



SPELLBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARN TOGETHER - ENJOY TOGETHER - SUCCEED TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER – 10th December 2021

VALUE: Trust

“No one who gossips can be trusted with a secret, but you can put confidence in someone who is trustworthy.” *Proverbs 11:13*

Theme for the week: BELIEVING GOD HAS A PLAN FOR OUR LIVES



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The Christmas season is coming to life in school now. Our tree looks lovely and there are decorations up. I keep hearing about the mischievous antics of class Elf's and the excitement is certainly building. Yesterday, we had a lovely trip to the pantomime and our careful plans all came together nicely. The staff at lunchtime worked really well to get through lunch early and to make sure everyone was ready to go at the specific times. Not an easy task with a hundred excitable children. As we were the only ones at the theatre, we were able to work with the staff to ensure the Covid-safe plans were reasonable and I trust fully effective. The staff at South Mill Arts in Bishop's Stortford were extremely accommodating. The children really enjoyed themselves and an extra thank you to the PTA who provided the 'not very healthy' snacks for the children to enjoy during the interval. It is Christmas. Thank you to all the parents for being on time to pick up and to the staff as well for the efficient manner in which that took place.



Spellbrook Newspaper

Friday 10th December 2021

Trip to the Pantomime

On Thursday the 9th December, the whole school went to the pantomime, where we watched Rapunzel. We all went on a coach that was really quick getting there.



We didn't have to bring our school stuff. Also we didn't do that much learning, except in the morning.



Then everybody arrived at the studio. We were all excited to watch Rapunzel.



Some of the older boys loved the part when the wolf roasted the wicked witch. When the witch said, "I want Rapunzel's power to keep this beautiful young face", the wolf said "Beautiful?" in sarcastic tone. He later added, "and you smell", and I thought that part was extraordinarily hilarious. These are some of the reactions.

Paige- "my favorite character was Sid the horse and the evil witch."

Millie- I liked Bertie and the horse because the horse kept shaking its butt and ringing its bell so we could cheer."

Izzy- "I liked Sid because he was really funny. And I liked singing with my friends and liked shouting every time he rang the bell."



Mya- I like Sid and the atmosphere.

Arlo- "I liked Rapunzel because she likes singing and dancing."

Martha- "I liked Rapunzel, singing and when they came out with short sparkly dresses."

[I thought that Rapunzel looked older than her mother].

We cheered when the horse, Sid, rang his bells and when the two apex predator wolves, were just in front of us, I nearly had a heart attack and everyone else shouted "behind, you, behind you. We all sang in incredible, amazing voices and children danced a little bit and had a fantastic day.

By Natasha and Frank

Our Journalist Frank and Natasha have written a super report. Our children are lucky that we have been able to enjoy such a festive tradition like a trip out to the pantomime. Oh no they are not! Sorry, couldn't resist that one.

I have seen lots of practicing for the EYFS/ KS1 Nativity and have also heard children in the other classes learning Christmas songs for the PTA event and the Christmas service in the Church. I truly hope that we are able to go ahead with each of these events. We will post more pictures up next week.

Next Thursday is Christmas Lunch Day, which I missed last year as I was isolating. It is also Christmas Jumper Day and this year we are asking if children could bring a donation of a £1 so that we can take part in the national Save the Children Christmas Jumper event. This is such a worthwhile charity and every little donation can make a difference. I know the children are already supporting a local charity through their involvement with the PTA event so it would be fantastic to also help this one with a global dimension. Instead of sending Christmas cards to all the staff some of us will be giving a donation to this charity.

Have a good weekend and stay safe.

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Fr Simon writes:

Candles seem to be at the heart of so much that we do at this time of year. At Great St Mary's, during the switching on of the town's Christmas lights, we lit the church up in candlelight to create an oasis of calm. We've also had the candlelit Advent Carol Service, the Christingle Service last Sunday, and we look forward to our candlelit Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 19th December.



Whether a conventional believer or not, candles, it seems, are a wonderful way, during this dark season, to express our belief in something greater than ourselves; something which is good which can dispel the darkness of our world - the frequent darkness of our news headlines.

Therefore, it's perhaps no surprise that candles are, for many, an important means of expressing ourselves when words are hard to find; praying either to God or at least to some sense of a greater good.



That can be done at home. But it's of no surprise to me that, throughout the year, many come into church - be they believers or not - to light a candle on our candle stand to express their emotions.

Sometimes those are emotions of thanks and gratefulness. Sometimes they're perhaps emotions of joy and praise. But, most of all I suspect, candles are lit in remembrance, in hope, in

sorrow, in desperation; a symbol of our desire for goodness to break through the veil of darkness.



