



NEWSLETTER – 31st March 2022

VALUE: JUSTICE

Focus: CELEBRATING EASTER: Goodness is stronger than evil (*John 18-19*)



Easter Service 2022

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I am very pleased to be back in school today. It is quite frustrating not being able to do so and I sympathise with everyone who has had the virus. With regards to Covid-19, we shall be reviewing our expectations and guidelines over the break in the light of the expected changes from the Government. Hertfordshire County Council have sent out this advice and there is additional information at this website <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/covidliving>

The simple steps people are encouraged to follow are:

- Be kind – respect people wearing masks or keeping their distance from you. They may well be very vulnerable to infection.
- Be informed – know your level of risk and get good, trusted advice on managing it.
- Be vaccinated or boosted – ensure you and those around you are vaccinated when invited.
- Be safe – manage your risk when socially mixing (hands, face, space, fresh air).
- Be prepared – if you get Covid, stay at home and get early treatment should you need it.
- Be supported – as well as your family and friends, HertsHelp can offer support.

Easter 2021



Yesterday was our Easter Service. Last Easter we had recently returned from lockdown and held our service outside.

This year, due to our recent outbreak we have again had to restrict the way the service has been held. Although our hall is quite small, we can open the panels and extend into two of the classrooms. This has been very useful when needing to create more space.

Thank you to Father Simon for leading the service. He contacted me afterwards and let me know that the children had sung very well. I do value the times that all the staff and children can get together with a shared focus, benefiting from activities that involve everyone in some way and develop that sense of community. All schools do this, but I do feel there is a difference in a small school where everyone really knows everyone else.

Over recent weeks, the children have been learning about Easter. This is done at different levels throughout the school, starting with the basic story for Ruby class, reinforcing and developing that in Sapphire class and considering deep questions such as, "Why do Christians call the day that Jesus died, Good Friday?" in Emerald class and thinking through what sacrifice is and the significance to Christianity in Diamond class. The depth of understanding that children can demonstrate is surprising to many and one of the reasons that many of us love teaching.

Today has been the last day with us for two much loved members of our team. Mr Cattlin has been such a fantastic Premises Manager, completing all of the aspects of the role with a smile and always willing to lend a hand. He begins a well-deserved retirement, although I strongly suspect there will be very little 'putting his feet up' and many little and not so little tasks for him to get on with.



Miss Hayward came to school as the administrator and over the last two years has taken the role of Business Manager. This is such an important role and underpins everything in terms of money and staffing and is a huge amount of responsibility. She has been so helpful in many ways, a great member of the team also being prepared help out with anything else that needs doing, including managing the lunch hall when we have been short-staffed. She leaves to take on another role that uses her financial expertise. Over my career, I have worked with many colleagues and I can honestly say that the respect I have for both Mr Cattlin and Ms Hayward is second to none. We all thank them very much and wish them well.

Despite the rather mixed weather at the moment, some of the more optimistic forecasters are suggesting a sunny Easter. I hope that is the case and we can all enjoy being outside, having fun with our families as well as perhaps enjoying an Easter egg or two, I certainly intend to. I hope that you all remain safe and well and we see everyone back ready for a hardworking and fun summer term.

Have a lovely Easter break.

Jeremy Fisher

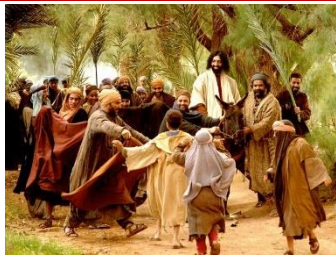
MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Fr Simon writes:

I know that the past few weeks have been so difficult for the school because of the challenges of Covid. The teachers, staff and pupils have done a brilliant job of keeping things going as normally as possible.

Sadly though, because of the difficulties, the children weren't able to get to the church for their end of term Easter service yesterday. That didn't stop Revd Debbie, our Lay Minister Diana Kitson and me getting into school yesterday though for an uplifting moment with the whole school. Readings were delivered with panache, and songs were sung with gusto.





And having heard the story about Jesus being welcomed into old Jerusalem, riding on the back of a donkey, we reflected how, only days later, the crowd turned on him and cried for him to be crucified.

I shared with the children my brother's experience of being an Aston Villa supporter. I've always had a soft spot for the team too; when I was growing up, they were our nearest Premiership - or, in old money, First Division - team to where we lived. So, on several occasions, I've been to Villa Park with him. And there's always been a

great atmosphere.

But it has to be said: a few years ago, Villa weren't so popular. They were losing games left, right and centre, and dropped into the Championship league. And, when you went to a match at that time, the atmosphere was no longer one of joy but of disillusionment. The cheers of celebration had turned into the jeers of failure, and, for a while, many of the faithful Villa fans stopped supporting them.



