

# SPINFIELD SCHOOL

July 2025

Hello from Miss Spreadbury!

What a busy and rewarding year it has been at Spinfield! There is so much to celebrate, and it all starts with your wonderful children! They have come to school eager to learn, found joy in their learning, and achieved great success. It is a privilege to be part of their journey.

From a positive Ofsted to report to achieving our International School Award, our One Can Trust Collections and of course The Spinfield Bake Off and Talent Show it's certainly been a busy and productive year for Spinfield.

We are thrilled with our outstanding SATs results, which showcase the dedication of both our remarkable children and our committed staff. Academic achievement is a one marker of success, and this comes from the determination displayed by our children and the fantastic effort from our staff.

**Key Stage Two Standard Assessment Tests. Percentage of children achieving the expected standard or above:**

	Spinfield 2025	Bucks 2024	National 2024
Reading	100%	78%	74%
Writing *	89%	72%	72%
GP and S	96%	74%	72%
Maths	97%	75%	73%
Science *	100%		81%

**Key Stage Two Standard Assessment Tests. Percentage of children achieving greater depth:**

	Spinfield 2025	Bucks 2024	National 2024
Reading	75%	37%	29%
Writing	14%	14%	13%
GP and S	64%	35%	32%
Maths	61%	31%	24%

**\* Teacher Assessment only.**

Science is assessed at meeting expected standard or has not met/ working towards.

To our entire community, thank you for making Spinfield such a special place. Everyone plays a vital role - children, staff, parents, governors, and volunteers. Wishing you all a relaxing summer break filled with joy and adventure. Here's to another successful year ahead! We'll see you on Thursday 4th September!



The recent Interhouse Music Competition at Spinfield was a fantastic event that truly showcased the incredible talent of our children. It was great to see so many children auditioning, as this provided them with an invaluable opportunity to showcase all the hard work they have been putting into their instrumental lessons! The enthusiasm and passion on display were truly heart-warming.

The judges, including Dr Parsons from SWBGS, Mr Kidd from GMS, Mrs Shaw and Mr Spence, Spinfield Governors, were genuinely impressed with the standard of performances and the confidence exhibited by the participants. They remarked on how the music competition is a unique event for Spinfield and expressed their delight and privilege in enjoying such a wide array of talent.

It was also great to witness the sheer number of children who took part; the Spinfield team feel very proud that every child was brave enough to perform! This event not only highlighted the musical abilities of our children but also fostered a sense of camaraderie and support among them. All in all, the Interhouse Music Competition was a resounding success, and I have no doubt it will inspire many more children to take up their instruments with enthusiasm.

Overall winner - Francis (Hobart)

#### KS1

- 1st - Defne C (Shelley)
- 2nd - Arianna M (Hobart)
- 3rd - Coco and Despina (Eliot)

#### KS2

- 1st - Max (Eliot)
- 2nd - William (Eliot)
- 3rd - Scarlett (Eliot)

- Commendations
- Sebastian (Hobart)
  - Alex y1 (Shelley)
  - Ava (Shelley)
  - Jawhara (Tierney)

## Sports day!

What fun was had!

Results from Friday:

**1st: Shelley - 150 points**

**2nd: Eliot - 132 points**

**3rd: Hobart - 127 points**

**4th: Tierney - 125 points**



## House points yearly total

**1st—Shelley 3858**

**2nd—Eliot 3843**

**3rd—Hobart 3584**

**4th—Tierney 3155**





## Global Citizens Update:

24/25 has been a very active year for Spinfield Global Citizens. In January 2025, Miss Spreadbury and Mrs Armstrong were invited to the Houses of Parliament to receive Spinfield's Fourth International School Award from the British Council. This was a prestigious event attended by the Deputy CEO of the British Council and by many Members of Parliament and represented a significant achievement for our school. This success was featured twice in *The Marlovian Magazine*. Throughout this year, our Global Citizens group has been working towards the Fair Active School Award from the Fairtrade Schools Foundation. To support our application and raise awareness within the school community, they delivered a whole-school assembly, organised a Fairtrade Cupcake Bake Off Competition, which saw participation from 53 pupils, strengthened community engagement by delivering our Fairtrade cupcakes to the Sir Aubrey Ward care home and integrated a Fairtrade component into our summer One Can Trust foodbank collection.

