



# SPELLBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARN TOGETHER - ENJOY TOGETHER - SUCCEED TOGETHER

## NEWSLETTER – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### VALUE: SERVICE

Focus: Giving your time and energy for the benefit of others.

'Serve one another in love.' Galatians 5.13

### BORROW THE MOON



### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I have noticed that in the last few weeks quite a few children are needing to be spoken to about their behaviour. It is low level and is either a lack of focus on their learning, compared to what we usually see, poor listening or friendship issues, with children displaying a lack of patience and kindness with each other. We are addressing this and if your child is a specific focus, we will let you know. Please can you encourage your child to do their best with this and if there are specific issues, please let your class teacher know. A calm, happy environment, where everyone does their best is beneficial to everyone, socially and educationally.

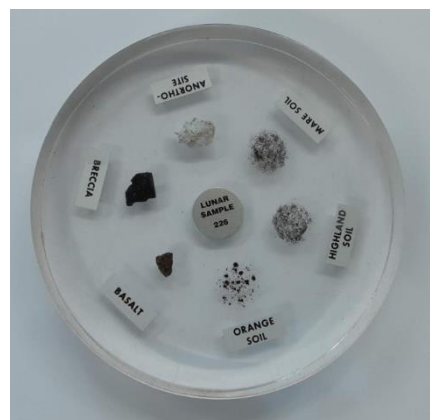
For our school improvement work this week, we hosted teachers from other local schools to moderate writing. This is a professional development activity to enable teachers to fully understand the criteria for assessment for the SATs for KS1 (Year 2) and KS2 (Year 6). Fully understanding what these criteria mean in terms of the features of good writing, including spelling and handwriting is integral to determining what level children are to be assessed at. As we have a member of our staff who is a moderator for the local authority, we have access to the full training and a level of expertise that not all schools have. This allows us to prepare for external moderation and assist others to do the same.

SATS resume this year after the postponements during lockdown and it is a topic of great interest to all involved in schools. The government have kept the same criteria as that used before the pandemic, so the expectations

are the same as 2019, when children had received the full curriculum and preparation in schools. Lost learning time, particularly with writing, during the lock downs has meant that some children who would have been expected to be writing at the expected standard will not be there. This is despite the great progress that many have recently made. The Government and school leaders throughout the country are therefore predicting that the percentage at the expected levels will drop significantly and figures such as 60% at expected for writing, rather than 80% are being quoted. We continue to strive to ensure that all children make as much progress as they are able to.



This week, the children have been extremely fortunate to be able to access some unique and fascinating resources. The Borrow the Moon kit is one of 6, owned by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC). It includes samples collected from the moon by NASA as well as Lunar and Martian meteorites and a range of other interesting rocks. We have been waiting 3 years to borrow this set and had to fulfil security criteria and agree to specific conditions.



The children have watched videos of the first lunar landing, found out about and examined the rocks and samples, learned about impact craters including carrying out their own crater making experiments. The younger ones have even made their own rockets. The teachers will be uploading photos to Classdojo or Tapestry.

The children have all received some great resources and books to enable them to further develop their understanding. The children and staff have been fascinated. The realisation that some of these samples have come from another world and that we can have them in front of us is quite awe inspiring.

Our journalists, Frank, Natasha and Marcia have been finding out more.

*Archie, Sam, Josh and Jasper told us that they have been finding out what the moon is really like. They said they had learned, "The moon is not magnetic. It has different types of soil and rock. Parts of the moon are quite cool"*



*Miss Prow told us, "We looked at how craters were formed and the different materials that are found on the moon."*

*Teddy T and Kimora-Lee said, "It was fun being able to see and hold different parts of the moon."*

*Mr Fisher's favourites were the heavy meteorite and the piece of Martian meteorite.*

*Annabelle said, "it was like I was in space"*



We are very grateful to Mrs Smith, for arranging this and taking on the massive responsibility of keeping the kit safe and secure and making sure nothing was damaged or lost.

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and stay safe.

Jeremy Fisher







## MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

*Fr Simon writes:*

After the welcome return of last Sunday's St George's Day parade and service in church, during which about 200 of us - mostly from the various scout and guide groups in town - reflected on what we know of St George's life and the role model that he can be for us, this Sunday sees the welcome return of another Sawbridgeworth tradition: the May Fayre.



The Sawbridgeworth May Fayre is almost 600 years old. Yet for the past couple of years due to Covid it's had to be cancelled. I'm therefore yet to experience it - and I can't wait. I've heard so much about the fun and interest to be had. It will be taking over the centre of the town from 12pm till 4pm on Sunday, and we at the church will be there too.



We've got things of fun and interest planned for young and old alike, both inside and outside the church, including trips to the ringing chamber of the tower to see where the bell ringers pull all the ropes, a mini-ring frame in the churchyard for you all to have a safe go at ringing, and various displays in the church of the church's treasures and congregation's skills. You could even try your hand at a bit of flower-arranging!