I wondered with the children yesterday during our end of term service how Jesus must have felt when his popularity waned in the course of just one week when the crowd's cheers of celebration turned into jeers of hatred.

I'm delighted to say that Aston Villa, back in the Premiership, aren't doing too badly again now, and the great atmosphere is back.

I'm also delighted to say that Jesus' followers also have something to cheer about. The betrayal of Jesus may have resulted in his death on a Roman cross. But only three days later - on that first Easter Day - he rose again to new life. His resurrection proved to his followers that Jesus is more than a good man. It proved to them that he is what he said he is: the Son of God.

The only decision we have to make this Easter is whether we are going to support him or are we going to turn our backs on him. Are we going to cheer for him or jeer him?



May I, on behalf of Revd Debbie, Di and all of us at Great St Mary's, wish you a wonderful, fun and refreshing Easter holiday.

God bless you.

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE EASTER BREAK



Emerald
Stanley H

Diamond
Charlie Sh.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Connor for outstanding improvement in phonics and writing.

Sapphire

- ✚ Georgia for being a good role model.
- ✚ Donnie for good recall of number facts.

Emerald

- ✚ Jim for super effort with his poem.
- ✚ Hudson for really focusing on his presentation.

Diamond

- ✚ Celia for excellent work in science.
- ✚ Josh for good focus in Maths all week.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Attendance Ladder



Whole School Attendance – 81.1%

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.

NOTICES

- School resumes on Tuesday 19th April** at the usual time.
- Common 'Health' Games** – children in **Year 4 & 5** will be participating in sporting activities at Birchwood High School on **Tuesday 19th April**. Children will need to be picked up promptly from Birchwood at **3.30 pm**.
- The Gardening Club** resumes on **Wednesday 27th April to Wednesday 25th May** from **3.20 – 4.30 pm**. If you would like your child to attend, please see the form below for details on how to book a place.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Macaroni Cheese (Red) ❖ Vegan Chilli (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Pie (Red) ❖ Mild Vegetable Curry (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Pork (Red) ❖ Vegan Sausages (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger (Red) ❖ BBQ Quorn Fillet (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Battered Fish (Red) ❖ Cheese and Tomato Pizza (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
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
01/09/22	Inset 1
02/09/22	Inset 2
05/09/22	First Day Back
24/10/22 – 28/10/22	Half Term
02/12/22	Occasional Day

Contact: admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.spellbrook.herts.sch.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 - 3pm - 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



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

Come and Grow After-School with Well Bean Gardening

Wednesday April 27 and every Wednesday until half-term from 3.20pm to 4.30pm



- We still have places for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
- £25 for the five-week half-term
- All equipment supplied but pupils must bring appropriate clothing as we will be outside in all weathers
- This half-term we'll be:
 - Working in the school gardens
 - Planting and growing flowers and food
 - Working towards RHS Campaign for School Gardening Award Scheme

If you would like your child to attend, please return the slip below to the school office in an envelope clearly marked FAO: Well Bean Gardening with £25 cash; a cheque made payable to Wendy Gordon or via BACS: Mrs W L Gordon/27441520/07-04-36 (Please use your name as reference) by Wednesday April 27.

It's important that you return the slip below for safeguarding and emergency contact

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

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.

At 4.30pm my child will be picked up by:

Well Bean Gardening has a Facebook page (please check it 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 please tick the box:
(Please note that children are never named)

☐

RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY APRIL 27 WITH PAYMENT OF £25

Email: wendy@wellbeangardening.com
Mobile: 07817 528652

facebook.com/wellbeangardening
www.wellbeangardening.com



STORTFORD CHEERLEADERS CHEER & ACRO WORKSHOP AT SUMMERCROFT

10AM-2PM

AGES 6-12 £20/DAY

Thursday 7th & Friday 8th April



Join Stortford Cheerleaders for a workshop day, building on all elements of Cheerleading including dancing, gymnastics, cheering and stunting!

Your child will enjoy working as part of a team, motivating each other as a group, gaining a desire for Cheer Spirit and will make new friends!

The day will start with a high energy cardio warm up Pom Pom dance. Working on strength, flexibility and balance skills. We will cover fundamental skills for tumbling and how to be safe in stunts as well as fun and games.

These workshops promise to be fun for everyone regardless of ability.

If you would like to come to Stortford Cheerleaders Cheer & Acro Workshop at Summerville on either Thursday 7th or Friday 8th April, or both days, 10am-2pm, please contact Cressy MacDonald-Williams at stortfordcheerleaders@hotmail.com or 07788561175 to book your place.