We were officially granted the Fairtrade Active Schools Award on May 16th 2025! In parallel, we have also maintained our focus on sustainability through our ongoing *Waste-Free Wednesdays lunchbox* initiative.

In September 2024 we became active members of the Dr Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots conservation organisation. Four separate articles featuring our school have been published on their national website and we were the featured UK school in their end of year newsletter! [Who we are — Roots & Shoots](#) click on link for information about Root and Shoots [Mission Updates — Roots & Shoots](#) Click on link to see articles about our school. (Scroll down as we are featured three times).

These included: Our *Bug Hotels* project (60 pupils from Reception and Year 6 created bug hotels that now form part of a sculptural pyramid by the Wellbeing Hub), the composting efforts of our *Little Rotters* group, our Fairtrade Cupcake Bake Off event and our One Can Trust Fairtrade collection .

The Roots & Shoots UK team were so impressed by our work that they came and delivered a one day free workshop for our year 3 and 4 classes on July 10th. During this workshop the children made bug hotels, bird feeders and planters for seedlings and learnt about Jane Goodall and the important conservation work the Roots and Shoots Global children's organisation is doing.

**Featured School: Spinfield School - with the environment, animals and people in mind**

Dr Jane says: *"The collective impact of Roots & Shoots is huge: it is not that young people can change the world - they are changing the world."*

We couldn't agree more, and that's why we love sharing your projects and the brilliant ways you're helping nature and all its inhabitants.

Just like the wonderful Spinfield School, whose efforts to support the environment, animals and people truly inspired us.

We loved learning about the 'Little Rotters' - a student-led group who independently manage a daily rota to collect compostable food waste from playground and staffroom bins (funded by the Parents Association) and empty them into the school compost. They do it because they care about the planet, want a clean school, and know how important it is to feed the soil.

Spinfield is a proudly eco-friendly school, weaving environmental learning into as many lessons as they can. We were especially delighted by the incredible pyramid of bug hotels! Made by Reception and Year 6 pupils, the 60 bug hotels were designed to support insects and minibeasts by giving them safe places to live - recognising just how important these tiny creatures are to pollination and the wider food chain.

Spinfield students are also passionate about helping people. One of their recent projects was a Fairtrade cupcake bake-off, where children baked cupcakes using as many Fairtrade ingredients as they could, submitted photos and ingredient lists, and learned how Fairtrade supports farmers around the world. An amazing 53 children took part - and the leftover cakes were delivered to a local care home for the residents to enjoy with a cup of tea.

Thank you Spinfield for your care, creativity, commitment and for inspiring us all!

# PA End of Year bulletin notice:

Hello!

We would like to end the year by saying a huge thank you to everyone who has made 2024-2025 an amazing year of fundraising for the Parents Association. We have been so lucky to have such wonderful volunteers who have been so generous with their time and energy to carefully plan such wonderful events for our children, as well as us parents and carers. Also, thank you to everyone who has contributed in other ways, from donating a bottle to the tombola or buying a ticket to an event. The PA couldn't exist without the parents and carers so thank you all!

Thank you:

We would also like to take a moment to thank Julia Miles-Griffiths, Kerry Corke, and Shaun Leach who have led the PA so well this year. We are sad to say goodbye to Julia, but so thankful that Shaun will stay on doing a fabulous job as Finance lead next year. We are also extremely pleased to say that Matt and Maidlin Spence have confirmed that they are happy to bring their current roles of Spinfield Arms and Uniform Lead into the official wider PA committee. We are all so grateful for their continued support and enthusiasm for all things PA. Here's to Camp Night 2026!! As mentioned in previous comms, the main difference with this change in role is that all Committee Members will be part of any decision making regarding how the money that the PA raises is spent.