And so, particularly at this time of year, each candle is in some way a reflection of that Light which came into the darkness of our world in Bethlehem - Jesus, the Light of the world. As the light of the candle brightens the darkness, so our existence is brightened by the life of Jesus.

May Christ, the Light of the World, be with you this Christmas.

Fr Simon

STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Jessie K for great effort in lessons, especially Maths.

Sapphire

- ✚ Flora for hard work on learning lines for the Nativity.
- ✚ Lilly for good listening and concentration.



Emerald

- ✚ Percy for working really hard on his writing.
- ✚ Dominic for thoughtfulness and being caring.

Diamond

- ✚ Joe for always being helpful.
- ✚ Charlie Sa for making good connections in English.



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



**Sapphire
Harvey**

PE DAYS

Ruby Class – Tuesday & Thursday

Sapphire Class – Tuesday & Thursday

Emerald Class – Wednesday & Friday

Diamond Class – Monday & Wednesday



Children should come to school dressed in their PE kit. As the weather turns colder, please ensure that your child wears warm clothing i.e. navy blue PE joggers/zip-up hooded jacket and a weather-proof coat.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 95.7%**

Whole School Target Set – 96%

Attendance Ladder



Please contact school on the first 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

- ✚ **Nativity Performance** – parents/carers of children in Ruby & Sapphire are invited to attend on **either Monday 13th December at 2.30 pm, Tuesday 14th December at 4.45 pm or Wednesday 15th December at 2.30 pm.** Children in Ruby & Sapphire will finish at the usual time of 3.15 pm on Monday 13th & Wednesday 15th December and at 5.30 pm on Tuesday 14th December.

- ✚ **PTA Christmas Gift Shop** opens on **Monday 13th December.** Gifts are wrapped ready to go under the tree at **£3** each while stocks last. Children can bring in money in a named envelope/purse.

- ✚ **Christmas Lunch** is on **Thursday 16th December.** We would like to invite children who do not normally have a school dinner, to take part. For more information, please see the separate email sent out.

- ✚ **PTA Christmas Carols** is on **Thursday 19th December** from **3.30 to 5.00 pm.** Please see the posters below for more information.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pork Sausages with Gravy (Red) ❖ Quorn Pattie in a Bun (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lamb Slice (Red) ❖ Macaroni Cheese (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Beef (Red) ❖ Veggie 'Meat Free Balls' (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Deli Wrap with Rice (Red) ❖ Italian Pasta Bake (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Battered Fish Fillet (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
13/12/21 – 17/12/21	PTA Christmas Shop
14/12/21	Nativity Performance 1 @ 4.45 pm
15/12/21	Nativity Performance 2 @ 2.30 pm
15/12/21	Emerald Class Swimming – Last Lesson
16/12/21	Christmas Jumper Day
16/12/21	Christmas Lunch
16/12/21	PTA Christmas Carols
17/12/21	Christmas Service @ Great St Mary's
21/12/21	Last Day of Term
05/01/22	Inset 3
06/01/22	First Day Back
14/02/22 – 18/02/22	Half Term
31/03/22	Last Day of Term
01/04/22	Inset 4
19/04/22	First Day Back
30/05/22 – 03/06/22	Half Term
06/06/22	Inset 5
08/06/22 – 10/06/22	Diamond Class Residential
20/07/22	Last Day of Term
21/07/22	Occasional Day
22/07/21	Jubilee Bank Holiday in lieu

Contact: admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk

Spellbrook PTA Christmas Carol Evening

A fundraising evening with performances from Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald & Diamond classes. Followed by 12 Days of Christmas sing-a-long!



Thursday 16th December
3.30pm – 5pm

Entry Tickets £3 Includes;

Children - Santa's Grotto, Hot Chocolate, Reindeer Hoopla, Popcorn, Splat the Christmas Pudding & Bubble Disco in the MUGA

Adults - Tea/Coffee & Mince Pie
Raffle Tickets £2

Great Spellbrook Bake Off Cake Stall
Christmas Crafts with Miss Prow £1-£2

Our School Council will be helping on the evening & a donation will be made on behalf of the PTA to their chosen charities

PTA CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

OPENS MONDAY 13TH
DECEMBER UNTIL
STOCKS LAST

ALL GIFTS PRICED AT 63 WRAPPED
READY FOR UNDER THE TREE

Can Children Please Bring Money In A Named Envelope Or Purse.

Test your baking skills and take part in the PTA's Great Spellbrook Bake Off!