Places are limited and will be given on a first come first served basis.



stortfordcheerleaders@hotmail.com



Spring Holiday

4th - 18th April



**South
Mill Arts**

Box Office:
01279 710 200
Southmillarts.co.uk

Supported by:



1-3 South Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3JG. South Mill Arts is a trading styling of Bishop's Stortford Museum & Arts CIC. Registered Charity No.1189853

Museum

Children under 16 attending the crafts sessions need to be accompanied by an adult at all times.



Discover & Make: Green Man

Green men are traditionally used to herald the spring. Find out about the ancient customs and make your own Green Man face from clay.

Ages 6+

Thurs 7th April | 10am & 1pm | £5



Snacking Rabbit

Make this simple moving toy so the rabbit can snack on a tasty carrot.

Free Drop in

Tue 12th & Wed 13th April | 10am - 2pm



A Chick in an egg

Open the egg to reveal your cute chick!

Free Drop in

Tue 5th & Wed 6th April | 10am - 2pm



Discover & Make: Victorian Spring Cleaning

Put on a servant's apron and do the laundry the Victorian way. Then play some games and make a Victorian toy. **Ages 6+**

Thur 14th April | 10am & 1pm | £5

To book your tickets please visit
southmillarts.co.uk
or call our Box Office: 01279 710 200



HELLO, PARENTS & GUARDIANS!

WE ARE BEEZEE BODIES, AND WE WORK WITH HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE FREE (AND FUN!) HEALTHY LIFESTYLES SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR FAMILY TO BE HEALTHIER?

GOOD NEWS! WE HAVE NEW BEEZEE FAMILIES GROUPS STARTING NEAR YOU IN MAY (PLUS LOTS OF ONLINE SUPPORT AVAILABLE TOO).

SIGN UP FOR FREE TODAY!



SCAN ME WITH
YOUR SMARTPHONE
CAMERA!

*to be eligible for this awesome free service, your family must live/go to school/be registered with a GP in Hertfordshire and include one child aged 5 - 15 who is above their ideal healthy weight.

HAPPY EASTER!

LET'S MAKE HOT CROSS BUNS!



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

For the buns:

500g wholemeal flour
60g HalfSpoon sugar
7g fast-action yeast
75g sultanas
25g dried mixed fruit
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp mixed spice
300ml skimmed milk
30g low-fat spread
1 egg

For the crosses:

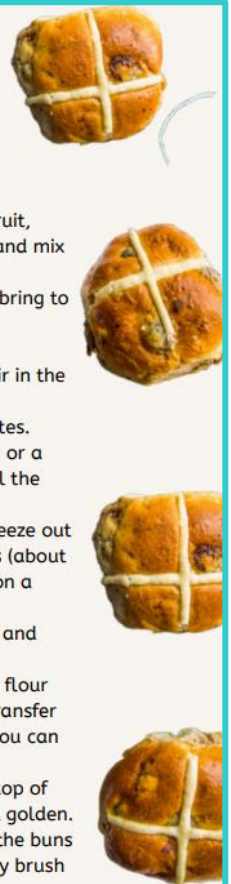
75g plain flour
75ml water

For the glaze:

3 tbsp apricot jam

WHAT TO DO:

1. Add the flour, half spoon, yeast, sultanas, mixed fruit, cinnamon and mixed spice to a large mixing bowl and mix together.
2. Add the milk and spread to a small saucepan and bring to a slight simmer before removing from heat.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk the egg.
4. Create a well in the flour mixture and gradually stir in the wet ingredients to form a dough.
5. Transfer to a floured surface and knead for 5 minutes.
6. Return the dough to the bowl, cover with cling film or a clean tea towel and leave to rise for 1 hour or until the dough has doubled in size.
7. Transfer the dough onto a floured surface and squeeze out the air. Split the dough into 15 equally sized pieces (about 70g each). Shape each piece into a bun and place on a baking tray lined with baking paper.
8. Cover the buns with cling film or a clean tea towel and leave to prove for 1 hour.
9. Preheat the oven to 200C. In a small bowl, mix the flour and water to form a paste to create the crosses. Transfer the paste into a piping bag or sealable food bag (you can cut off a corner of the bag to act as a nozzle).
10. Once the buns have proved, pipe crosses onto the top of each bun. Bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes until golden.
11. Gently heat 3 tbsp apricot jam in a pan and glaze the buns while they are still warm. If you don't have a pastry brush to glaze with, you can just use the back of a spoon.



beezeebodies.com

[BeeZee Families](#)

01707 248648



UKRAINE SUPPORT IN SAWBRIDGEWORTH AND HERTFORDSHIRE

Apply to be a sponsor: the Government have launched a sponsorship scheme to match people, charities, businesses and community groups to Ukrainians who do not have family ties to the UK. More details on the scheme can be found on <https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>

We have a local Facebook page for people who have registered to host guests from Ukraine plus people who are unable to host but can provide other forms of support: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/homesforukrainsawbridgeworthsupportgroup/>

Herts County Council support page: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/ukraine-support-in-hertfordshire.aspx>

What the County Council are doing: working with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, and with local partners, to plan for what role we would play if people fleeing from Ukraine are temporarily located in Hertfordshire.