Goodbye:

It is also a sad time to say goodbye to any year 6 parents and carers who will be leaving the school. Thank you for all your help and support over the years, and we do hope to see you back at the summer or Christmas fairs to keep joining in the fun.

Funds raised this year:

Thank you to Shaun who has done a great job at leading all things financial this year. As the summer fair was so late, we don't yet have a final figure, but we believe that the fundraising total for 2024-2025 will be £20,000 approximately. Please keep your eye out in September for the final figure, but this is an amazing amount to have raised and we are so looking forward to putting it to good use next year to enhance and enrich every child's experience at Spinfield.

What we've funded:

This year the PA team has been able to fund some amazing things for our children. The list is long but some highlights are included below.

- Forest school and supplies
- ICT licences, Doodle Maths, Purple Mash etc
- WOW days, such as Silly Science Fun Day, Mobile Planetarium and VR workshop
- Playground equipment
- Christmas Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt
- History Timeline Display
- Dance workshops

Plan for September:

We have been working hard to finalise an initial calendar of events and thank you to everyone involved in these events previously for letting us pin you down already for a date. Please see below for this. As with previous years, each class rep will be given an event to lead on, but in September all parents will be given an opportunity to volunteer for any event they would like to. This idea has come from feedback that often the event allocated to your class is not possible with your other life commitments so hopefully this will allow you all to pick the event that is most convenient to you and get involved with gusto!

Events to note:

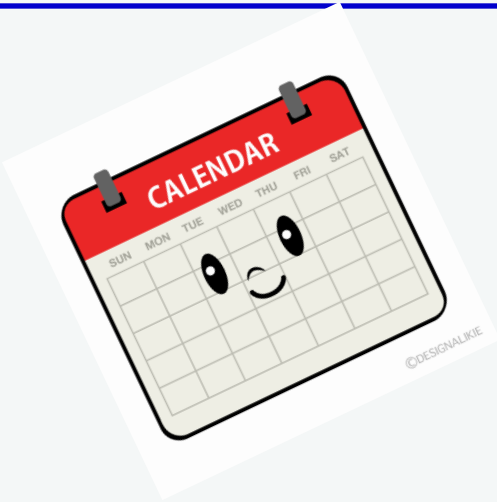
There will hopefully be a Silent Auction next year so keep this in mind over the summer if you are given a fancy bottle of whisky you will never drink or if any other ideas for a great auction lot cross your paths. We will be taking in all donations from September and the reminders will begin so keep us in mind now!

So finally, the PA Team wishes you all a great summer and restful break and are looking forward to seeing you all again in September ready to work together to make the next year of FUNdraising and events an amazing one. Bring on 2025-2026! We kick off with the Welcome Drinks on Friday 26th September 2025 so see you then!

As always, all ideas, offers of support, feedback or just a nice chat are welcome so please do catch us at the gate or email on [Spinfieldemail@gmail.com](mailto:Spinfieldemail@gmail.com).

Your PA Team!

## Dates for your diary!



Welcome Drinks - Friday 26th September 2025 7-9pm

Spooky Disco — Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Fireworks Night—Monday 3rd November 2025

Silent Auction— December 2025

Wreath Making—Monday 1st December 2025

Christmas Fair - Saturday 6th December 2025

Film Night— Wednesday 7th January 2026

Quiz Night—Friday 6th March 2026

Summer Fair—Saturday 6th June 2026

Camp Night—Saturday 4th July-Sunday

5th July 2026

End of Year Prom—Monday 20th July

2026



## **A Letter from the Chair of Governors**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another very successful and rewarding academic year at Spinfield School, I am delighted to take this opportunity to reflect on our progress, celebrate our achievements, and share important updates.

