



NEWSLETTER – 25th February 2022

VALUE: JUSTICE

‘Learn to do right. Seek justice.’ Isaiah 1.17



Diamond and Emerald Class at Great St Mary's Church for an RE visit.

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Covid-19: Whenever there are changes to the response, there is often confusion and misleading headlines. This link provides up-to-date guidance.

[What the latest advice on testing and self-isolation means for education settings - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/18/what-the-latest-advice-on-testing-and-self-isolation-means-for-education-settings/)

What are the school's expectations now?

Self-isolation: The legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test has been removed but not the expectation. The school position will be to follow the guidance below:

“Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.”

Symptoms: If a member of staff or a child has any of the main symptoms or a positive test result, the public health advice remains unchanged and is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. Anyone with any of the main COVID-19 symptoms should order a test and is advised to stay at home while waiting for the result.

If they test positive, they are advised to follow public health advice.

Visit to Great St Mary's as part of our Religious Education Topic:

This week two of our classes went to visit Great St Mary's Church. They walked from school, a distance which a few found rather daunting, but they all made it. They then spent time in the church finding out many things from Father Simon. He explained about the church calendar and that currently the altar cloth, the hymn books and a cross are green but will soon change to purple for Lent and Easter. They liked seeing the different clothing that he wears. They particularly liked seeing the censer in which incense was burned and the smoke was coming out. Father Simon explained that it symbolises our prayers rising to God.

Their current topic in RE includes prayer, reflection and stillness and they found out lots of information about prayer, including about the cushions to kneel on and a place in the church where you can light a candle and pray for friends and family.

They discovered that the church is open throughout the day for people to come in to sit and pray and that there is often calming music to help people relax and find stillness

[COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

World Book Day: Just a reminder that it is World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. If your child would like to dress up as a book character, then they are welcome to. We will appreciate and look out for those children who have thought a lot about their character choice.

Thank you to Father Simon for sharing so much information with the children and to the parents for their flexibility in picking the children up from the church at the end of the day.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Jeremy Fisher



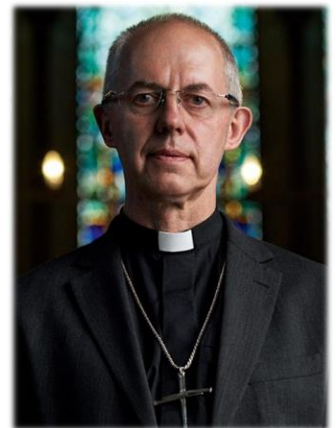
MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH



Fr Simon writes:

The news from Ukraine is bleak and the condemnation from the west has been swift.

Religious leaders have also been quick to state their desire to see peace and justice prevail. In a joint statement yesterday morning, the archbishops of Canterbury and York said: "The horrific and unprovoked attack on Ukraine is an act of great evil. Placing our trust in Jesus Christ, the author of peace, we pray for an urgent ceasefire and a withdrawal of Russian forces." Archbishop Justin has also invited Christians to "make this Sunday a day for prayer for Ukraine, Russia, and for peace", and has endorsed Pope Francis's call to make this coming Wednesday - Ash Wednesday - a global day of fasting and peace for Ukraine.



I fear many won't notice that the archbishops, the Pope, and other faith leaders have made comment - still actually care what they've said. There's a belief in our increasingly secularised world that religion should stay out of politics. It keys into the notion that our faith should be private and not encroach upon the rest of our lives or - God forbid! - other people's lives. It also keys into the notion that church is just for Sundays.

But Jesus was highly political, telling the rich that, unlike the poor who were blessed, they would face woes. He also criticised King Herod by calling him a fox, and laid into both religious and other national leaders whom he deemed to be uncaring.



Jesus didn't do this because he necessarily wanted to enter the political fray. He did it because God cares for those in need - those who are poor, those who are vulnerable, those who are being oppressed by another force. And God expects those who claim to act in his name to do the same: to care. And that means caring through actions and words.

Whether the words of faith leaders are heard or heeded as we look with astonishment at the situation in Ukraine, we must continue to draw on a Christian understanding of justice, generosity, and human dignity so as to help create a better world which reflects God's loving values.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby
Arlo H
Connor

Sapphire
Dylan



Diamond
James
Teddy T
Mya

STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby
✚ Lorenzo for great concentration and participation in all lessons.

Sapphire
✚ Martha for being helpful.
✚ Dylan for making an effort to improve his handwriting.

