



NEWSLETTER – 26th April 2024

VALUE: Service

Focus: Using our talents to serve

'Serve one another in love. 'Galatians 5.13



FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Earth Day: This week began with Earth Day. Our Eco team had previously set challenges for children and their families to take part in over the Easter break. This week, they led a lovely Collective Worship for the whole school, linked to our value of Service that included information about Earth Day and a celebration of the super projects and activities. These are just a few examples of the photos and items that were sent into school.

Get Green Fingers – Planting



Making Bird Feeders



Litter Picking



Making a Poster



We were delighted by the way that many families had worked together to rise to the challenges the Eco Team set and the way that children are performing 'Services to our local area and to our Earth'.

Sapphire History: In history this week, the children were considering how important communication is for humans. The children were in pairs, sitting back-to-back. One drew a picture and the other had to replicate it based on what their partner said, without looking, and then they shared the picture afterwards to see how similar it was. They all really enjoyed it and realised how important language is and that to communicate effectively we

need to pass on the most important details. The teacher related this to how early humans living in the Stone Age would have used storytelling to pass on key information about food, dangers and safe places to live, as they did not yet have the ability to read and write.



Welcoming a new member of our community and learning more about babies: Ruby Class were very lucky to meet baby Holly this week. She is the younger sister of one of the children in the class and was born over Easter. Her mum brought her in to meet the children and 'big sister' was very proud. In RE, the children have been learning about how precious new life is to Christians. In Understanding of the World, they have been thinking about babies' needs and how babies can change their parents' lives. The children asked lots of questions about Holly and all had a closer look at her.



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS): Next Wednesday, the school's SIAMS inspection will take place. Due to Covid, it has been quite a long time since the last inspection. The inspector will be in school for the entire day and will be talking to staff and children and observing daily life in the school. The focus is on how the school's Christian vision impacts on the whole school community. The inspector will be outside on Wednesday after school, briefly meeting with parents and she would love to hear your thoughts.

Sponsored Walk for Shiksha Rath. This will take place on Wednesday afternoon. If you have not already done so, please help your child to collect some sponsors beforehand. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

Listening to the news this morning, it struck me how many of the stories we see, hear, or read involve 'service' - our collective worship theme this half of term.



I'm not just talking about 'services' (e.g. Labour planning to renationalise part of the rail industry or the ongoing inquiry into the Post Office scandal), but about the way we serve one another (e.g. wars and conflict here, there, and everywhere; ethics in British politics; the death of World Central Kitchen aid workers in Gaza; Donald Trump's court hearings; the first personalised melanoma vaccine; the Met police antisemitism row). Many are stories castigating bad service or the way we serve one another (usually the bulk of the news), others laud good service or behaviour (the good news story which usually comes at the end of a news bulletin).

Every single one of us has a unique set of talents, skills, gifts, and qualities which, whether we've nurtured them over the years or not, can be used - on a small or larger scale - for the use (or abuse) of others. These, people of faith believe, are God-given. For example, Christians read in their Bibles that: *'Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights'* (James 1:17) and *'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.'* (1 Peter 4:10)



And - my word! - haven't we got a talented band of pupils here at Spellbrook?!! That was my conclusion after our collective worship last Monday when we explored how we might use our talents, skills, and gifts, not just for our own benefit and enjoyment but for the service and benefit of those around us.



The children picked out, at random, a skill or talent, such as 'Being a good listener', 'Being good at sports', 'Being organised', 'Able to make people smile', 'Being good at maths', 'Being trustworthy', 'Being good at gardening', from my 'Tub of Talent' (which, in a former life, was a beach bucket!), and I watched with delight as so many of the children put their hands up when they felt they possessed the particular skill, gift or talent which had been randomly plucked out of the tub. And then we took a moment to consider quietly what other skills or talents we might individually have that might be used to serve others. I'm confident that we not only have a very talented school family, but one which continues to be aware that those gifts and qualities can be used to serve others in good ways.

That's, of course, a challenge for us all. I've no doubt that, if we parents and carers also spend a brief moment this weekend pondering what God-given gifts we might have which could be further nurtured for the benefit and service of those around us, we might be quietly surprised and uplifted.

Have a great weekend,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby
Rowan
Sonia



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Sidney for always helping our friends in class.
- ✚ Cara for her creativity in making up stories.

Sapphire

- ✚ Herbert for joining in well with the class this week.
- ✚ Luna for working hard in English and being kind to others.