### **Celebrating Our Ofsted Report**

This year in June, we were visited by Ofsted for an ungraded inspection—a moment that always brings both anticipation and reflection! I am delighted that the outcome was extremely positive. The inspectors highlighted our school's nurturing ethos, dedicated staff, and the strong partnerships we share with our community throughout the school, and the high standards to which we hold ourselves and achieve. The report paid tribute to the behaviour and attitudes of our pupils, noting how children are both eager to learn and kind to one another. The inspectors recognised our broad and ambitious curriculum, our inclusivity, and the many opportunities for enrichment that our children enjoy. Although the report identified no areas for improvement, we will never be complacent and will continue to drive continuous improvements through our School Development Plan and Curriculum Co-ordinator's Plan. This positive Ofsted outcome is a testament to the hard work of our staff, the support of our parents, and, most importantly, the enthusiasm and effort of our wonderful pupils.

### **Outstanding SAT Results**

We are also celebrating remarkable achievements in this year's Key Stage 2 SATs. Our Year 6 pupils have excelled, with results significantly above national averages in reading, writing, and mathematics. This is a reflection not only of the children's dedication but also of the tireless efforts of our teachers and support staff, who consistently go above and beyond to ensure every child is supported to reach their full potential. The progress made by all our pupils is truly impressive. I want to acknowledge the resilience and perseverance shown by our children, especially as they navigated the return to normality following the previous years of Covid disruption.

### **Ensuring our Special Events happen our Fundraising Needs**

I hope that you were aware of the presentation and discussion around the challenges we are experiencing as a school community. We discussed the challenges around the current structure of our Parent's Association, the challenges in finding volunteers to help and make our wonderful school events happen, like the very successful Camp Night held a few weeks ago, as well as our need to raise additional funds to enhance our children's education and close gaps on wider non-funded needs. It was an information sharing and discussion

meeting looking at a number of options that you, the parent community, will vote on at the Parent Association AGM in September. An FAQ will be distributed to all parents soon and the PA AGM in September will be used as the forum to vote on the preferred way forward. I want to take a moment and thank Julia Miles Griffiths and Shaun Leach for their leadership during this past year and am delighted and deeply appreciative that

Alys Gallagher and Gemma Rasmussen-Brooks, with children next year in Year Two Reception, have volunteered to lead our special events and fundraising for the academic year 25/26.

I know they will enthusiastically embrace any new structure that is agreed after the AGM and will effectively organise the many willing helpers ongoing support, encouragement, and belief in Spinfield School.

### **School Funding: Navigating Very Challenging Time**

I must acknowledge the financial pressures facing all schools, including ours. Spinfield continues to operate with progressively tightening budgets. I want to assure you that we are working hard, alongside the Senior Leadership Team, to ensure our resources are managed prudently. However, the reality is that we are operating below the optimum resource level.

### **Multi Academy Trust Research**

You will be aware from previous communications that over the last two years we have carried out detailed investigations into a selection of Multi Academy Trusts. (MATs). And from our research and meetings with the CEOs and their teams, we have since narrowed that to a short list of three that meet our specific criteria. Of special interest to us not least because of its locality to Marlow, is the Marlow Education Trust (MET) and we are pleased to note that the MET continues to make many significant improvements and positive progress. The new CEO is Kevin Ford the ex-headmaster of Great Marlow School (GMS), they have recruited a number of new key direct reports and have refreshed the governing board. Importantly, they continue to grow and expand having recently announced in June that GMS has now joined the MET. With such momentum and after detailed research into the process to pursue formally the possibility of joining a MAT and the MET in particular, a resolution was passed unanimously at the Full Governing Board meeting on Wednesday, July 16 th to undertake the first phase known as Due Diligence. The Due Diligence process with MET will start in the autumn and we will keep you updated with progress.

### **Excellent Staff Retention**

One of Spinfield's greatest strengths remains its dedicated staff team. I am pleased to report that our staff retention this year has been excellent, allowing us to maintain stability and continuity for our pupils. Our teaching and support staff are the heart of Spinfield, and their passion for education, commitment to professional development, and care for our children are evident in all they do.