Emerald
✚ Lexie for perseverance in Maths.
✚ Michal for hard work in Maths.

Diamond
✚ Taliya for working well and supporting others.
Natasha for excellent writing in English.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

NOTICES

Attendance Ladder



Whole School Attendance – 97.8%

Whole School Target Set – 96%

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.

✚ **Diamond Class Residential Payment** – a reminder that the next instalment is due on **Monday 28th February**. Payments should be made on Arbor please.

✚ **World Book Day** is on **Thursday 3rd March** and we are inviting children to come to school dressed as a book character.

✚ **Dinner Money** – Please ensure that your child's dinner account is in credit at all times.

✚ **Sapphire Swimming Payment** – a reminder that the last instalment is due on **Friday 1st March**. Thank you to all the parents who have already made payments.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Beany Bolognaise (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Creamy Chicken Pasta (Red) ❖ Quorn Hot Dog (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Chicken (Red) ❖ Crispy Topped Vegetarian Pie (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Organic Beef Lasagne (Red) ❖ Cheese Pinwheel (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Salmon Fish Fingers (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
03/03/22	World Book Day
17/03/22	Reception Weight & Height Screening
30/03/22	Sapphire Class Last Swimming Lesson
31/03/22	Last Day of Term
01/04/22	Inset 4
19/04/22	First Day Back
02/05/22	Bank Holiday
03/05/22	Class Photos
30/05/22 – 03/06/22	Half Term
06/06/22	Inset 5
08/06/22 – 10/06/22	Diamond Class Residential
14/07/22	Secondary Transition Day
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



Table Tennis England

TT KIDZ

TT Kidz gives 7-11 year old boys and girls a great first experience in table tennis.

TT Kidz is happening here:
Grange Paddocks LC
Starts Friday
25th Feb
16.00-17.00

GREAT FOR BEGINNERS

Find out more and book
To book contact main reception or 01279 652332

POWERED BY everyone ACTIVE



YPAG

JOIN THE UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S RESEARCH ADVISORY GROUP

- Aged 8-18 years?
- Live in Hertfordshire?
- Interested in learning more about, and helping improve, research related to health, care, family lives and the communities we live in?

JOIN THE HERTS YPAG!

WHAT DO WE DO?

- Learn about research
- Work with researchers and give them advice on how to make their research children and young people-friendly
- Share ideas on what should be researched and how
- Develop new skills, learn new things and meet new people
- Have fun!

WHEN & WHERE DO WE MEET?

We meet about every 2 months. When you apply to join, we'll send you more information about our next meeting.

SIGN UP:
To find out more about us and apply to join click here: <https://generationr.org.uk/hertfordshire-ypag/> or email us at ypag@herts.ac.uk

Join the University of Hertfordshire Young People's Research Advisory Group
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- Have fun!

WHEN AND WHERE DO WE MEET?

We meet about every 2 months, either online or at or near the University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield. When you apply to join, we'll send you more information about our next meeting.

SIGN UP

To find out more about us and apply to join click here: <https://generationr.org.uk/hertfordshire-ypag/> or email us at ypag@herts.ac.uk



Spring time at Great St Mary's Church

SHROVETIDE PANCAKES
A seasonal delight after the 9.30am service
Sunday 27th February - 10.45am - Church House

ASH WEDNESDAY EUCHARISTS
With Imposition of ashes
Wednesday 2nd March - 10am & 7.45pm - Church

LENT LUNCHES
Soup, cheese and more
Saturdays in Lent - 1pm till 2pm - Church House

LENT TALKS 2022
Fr Simon leads four reflections on the eucharist
Wednesdays 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March - 7.45pm - Parish Hall

MUSTARD SEED
A short, informal service with crafts for children followed by food
Sunday 20th March - 4pm - Church

MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE
With the giving out of plants and flowers
Sunday 27th March - 9.30am - Church

'THE CRUCIFIXION'
A performance by the church choir of John Stainer's popular oratorio
Sunday 3rd April - 5pm - Church

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION
The traditional procession to church for the 9.30am service
Sunday 10th April - assemble 9am - Bell Street carpark

HOLY WEEK MEDITATIONS
Three meditations followed by the service of compline
Monday 11th to Wednesday 13th April - 8pm - Church

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE AND WATCH
Thursday 14th April - 8pm - Church