Cakes will be sold at the Christmas Carol Evening

Great Spellbrook Bake Off

Bring your homemade Christmas themed cakes or biscuits into school on Thursday 16th December, they will be judged on taste & presentation. A prize will be awarded to each year group.

(Please no shop-bought cakes. There is zero obligation to bake so if you don't want to participate then please support the event by buying something that evening)

Please can entries be submitted with a note if they contain EGG, DAIRY or NUTS.

Spellbrook PTA Christmas Raffle

Cycle positive voucher
Pircio voucher
The Green Room gift from Mrs Vaculin
Toys from Mrs Ramiz
Neck, back & shoulder massage from Elegance
Simon Dennis The Butcher voucher
Tudor Gallery gift & £10 voucher
Rud Hair voucher
Time 4 Tea voucher
Homemade Christmas Cake from Mrs Raja
Hollisticare voucher
& more

Advent and Christmas at Great St Mary's Church

SAT 27TH NOV 3-6PM

Sawbridgeworth Christmas Lights & Fayre
Pop into the church to experience a candlelit oasis of calm

SUN 28TH NOV 5PM

Advent Carol Service

THURSDAYS IN ADVENT 12.30-2PM

Soup, cheese and bread in Church House
Raising money for The Children's Society

SUN 5TH DEC 3PM

Christingle Service

A fun all-age service with oranges, candles and so much more

SAT 11TH DEC 10AM-12PM

Carol-singing with the church choir in the Bell Street Car Park

SAT 11TH DEC 10AM-2PM

Father Christmas visits Great St Mary's
Pop into Church House for refreshments
and to put your order in with Santa

SUN 19TH DEC 5PM

Christmas Carol Service
The traditional carol service
Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

FRI 24TH DEC 3PM

Crib Service

A shorter fun all-age service, particularly suitable for children

FRI 24TH DEC 11.30PM

Midnight Mass

The first Eucharist of Christmas with traditional carols

SAT 25TH DEC 9.30AM

Christmas Morning All-Age Eucharist
Come dressed as your favourite
Bethlehem character for a scratch nativity!



Website: www.sawbridgeworthchurch.org.uk

Christmas Lunch

on

Thursday 16th December 2021

The Menu

**Sliced Turkey Breast with Chipolata Sausage
Sage and Onion Stuffing with Gravy (Red)**

Or

**Quorn Fillet
Sage and Onion Stuffing with Gravy (Green)**

With

**Roast Potatoes and a choice of Seasonal
Vegetables**

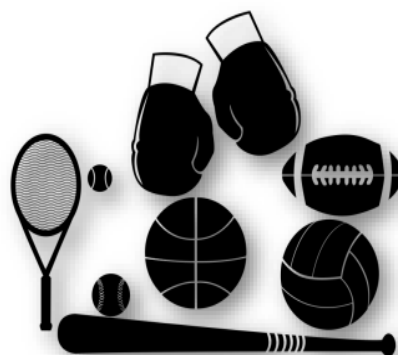
Christmas Dessert

Ice Cream

Christmas Shortbread



GJWSports
Promoting a healthy & active lifestyle



09:00am - 15:00pm

£22.50 per day

Year 1 – Year 7

Sports & Activities will include:

Dodgeball, Handball, Categories, Cricket, Capture the flag, Tag rugby, Design Time, Quicksticks, Outdoor gym, Hockey, Gymnastics, Basketball, Tennis, Speedstacks, Athletics, Kids yoga, Dance, Tri-golf, Rounders, Netball, Badminton, Chicken or Hero, Sardines.

SPORTS & ACTIVITY CAMP DECEMBER 22ND & 23RD

FOOTBALL CAMP DECEMBER 22ND & 23RD

TO MAKE A BOOKING PLEASE VISIT:

<https://gjw-sports.class4kids.co.uk>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION EMAIL:

GERSHON@GJWSports.CO.UK

Visit our Facebook page [@GJWSports](#) to view previous camps.

REEDINGS JUNIOR SCHOOL

Bullfields,
Sawbridgeworth,
Hertfordshire,
CM21 9DD



ASPECTS
* MAKING A DIFFERENCE *

Pressing The Pause Button! Mind Full, or Mindful?



A zoom workshop for parents & carers focusing on the daily challenges of parenting.

Topics covered include:

- Anxiety around parenting skills...boosting your confidence!
- Parenting peer pressure, striving to be the "perfect parent"
- Learn simple mindful activities that will help you and child deal with anxiety
- A selection of 1 minutes tips and exercises to enable you to feel less stressed, no matter how busy you are!



Date: Thursday 10th February 2022
Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Price: £5.00 per household

Booking requests: please contact Jo at Aspects.
email: admin@aspects.org.uk or call 01279 758134

