



# SPELLBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARN TOGETHER - ENJOY TOGETHER - SUCCEED TOGETHER

## NEWSLETTER – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### VALUE: Trust

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6



### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What an incredible week. So much going on, both in school and the country. I count us to be so fortunate that we have not had to cope with the impact of rising cases of Coronavirus that many of my fellow Headteachers have been experiencing. Making decisions for the benefit of families and children, whilst trying to avoid taking unnecessary risks, is an almost impossible balancing act, particularly in the context of mixed messages and last minute guidance coming from those in charge.



I am delighted that we have been able to share the Nativity with the Ruby and Sapphire class parents and I'm grateful for the gracious manner that you have accepted the restrictions and followed our requests. I was so pleased that parents brought their children back for the after school performance, even if they were unable to stay and watch themselves. That is evidence of a kind of support that makes such a positive difference and enables us to provide the children with a rich and varied experience in school. The staff that managed the nativity have been superb. I will be adding more photos to the website and ClassDojo over the weekend.

Yesterday, the children wore their Christmas jumpers and I have never seen such a variety. They looked wonderful. Christmas dinner was brilliant. Thank you to the chefs (Mrs Blackham and Carmen). The food was excellent and quite a big plateful, especially for the younger ones. The teachers, TAs and office staff proved their abilities at waiting on tables and Mr Cattlin showed how accomplished he is with the serving spoon and tongs. It was great to see the lunchtime team enjoying a sit-down for once in the year and enjoying their dinner with the children. The rest of us enjoyed our dinner afterwards, whilst the children had an extended play outside.



The PTA, with the support of so many of the staff did a sterling job of organising and running the Santa and Carols event. We are very lucky to have the space to run these activities outside. The children loved their gift from Santa, some of them eating the whole chocolate Santa in one go. They also danced so enthusiastically and the disco was a great success. It was great to see so many of you and then to finish the event off with some lovely singing around the fire. Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.



Jeremy Fisher



## MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH



*Fr Simon writes:*

Well, wasn't the school's nativity wonderful? I particularly warmed to the grumpy donkey and was pleased that she felt far less grumpy by the end of the nativity.

After all, the Christmas story isn't just supposed to be something sweet for school children to re-enact but full of joy and hope for each and every one of us; a beam of light shining into the future through the gloom of our current age. Whether you go to church regularly or rarely, no wonder people enjoy going to church at this time of year.

And over the next week, there are plenty of opportunities to pop into Great St Mary's in Sawbridgeworth. This Sunday at 5pm we have our traditional candlelit carol service. Then, at 3pm on Christmas Eve, we'll have our annual crib service - a shorter, family-friendly service of fun when we'll sing a few traditional Christmas carols and assemble the church's beautiful crib scene whilst retelling the nativity story with sound effects and actions from you - the congregation.

Then, during our 9.30am Christmas morning service, we'll be having a bit of fun with a scratch nativity. Whether you're younger or older, I challenge you to get into the spirit of Christmas by coming dressed (or at least bearing suitable accessories!) as one of the characters from the nativity story - be it a person or an animal! I'm expecting to see lots of shepherd-like tea towels tied around heads!



And through it all, the Community Christmas Tree will be in church. It's already looking beautiful, decorated by those visiting the church. So do pop in any day between about 10am and 4pm. You'll find a basket full of decorations which you might like to use. Or you may prefer to bring your own. In addition, you may also like to write a prayer or intention on a provided blank label and tie it to the tree. In this way, the tree will become the bearer of our community's thoughts, concerns and wishes at this time, and a symbol of our commitment to a happier and more hopeful future.

I look forward to seeing you whenever you can make it.



With every blessing

*Fr Simon*



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS



Ruby  
Jessie K

Sapphire  
Louis



Emerald  
Dominic  
Maizee-Leigh  
Alice

Diamond  
Ava  
George

## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School**  
Attendance – **94.9 %**

**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

- School finishes at the earlier time of **1.30 pm** on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** and resumes on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.
- Sapphire Class Swimming Lessons** start from **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March** (excluding half term). Please provide consent on School Gateway by **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. Parents will be informed when they can make payments once our new payment system – Arbor is up and running.
- There will be **no PE** on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** for **Ruby and Sapphire**. Children should come to school dressed in normal uniform.
- The **Breakfast Club** resumes next year on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January**. Please contact the office for booking information.
- Multi-sports Afterschool Clubs** resume on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January**.

## NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red)</li> <li>❖ Beany Bolognaise (Green)</li> <li>❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> </ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Fish Fingers (Red)</li> <li>❖ Cheese &amp; Tomato Pizza (Green)</li> <li>❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> </ul>
Wednesday	❖ CHRISTMAS BREAK
Thursday	❖ CHRISTMAS BREAK
Friday	❖ CHRISTMAS BREAK



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
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](mailto:admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk](http://www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk)



Great St Mary's  
Sawbridgeworth

# CRIB SERVICE 3pm Christmas Eve



...and "Baah" every time you hear the word "Sheep"

## Recycle your Christmas Tree!

We collect your tree from your drive or gate and take it to be recycled locally, so no need to venture out in the cold!

**Book  
your collection now!**

[just-helping.org.uk/collections/st-clare-hospice](http://just-helping.org.uk/collections/st-clare-hospice)

To book via phone, call 01279 773750

Suggested donation of £12

Registration closes on 5th January 2022

Trees will be collected on Saturday 8th or Sunday 9th January 2022

Only real trees can  
be recycled!