 Website: www.sawbridgeworthchurch.org.uk



Spring time at Great St Mary's Church

GOOD FRIDAY - Friday 15th April
9.30am - The Stations of the Cross - Church
10.30-12.30pm - Hot cross buns and coffee - Church House
12.30-1.45pm - Frugal lunch - Church House

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY
A remembrance of our Lord's passion and death
Friday 15th April - 2pm - Church

AN EASTER CELEBRATION
Easter crafts and informal worship for younger members of the family
Holy Saturday 16th April - any time between 2 & 4pm - Church

EASTER VIGIL SERVICE
The first celebration of Easter
Holy Saturday 16th April - 8pm - Church

EASTER DAY EUCHARIST
With joyful Easter hymns, Handel's 'Hallelujah Chorus' and followed by an Easter egg hunt and Prosecco
Sunday 17th April - 9.30am - Church

ST GEORGE'S PROCESSION AND SERVICE
The annual service involving the town's uniformed organisations
Sunday 24th April - 5pm - Church

SAWBRIDGEWORTH MAY FAYRE
Displays and activities for all the family
Sunday 1st May - 12 till 4pm - Church

ASCENSION DAY EUCHARIST
The annual celebration of our Lord's ascension to heaven
Thursday 26th May - 7.45pm - Church

PLATINUM JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY
Including art and photography competition
The Big Tea in the churchyard - The Platinum Jubilee Civic Service
Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th June

THE GREAT ST MARY'S SUMMER FESTIVAL
Including flower festival, bridal gown display, wood sculpting, and concert
Saturday 2nd - Sunday 3rd July

 Website: www.sawbridgeworthchurch.org.uk

Families Feeling Safe

Supporting families with Protective Behaviours

ONLINE course
starting
February 2022

A FREE course for Dads,
Step-Dads and Male Carers



Tuesday evenings Online
7.30pm - 9.00pm

22 Feb, 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 March 2022

Sessions will run on Zoom

Are you looking for some strategies and new ideas to help improve family life? This course can help you to

- Understand the links between Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour
- Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication to build better relationships
- Build on your own and your child's strengths
- Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe and have problem-solving skills for life

"I wish I had done the course sooner"

Places are funded by HCC for families in Hertfordshire and there are eligibility criteria.

For eligibility and to book your FREE place please
Email: enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk

Tel: 07748 332606



Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeeling-safe

Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire. We deliver Protective Behaviours training for professionals and provide programmes and workshops to children and their families. www.familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk E-mail: enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk



HM THE QUEEN'S

Platinum Jubilee

The Town Council is calling for residents of Bishop's Stortford to supply a record of their memories' of HM The Queen's 70 year reign to be included in a time capsule.

The entries can be written text or stories, drawings, photographs, newspaper clippings or small items etc.

To be buried at the Monastery Park on 2 July 2022

Submit your memories' at the Tourist Information Centre or via
Email: tic@bishopsstortford.org
until 4pm on 22 June 2022

www.bishopsstortfordtc.gov.uk/jubilee-time-capsule

Bishop's Stortford
Town Council
01279 715000

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 Time Capsule and Tree planting

To honour HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 the Town Council will be burying a time capsule and planting a tree in Monastery Park.

The Town Council is calling for residents of Bishop's Stortford to supply a record of their memories' of the Queen's 70 year reign to be included in the capsule. The entries can be written text or stories, drawings, photographs, newspaper clippings or small physical items etc. The Council will also include items representing Bishop's Stortford in 2022 such as a map, newspaper etc.

All entries can be dropped off to the Tourist Information Centre either in person, via post or electronically via tic@bishopsstortford.org until 4pm on 22 June 2022 (this deadline has been extended from January 2022). Physical entries must be submitted with a donation form available from Town Council's website or at the Tourist Information Centre. For preservation all entries must be in polyethylene bags (a sandwich bag). Please not do include any entries with batteries, staples, paper clips, rubber bands, cling type films such as protective wrappers or any food products as this destroys preservation.

The time capsule will be buried and the tree will be planted on 2 July 2022 in Monastery Park, where there will be a ceremony with the Mayor. Members of the public are also invited to attend the ceremony and further details will be released soon.

The Tourist Information Centre is located at 2 Market Square Bishop's Stortford CM23 3UU and is open Monday to Saturday 9:30am-4pm, closed for lunch from 12:25pm - 1pm and is closed on Sundays and public holidays. There is limited space in the capsule so entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Maximum size of any item is 30cm (L) x20cm (W) x 10cm (D) cm and have a maximum weight of 250g.