Emerald

- ✚ Louis for his super presentation and careful work.
- ✚ Lisa for her hard work and effort in learning timestables.

Diamond

- ✚ Alex for his great work on angles.
- ✚ Ella for always being ready to share thoughtful contributions.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 96.58%**

Whole School Target Set – 96%

Please contact school every day of any absence. This can be done by calling **01279 723 204, Option 1** and then leaving a message on the absence line.

If you are going to be late, please also advise the school office to ensure a meal is ordered in time.



NOTICES

- ✚ **SIAMS Inspection on Wednesday 1st May** – Claire Coulson – SIAMS inspector will be visiting the school to carry out an inspection.
- ✚ **Reception vision, hearing, height & weights screening is on Wednesday 1st May.** If you do not wish your child to participate, please contact the school nursing team on **0300 123 7572** or email HCT.SHWBSWH@nhs.net
- ✚ **PTA School Disco on Friday 17th May**, save the date. More details to follow.

MENU w/c 29th April 2024

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Curry (Red) ❖ Homemade Sausage Roll (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Burger in a Bun (V) (Red) ❖ Rich Tomato Bolognese (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Turkey Roast (Red) ❖ Roast Quorn Fillet (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Lasagne (Red) ❖ Chipolata Sausages with Gravy (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fish Fillet Fingers (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)



SCHOOL DINNERS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
01/05/24	Reception Vision/Hearing Screening
06/05/24	Early May Bank Holiday
13/05/24 – 16/05/24	KS2 SATs Week
17/05/24	PTA Disco
23/05/24	Year 6 Crucial Crew
27/05/24 – 31/05/24	Half Term
03/06/24	Inset 5
07/06/24	PTA Non-Uniform Day
14/06/24	Bag 2 School
25/06/24	Class Photos
29/06/24	Summer Fair
03/07/24 – 05/07/24	Diamond Class Residential
10/07/24	Diamond Class Last Swimming Lesson
11/07/24	Secondary Transition Day
22/07/24	Leavers Service
23/07/24	Last Day of Summer Term
02/09/24	Inset 1
03/09/24	Inset 2
04/09/24	First Day Back
07/10/24	Harvest Service
14/10/24	Individual Photos
25/10/24	PTA Film Night
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term
29/11/24	Occasional Day
02/12/24	Christmas Decoration Day
12/12/24	Panto
20/12/24	Last Day of Term
23/12/24 – 03/01/24	Christmas Break
06/01/25	Inset 3
07/01/25	Inset 4
08/01/25	First Day Back
17/02/25 – 21/02/25	Half Term
24/02/25	First Day Back
04/04/25	Last Day of Term
07/04/25 – 21/04/25	Easter Break
22/04/25	First Day Back
05/05/25	Early May Bank Holiday
26/05/25 – 30/05/25	Half Term
02/06/25	Inset 5
03/06/25	First Day Back
23/07/25	Last Day of Term

BREAKFAST CLUB

8am - 8.40am everyday
cooked breakfast
served at 8am



£4.50 per
session
payable
via arbor

NB late
arrivals will
not be
catered for
cooked
breakfast

Please book 24
hours ahead to
ensure
availability

AFTER SCHOOL Sports Clubs

Spellbrook C of E Primary School

3:20 - 4:20pm

April 16th - 23rd May

Football

- Tuesdays

£6
per session

Dodgeball

- Thursdays

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

SAWBO
DESIGN CO.

www.gjwsports.co.uk

GJW
SPORTS



Club Fee
£7.50 a week

THE SECRET ART CLUB

With Artist Caroline Clark

Activities:

- Painting
- Printing
- Drawing
- Pottery
- Collage
- And more!

Date:

Weekly, starting on Friday 26th
April 2024, 3.20 - 4.30 pm

TO BOOK

www.carolineclarkartist.com or
Caroline Clark (Caz)
07847269734

Address

Spellbrook C of E
Primary School,
Spellbrook

For school
years 2-6



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

Our After-School Gardening Club
starts again on Wednesday Feb 28
from 3.20pm-4.30pm



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £30.00 for five sessions September 28 to Easter Holidays
- All equipment supplied but pupils must bring appropriate clothing as we will be outside in all weathers
- This half-term we'll be:
 - Working to improve the school gardens
 - Taking part in the RHS Campaign for School Gardening Award Scheme - LEVEL 5

If you would like your child to attend, please return the slip below to the school office before Wednesday February 28 and make a payment of £30 in cash/a cheque made payable to: WENDY GORDON or with a BACS payment to: Wendy Gordon/27441520/07-04-36 (Use your name as reference)

I would like my child to attend Spellbrook's After-School Gardening Club on Wednesdays:

Child's name: Year group:

Your name: Phone number:

Email:

Any allergies or medical issues that we need to be aware of*:

*Your child's safety is a priority, but we can only put measures into place if you let us know.