St Clare  
Hospice  
Hand in hand we care



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@hospicestclare  
stclarehospice

JUST-HELPING  
stclarehospice.org.uk  
Registered Charity No. 1002031

Kindly supported by  
DUNMOW  
HTSGroup



# Sawbo Book Hunt

15th Dec 21 - 5th Jan 22

FREE for all children to take part



Visit Sawbo Books Facebook or  
Instagram pages to find out  
where/when to find them



<https://www.facebook.com/sawbobooks>

Find a book & post a photo on  
Sawbo Books Facebook or  
Instagram & #sawbobookhunt

Keep the book or re-hide it in  
Sawbo

# Merry Christmas!

from Sawbo Books x



## The Rotary Club of Bishop's Stortford ROTARY YOUNG MUSICIAN 2022

An exciting competition for young performers residing or  
in full-time education in postcodes CM21, CM22, CM23 and CM24

**SATURDAY 23rd APRIL 2022**

**Bishop's Stortford College**



Classes for:  
BRASS; WOODWIND; STRINGS (including Guitar);  
PIANO (including Organ); VOCAL  
in three age groups—Junior, Intermediate, Senior

Although there are likely to be some very high standards of performance amongst the participants, we also wish to encourage entries from young instrumentalists and singers at the beginning of their musical journey, who will benefit from the experience of performing and from sympathetic and positive adjudication

For further information, please contact [margaretwebb01@gmail.com](mailto:margaretwebb01@gmail.com)

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES — 12th March 2022**

# BARRINGTONS PRESENTS THE JINGLE BELL SLEIGH 2021 - BISHOP'S STORTFORD ROUTE

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - From 4.30pm

## BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH EAST

- 4.30pm Conewood Manor Care Home  
Turning right onto turning Dunmow Road
- 4.35pm Passing Hockerill Anglo European College towards The Spar  
Turn left at The Spar onto Stortford Hall Park  
Bear right onto Church Manor
- 4.45pm Passing Parsonage Community Hall, turn left onto Parsonage Lane
- 4.50pm Turn right onto Heath Row, towards Snowley Parade shops  
Follow the Heath Row 'loop' back towards Snowley Parade shops
- 5.15pm Turn left onto Heath Row, heading towards Parsonage Lane  
Turn right onto Parsonage Lane, heading towards Stansted Road
- 5.20pm Turn left at lights onto Stansted Road towards Hockerill Lights
- 5.25pm Turn right at Hockerill Lights, to Barringtons Funeral Directors

## CENTRAL BISHOP'S STORTFORD

- 5.35pm Go down to mini roundabout at Price Bailey, turn left
- 5.40pm Follow Dane Street toward Station Road  
Bear right passed the Train Station, going over the bridge
- 5.45pm Passing the bottom of South Street towards Newtown Road  
(Santa will be returning a little later to dash along the entire high street!)
- Go straight ahead at traffic lights onto Newtown Road

## BISHOP'S STORTFORD WEST / SOUTH WEST

- 5.50pm Turn left at Apton Road, towards the cemetery roundabout  
At the cemetery roundabout, turn right onto Scott Road
- 6.00pm Passing Scott Road Park, bear left onto Piggotts Way
- 6.05pm Continue on Piggotts Way, turning left onto Elizabeth Road
- 6.10pm Arrive at the top of Havers Lane and Havers Parade Shops
- 6.20pm Arrive at the bottom of Havers Lane, and turn left onto South Road

## CENTRAL BISHOP'S STORTFORD / MAIN HIGH STREET

- 6.30pm Reach South Street Pantry  
Continue along the high street to Market Square  
Pass traffic lights at Host, continue along North Street
- 6.50pm At the end of North Street, turn left at Arisocrats onto Hadham Road  
Passing Zara Indian Restaurant  
Heading toward The Bishop's Stortford College

## BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH WEST

- 6.55pm Turn left at The Bishop's Stortford College onto Maze Green Road  
Continue along Maze Green Road, turning right at Dane Park
- 7.05pm Arrive at Bishop's Stortford Rugby Football Club  
Turning around to head back towards Stortford Fields
- 7.20pm At roundabout, turn right onto Newland Avenue  
Towards Wickham Hall
- 7.30pm ARRIVE AT ROSEY LEA, WICKHAM HALL TO JOIN THE CHRISTMAS FUN

At Rosey Lea, Santa will be staying for a while for photographs before heading back to The North Pole

Please Note: These times are approximate as Santa will be travelling by horse & carriage and may be 5 - 10 minutes either side

Please follow any current Government COVID19 guidelines in place at the time of this event

Merry Christmas from Nikki, Lisa & all at Barringtons Funeral Directors of Bishop's Stortford

### COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR

Isabel Hospice

Please have £££ ready for Santa's helpers

Thank You

### KEEP SANTA SAFE

Please wave us by from the safety of your own doorsteps & windows where possible

### PARTY TIME

Lucky enough to live / work on our route? Plan your own party!

### PLEASE DO NOT

Approach Santa's Horse & Carriage 'Reindeer'



# 1 MONTH FREE JUNIOR GOLF LESSONS

WEDNESDAYS 4.30pm, FRIDAYS 4PM  
SATURDAYS 9AM, 10AM, 2PM,  
SUNDAYS 9.30AM, 10.30AM

NEW GOLFERS WELCOME, SPACES LIMITED  
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED, ONE CLASS PER WEEK FOR JANUARY 2022. AGE 5-16

**Ash Valley Golf Club**  
Little Hadham Road,  
Much Hadham,  
Hertfordshire  
SG10 6HD

**07891897752**

**WWW.SHARPSHOOTERSGOLF.CO.UK**

**INFO@SHARPSHOOTERSGOLF.CO.UK**