### **Safeguarding and Health & Safety: Our Ongoing Commitment**

The safety and wellbeing of our pupils remain our highest priorities. Governors, senior leaders, and staff take our safeguarding responsibilities extremely seriously, and we continue to review and strengthen our policies and practices. Regular training, robust procedures, and a vigilant culture mean we are well-placed to respond swiftly and effectively to any concerns.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we look forward to the new academic year, we remain ambitious for Spinfield's future. Despite the significant financial challenges, we are not discouraged because the Spinfield community has always pulled together and worked together to make this place extra special.

I encourage you to read our Ofsted report in full, celebrate our children's achievements, and consider how you might contribute to the ongoing life of our school — joining as a Governor, becoming a class rep, volunteering at our special school events and fundraisers, or simply sharing your feedback and ideas.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank every one of you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and belief in Spinfield School.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and no doubt challenging year in September.

With my best wishes

Keith Spence

Chair of Governors

## What we've been doing.....

◆ PGL Y6

◆ Y4 Forest School

◆ Y2 Kew Gardens

◆ Silly Science whole school workshops

◆ Y3 Forest School

◆ NSPCC workshops Y2, Y5 & Y6

◆ KS2 Adventure Challenge Day

◆ Break the Rules day

◆ Y5 Dance workshop

◆ House Music Competition

◆ Y1 Methodist Church

◆ Reception forest school

◆ New Reception Induction afternoon

◆ Thank you tea for parent volunteers

◆ Sports Day

◆ Y6 Leavers play

◆ Camp Night

◆ Y5 & Y6 Hockey festival at Marlow Sports Club

◆ Y5 & Y6 SWBGS dance show

◆ Y1 Aldenham Park

◆ Y3 & Y4 Roots & Shoots Workshop

◆ Non uniform day

◆ Ice Creams

◆ Class handover

◆ End of term prom



## Spinfield School Food Safari

Jane Daly and Karen Hayns designed a food safari experience to explore and build healthy relationships with food. They have used the evidence and approach from their published peer reviewed book chapter based on “Weight Management for Healthspan”

Spinfield School in Marlow Buckinghamshire was the first school to participate in a new food safari. The safari was designed to measure if the children had increased their awareness and appetite to build healthier relationships with food. Weight management is about so much more than losing weight, there are limitless ways to educate and support children to build strong food confidence foundations for health and wellbeing.

The children at Spinfield school spent just 45 minutes after lunch on a food safari. Their attitude was exceptional, their team work outstanding and their final creations inspirational. The children were asked to work in school teams and also to work as a whole class system using edible art to explore different healthy and fun foods.

“I have never tasted a tomato they are so yummy, can I have one more please”

### Results Summary

- Three evidence-based questions were used pre and post the activity to establish an increase of 135% in the children’s awareness and appetite to build healthier relationships with food
- Over 80% of children tasted food socially with their classmates
- Over 50% of children tasted a food that they had never tasted or seen before e.g. gold tomato, gold kiwi, Mint, Parsley, pomegranate, Red Leicester cheese
- The children expressed how much they enjoyed seeking to taste new food even if they were slightly anxious
- The social and sensory side of tasting new foods was the star of the show with the children encouraging each other to get involved

In summary, the results were outstanding and speak for themselves. Spinfield School’s teachers and children must be recognised for the strong culture of trust that they have built at the school. These conditions are not universal in primary schools, and it is these foundations that allow the children to have fun and flourish in the food safari. The challenge is to support children to sustain their appetite to build healthier food relationships in school and outside of school.