How you can help: the best way to provide humanitarian help for the people of Ukraine is through financial donations to organisations with a presence in the region. There are many organisations across the UK and internationally who have launched appeals to raise money towards providing humanitarian relief in Ukraine. [The Disasters Emergency Committee \(DEC\) Ukraine Appeal](#) is one such appeal and also UK Government matched. The money raised will fund food, water, medicine, protection and trauma care for people fleeing the war.

The Charity Commission and Fundraising Regulator have urged to 'give safely' to registered charities supporting those affected in Ukraine. To ensure the credibility of UK charities, please visit central government's [charity register](#). You can find more information about how to make a safe, financial donation, plus more information on how you can help on <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukraine-what-you-can-do-to-help>

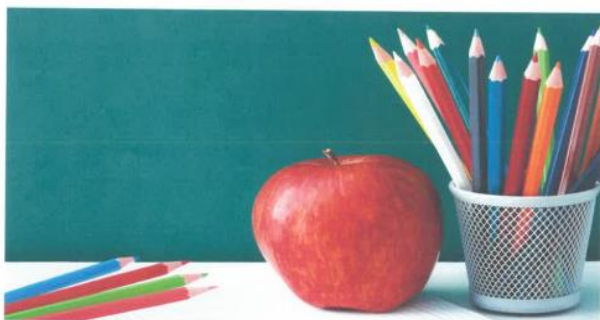
Support available to you: If you have friends and family in Ukraine and need information or support about what is happening, [please contact the Ukrainian Embassy](#). For information from central government including travel advice, [see the latest government information and advice on the situation in Ukraine](#)

SLAVA UKRAINI! david.royle1@gmail.com

THE SAWBRIDGEWORTH TRUST

Are you having difficulty in paying all your energy bills or perhaps buying a School Uniform?

The Trust may Be able to help if you live in Sawbridgeworth, High Wych, Gilston, Eastwick or Spellbrook. To see if you qualify, why not ask for an application form from our Clerk.



Call the Mrs D. Kitson
Clerk on: 01279 723212
Diana.kitson@btinternet.com



Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth

Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

An Easter Celebration!

**Holy Saturday 16th April
2 till 4pm**

**Drop into Great St Mary's
any time between 2pm and 4pm
to enjoy a range of
Easter crafts and activities
for younger members of the family
including creating the Easter Garden**



KIDS IN THE WILD

IS YOUR CHILD 9-11 YEARS OLD?

DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO HAVE THE ULTIMATE SUMMERTIME ADVENTURE?

ARE YOU FED UP WITH SEEING THEM INSIDE ON SCREENS?

DO YOU THINK THEY WOULD BENEFIT FROM TIME SPENT IN THE WILDERNESS?

Channel 4 and the producers of *Junior Bake Off* are making a brand-new series and are looking for children aged 9-11 to spend two weeks camping in nature this summer.

By encouraging independence outdoors, we will explore the relationships and skills children develop when put to the test.

VISIT WWW.APPLYFORTHEWILD.CO.UK

OR EMAIL KIDSINTHEWILD@LOVEPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

<https://loveproductions.co.uk/contributorprivacynotice>

LOVE
productions



BISHOP'S STORTFORD RUGBY CLUB EASTER RUGBY CAMP 2022

WHEN: Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th April

WHO: Boys and Girls U6 - U12

TIME: Start 09:30 and finish at 15:00 (Arrive from 09:15)

WHERE: Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club

FOOD: Packed lunch, a snack and water bottle for the day (no nuts)

KIT CHECK: Rugby boots, Trainers, Gumshields, suitable training kit and a spare set of clothes

COST: £30 per day

COURSE CONTENT: Tackle/Tagging Technique, Handling, Evasion Games/ Gameplay, various other activities and lots of fun.

For further details please contact:

colemant1986@gmail.com

or call Tom on 07854 097156

Or visit: www.bsrfc.co.uk

Application Form available online or by email.

Courses run by BSRFC 1st XV coaches.

