active interest in their work and learning and it re-enforces the view that school and home, work in partnership together to ensure that children achieve to their full potential.

**Take Everything Home**

Over the next few days we will be supporting the children to take everything home including, PE kits, uniform, boots, musical instruments, music books, projects, and indoor shoes. The school does not have any space to store property at the end of the academic year and is reluctant to start the new academic year finding lost property. Please provide your child with a plastic bag tomorrow and on Monday so that property can be returned to you. Thank you.

**End Of Year Celebration Assembly – Find Your Wild**

We are nearing the end of another fantastic year of “Teaching and Learning Together” and we are looking forward to marking the occasion and reflecting on the intentions we set ourselves in September. We would like to warmly welcome you to participate in our end of term Celebration Assembly at 9.15am on Wednesday 24th July. As on previous occasions the assembly will be an informal opportunity for the children to share their thoughts and ideas, and singing with you. We hope that everyone, families, friends and governors will join the children and staff to celebrate the end of another exciting year at The Spinney! We look forward to seeing you there where we will also launch our theme for the year to come!

**Good Bye, Thank you and Good Luck**

As we near the end of term, it is time to say goodbye, thank you and good luck to Miss Romero. We would like to wish you well as you move on to pastures new. Thank you for all your hard work, commitment and dedication to the children and the school. You will all be greatly missed.

**Lunch Money Payments**

Thank you to all those who are up to date with dinner money payments. If you have any outstanding monies, these need to paid by Monday 22nd July. Please hand them into the office or pay on line via your Arbor account. If you need any more information please do speak to the office team.

**End of the academic year – School Closing Promptly on the last day - Opening date 2019**

The end of year celebration assembly marks the end of the academic year and the school gates will be closed promptly on Wednesday 24th afternoon at 3:30pm however, families are of course welcome to make their own arrangements to meet elsewhere such as at the Recreation Ground or Cherry Hinton Hall.

The teacher training day is on Wednesday the 4th September and children and families are welcomed back to school on Thursday 5th September.

**Headteacher Recruitment Update from the Governors**

Following the recent news that Mrs Snape will be leaving The Spinney in December 2019, the governors want to update you on progress with finding a new Headteacher. A letter will be sent to families today with more information on the process. We are hoping to be able to identify an exceptional candidate who is able to start by January 2020. However, we all agree that it is vital to identify the right Headteacher for our School, so we are also considering contingency plans in case this is not possible.
**Family STEAM Festival** – Save the date! This annual family learning event is taking place on **Saturday 28th September**, 11-5pm here at The Spinney Primary School, CB1 9PB. It’s a wonderfully big event for all Cambridgeshire families – so please do tell your friends and family! There’s a jam-packed programme of FREE hands-on workshops and shows, all themed around STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths. With something for everyone in the family to enjoy and some really yummy festival food (at fair prices) this really is an unmissable day out. Have a look at the website [www.familySTEAMfestival.com](http://www.familySTEAMfestival.com) (there’s a great video on there from last year) or google ‘Family STEAM Festival’. We will be releasing details of the workshops and shows closer to the time via social media, so do please go to the Facebook page, Facebook event, Twitter and Instagram if you want to be the first to hear what’s going to be happening! If you have any questions, or better still if you would like to volunteer to help with stewarding please email info@familysteamfestival.com

_Do not Miss Out on this lovely event!!_

**Friday 19th July 3.15pm Summer Picnic on the field**

Please come along with your picnic blanket to celebrate the end of the academic year and the start of the summer! The Friends of The Spinney will be selling drinks and ice creams. Games will be provided. All are welcome!

This will be a final opportunity for year groups, children and families to celebrate together. Please bring rugs and blankets to sit on and a picnic and a smile. Please note that parents must closely and rigorously supervise their children’s behaviour, play and conduct during this event to ensure that everyone has a lovely time and no one is upset.

**My Cambridge**

As some of you will know, My Cambridge the cultural education partnership for our area was initiated by Mrs Snape and through our school! We are thrilled to say that this partnership now has its very own website! You can also follow on Twitter [@MyCambs](https://twitter.com/MyCambs)

You can now find listings of what is happening in Cambridge following the link from the new website or going to the [CAN Network Page](http://www.cantab.net). Please take a look!

**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](http://www.facebook.com/52stores)
Summer Reading Challenge

Children’s reading can ’dip’ during the summer holidays if they don’t have regular access to books and encouragement to read for pleasure. The annual Summer Reading Challenge helps get three quarters of a million children into libraries each year to keep up their reading skills and confidence. The Challenge celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

The theme for 2019 is Space Chase, an out-of-this-world adventure inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Children taking part in the Challenge will join our super space family, The Rockets, for a thrilling mission to track down books nabbed by mischievous aliens!

Children can read whatever they like - fiction, fact books, poetry, joke books, picture books, audio books - just as long as they are borrowed from the library.

Children receive special rewards each time they finish a book and there’s a certificate for everyone who completes the Challenge.

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

An exciting competition open to Cambridgeshire children who have just finished Years 3, 4 and 5 is taking place over the summer to celebrate the power of imagination and encourage everyone to reduce and recycle as much as they can.

Get pupils to use their imagination to create a story of how everyday recycling is transformed into something new. The more fabulous the better! The winning story will get made into a video by professional animators with the help of its author and their whole class. There is also a prize for a whole class visit to the Waste Management Park in Waterbeach.

The competition runs 8 July to 20 September. To find out more visit https://www.recap.co.uk/spaceforchange

Join over 200 children at the Mission Rescue Holiday Bible Club

www.ch-bc.org.uk/HolidayClub

Only 40 of the 250 places are left at the Mission Rescue Holiday Bible Club in the week after term ends (Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August); 10am-12:30pm. Now in its 30th 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 open to children from all schools. It costs only £10 per child for the week (or £5 if on pupil premium), and is staffed by volunteers from local churches. Booking form and further details are at www.ch-bc.org.uk\HolidayClub. Phone 561139 if unable to book on-line.

Finally....

I look forward to welcoming you to our end of term celebration on Wednesday next week 24th July. We will be looking back at the goals we set ourselves at the beginning of the year, reflecting on our achievements and enjoying a snapshot of the children’s work from this term.

I would also like to send you my best wishes for a relaxing and restful holiday time. Good luck to those children and families who are moving on. We hope that you will take happy memories of your time at The Spinney with you and for everyone else we look forward to seeing you in September for more “Teaching & Learning Together”

With very best wishes,

Rachel Snape

Headteacher

National Leader of Education