Here are a few reminders to make sure that the start of the 25/26 academic year is smooth for everyone:

**School Lunches:** Please make sure that school lunches are ordered in preparation for the start of the autumn 2025 term. [www.kidslunch.co.uk](http://www.kidslunch.co.uk) Please note that the website is not linked to a calendar and will show all the dates for the whole half term even when these dates have passed so you will have to scroll through these pages to get to the relevant page dates if you are ordering a week or so at a time. It's **also important to note that the cut off point for ordering ALL lunches the following week is Middy on Friday.**

**PE Kits, School Uniform and Watches:** Please read our School Uniform policy if you need any information. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/spinfield-primary-school/UploadedDocument/70570993-2d31-4bf6-b3ef-e76f9c936d44/uniform-policy.pdf>

**Class letters and timetables will be sent by Monday 8th September, and here's a list of PE days for the autumn term. Please remember that children will come into school in PE kit on these days.**

**Year One: Wednesday and Thursday**

**Year Two: Tuesday and Friday**

**Year Three: Tuesday and Friday**

**Year Four: Monday and Tuesday (swimming starting on Tuesday 9th September)**

**Year Five: Monday and Tuesday (Forest School on Mondays, starting on 15/09. This is an afternoon session so children can wear the inner layer of forest school clothes but will need to bring in waterproofs and shoes to use in the session). Please can children wear a PE kit for the first couple of weeks on Mondays.**

**Year Six: Tuesday and Thursday (Forest School on Thursdays, starting on 18/09. This is an afternoon session so children can wear the inner layer of forest school clothes but will need to bring in waterproofs and shoes to use in the session). Please can children wear a PE kit for the first couple of weeks on Thursdays.**

**As detailed in our end of year newsletter, class meet and greets have been scheduled for the following dates:**

**Year One: Wednesday 10th September**

**Year Two: Monday 8th September**

**Year Three: Wednesday 10th September**

**Year Four: Monday 8th September**

**Year Five: Tuesday 9th September**

**Year Six: Tuesday 9th September**

**Each meeting will start at 3.40pm and will be held in your child's classroom. This is an opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher and get a flavour for the year ahead.**

**Calendar:** Please remember that there is a calendar on our website. Subscribing to this calendar will automatically pull through events to your personal calendar, alongside any other existing calendars you may have. You can choose to subscribe to all events or choose a specific category to subscribe to. If you would like to subscribe to multiple categories, but not all events, you can do this by selecting the category and the calendar you use and pressing the 'Subscribe' button or copying the provided URL for each one. <https://www.spinfieldschool.co.uk/diary/grid/2024/09/> **Please note: although the calendar updates instantly, it may take up to 24 hours for new events to show in your personal calendar depending on which type of calendar you are using.**

# ***TERM DATES***

## **Academic Year 2025-26**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2025**

Thursday 4 September 2025—Thursday 23rd October 2025

***Half term: Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October***

Monday 3 November 2025–Friday 19 December 2025

### **SPRING TERM 2026**

Tuesday 6th January 2026—Friday 13 February 2026

***Half term: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February***

Monday 23 February 2026—Friday 27 March 2026

### **SUMMER TERM 2026**

Tuesday 14th April 2026 - Friday 22 May 2026

***Half term: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May***

Tuesday 2nd June 2026—Thursday 22 July 2026

### ***Staff Training Days***

***Wednesday 3 September 2025***

***Friday 24 October 2025***

***Monday 5 January 2026***

***Monday 13 April 2026***

***Monday 1 June 2026***

**NB:** School finishes at usual time for half-term, but the school day ends at 1.45 pm on the last day of each term.

**PLEASE NOTE INSET DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**FOLLOW US ON:**

**INSTAGRAM @Spinfieldschool**



**FACEBOOK Spinfieldschool**





## And to finish ...

**S**tanding united, where friendships flourish

**P**eople unite, creating a beacon of light

**I**nviting each child with smiles on their face

**N**urturing minds in a welcoming space

**F**un enhancement days bring laughter and cheer

**I**ncredible trips make memories near

**E**very lesson crafted to inspire and grow

**L**earning is a pleasure, with curiosity on show

**D**edicated staff who guide and support each day, With passion ignited, they lead in an exemplary way.

## Happy Holidays Everyone!