Well Bean Gardening has a Facebook & Instagram page (please check out and like) and every week an update of what we get up to at the club will be posted.

If you DO NOT want photos of your child to be used on social media please tick the box: (Please note that children are never named)

☐

Payment of £30 has been made via Cash/Cheque/Bacs with the reference name of:

Email: wendy@wellbeangardening.com
Mobile: 07817 528652

facebook.com/wellbeangardening
Instagram: @wellbeangardening



Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth

Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

Mustard Seed -
our monthly
short, informal
service
with crafts and
activities



Followed by a
party tea for
children
and hot
refreshments for
grown-ups.

**Why not join us at 4pm
on the following
third Sundays of the month?**

2024

19th May
16th June
21st July

15th September
20th October
17th November

15th December



Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth

Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 18th May
7pm in Church House

With Ploughman's Supper, BYO drinks
£12.50 per person

Tickets available from Parish Office
(Tuesday to Friday mornings - 01279 726629)

**BISHOP'S
STORTFORD
COLLEGE**
ESTD 1848

Invite and Inspire

FREE workshops for Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Saturday 18 May 2024

9.00am — 12.00pm, Bishop's Stortford College

An academic enrichment programme developed to spark intellectual curiosity and ignite a love for lifelong learning.



May Workshops:

- Experimental Approaches to Acrylic Paints
- Comic Book Character Design
- Mathematical Puzzles and Challenges
- Music
- Young Scientists
- Creative Writing



Scan the QR code for more
information and to book.

bishopsstortfordcollege.org/about-us/our-community/invite-and-inspire/



Sunday 2 June 3pm

UK Chinese Music Ensemble

with Cheng Yu (Pipa and Guqin)
and Dennis Lee (Xiao)



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

FREE admission with retiring collection
Tea and cake served afterwards

www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk



If you are thinking of joining us in Year 7 in September 2025 you might find it helpful to:

- book a visit during the school day in the summer term and see Herts & Essex at work (places are limited)
 - come to our Open Evening
 - book into a Q&A session with Executive Headteacher, Cathy Tooze, and Head of School, Emma Kirkham
- dates & times overleaf...



"Excellence for All runs through all aspects of this exceptional school." Ofsted 2024

Warwick Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, CM23 5NJ. 01279 654127; www.hertsandsex.herts.sch.uk
for further information and queries, please email admin@hertsandsex.herts.sch.uk putting Entry 2025 in the subject line

"Choosing a secondary school for your daughter is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Our Open Evening is intended for families and my talk is aimed at that audience. If you would like to take the opportunity to get a more in-depth feel for the school, in the company of other concerned parents and carers, I would like to invite you to one of our Information, Q & A sessions. I shall be able to talk to you further about what Herts & Essex can, uniquely, offer your daughters; I shall also be very pleased to answer your questions."

Cathy Tooze, Executive Headteacher

Seeing Herts & Essex at Work

Year 5 girls and their parent/carer will be able to visit the school during a normal school day and get a feel for the lessons.

- Tuesday 18 June 2024 from 09:00 - 10:45
- Wednesday 19 June 2024 from 09:00 - 10:45
- Thursday 20 June 2024 from 09:00 - 10:45

You can book a place using the online form on our website:

[Seeing Herts & Essex at Work Form](#)



Open Evening

Thursday 19 September 2024,
17:30 to 20:30

If you are unable to make this event please contact the school on the details overleaf

Information, Q & A sessions at Herts & Essex

Cathy Tooze, Executive Headteacher and Emma Kirkham, Head of School at Herts & Essex will hold an informal information, question and answer session at the school for parents and carers in September 2024.

You will be able to book a place using the online form on our website from the start of the autumn term.

SUMMER BAND CAMP

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RECORD IN THE STUDIO,
AND PERFORM LIVE ON STAGE

Email learn@apollomusicacademy.co.uk to book

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10:00 - 14:00
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Use code for an **EXTRA £20 off** your booking!
*Minimum of 2 days

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or call 01480 467 567

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*Not to be used in conjunction with other offers