So I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday. If you see me, do stop me to say hello.

God bless,

*Fr Simon*



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



No Birthdays this Week

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Ruby

- ✚ Lucas for getting involved in activities.

### Sapphire

- ✚ Aishwarya for fantastic participation in Maths lessons.
- ✚ Louis for his excellent non-chronological report writing.



### Emerald

- ✚ Elise for taking time to think about our value of service.
- ✚ Isabelle for a wonderful information text about the Viking long ships.

### Diamond

- ✚ Finley for superb creative writing in English.
- ✚ All of Year 6 for hard work in their SATS revision.



## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Attendance Ladder



**Whole School Attendance – 95.2%**

**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

- ✚ **Diamond Class Residential** – a reminder that the final instalment is due on **30/04/22**.
- ✚ **Bank Holiday** – a reminder that school is closed on **Monday 2nd May**. School resumes at the usual time on **Tuesday 3rd May**.
- ✚ **Class Photos** – the school photographer will be in to take class photos on **Tuesday 3rd May**. Please ensure that children arrive promptly to school and are in full uniform. For the children in **Ruby** and **Sapphire** who have PE on the day, please bring in a pair of trainers in a bag to change into.
- ✚ **Dinner Money** – please ensure that your child's dinner account is in credit at all times.

## NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	❖ BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday	❖ Quorn Hot Dog (Red) ❖ Roasted Tomato Ragu (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	❖ Roast Gammon (Red) ❖ Cheese & Broccoli Bake (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	❖ Organic Beefy Pasta Bake (Red) ❖ Savoury Quiche (Green)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
02/05/22	Bank Holiday
03/05/22	Class Photos
04/05/22	Dental Check for Five-Year-Olds
09/05/22 – 12/05/22	KS2 SATS
30/05/22 – 03/06/22	Half Term
06/06/22	Inset 5
08/06/22 – 10/06/22	Diamond Class Residential
15/06/22	Year 6 Swimming Starts
14/07/22	Secondary Transition Day



	❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)	20/07/22	Last Day of Term
Friday	❖ Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake (Red)	21/07/22	Occasional Day
	❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (Green)	22/07/21	Jubilee Bank Holiday in lieu
	❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)	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
		05/01/23	Inset 3
		06/01/23	Inset 4
		09/01/23	First Day Back
<p>Contact: <a href="mailto:admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk">admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk">www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk</a></p>			



**May Fayre**  
 GREAT ST MARY'S SAWBRIDGEWORTH  
**Sunday 1st May**  
**Church Open All Day**  
 Bell Ringing  
 Guided Tour of the Church  
 Flower Arranging Demos  
 Photo display of Church activities  
 Display of Robes & Silver  
 Displays by various Church organisations



**IT'S THAT STAGECOACH FEELING!**

**BOOK NOW**

**Bishop's Stortford & Harlow**  
 Singing, dancing and acting classes for 4 - 18 year-olds  
 www.stagecoach.co.uk/bishopsstortford  
 07743 356219  
 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, CM23 2NL

**STAGE COACH**  
 Creative Courage For Life!

STRAFALGAR ENTERTAINMENT | COMPANY

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Girlguiding is the UK's leading charity for girls and young women.  
Join our team of 100,000 volunteers in the UK.

# Volunteer with us

Inspire girls in your area  
by just being you!



You could volunteer with Brownies Age 7+

You could volunteer with Rainbows Age 4+

Our events, adventures and meetings empower girls to be their best and become confident.

Guiding is totally flexible. Every commitment counts, there is no level of commitment too small. You have the power to change the lives of girls and young women. You don't need any Guiding experience.

You could volunteer with Guides Age 10+

It can seem quite daunting from the outside, but once you go to a few meetings, play a few games and take part in some of the activities the leaders have organised you learn that it's really not that scary.

If you are interested or want to find out more  
Contact us: Email [bishopsstortforddistrict@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortforddistrict@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk)  
Facebook @GirlguidingBishopsStortford  
Or register your interest at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved>

## Girlguiding Bishops Stortford needs your help.

**We need more volunteers.**

There are several ways to volunteer, helping with admin, supporting leaders with accounts, managing the social media, however, what we really need are regular helpers to start coming to our units with a view to taking over the unit in a few years.

Since 2020 we have closed, 2 Rainbow, 2 Brownie and 2 Guide units - this is due to leaders retiring, ill health or moving out of the area. This has meant we have lost 120 places for girls in the local area. Sadly at the end of the summer term 2 more are going to close.



# HAVE YOUR SAY!

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Parent and Carer Online Forum  
Thursday 19th May, 5:30 - 6:45pm

**How do you think schools should be celebrating?**

Join parents and carers from primary and secondary schools around Hertfordshire at this free online event run by Herts for Learning.

Herts  
for Learning

BLACK  
HISTORY MONTH

How do you think schools should be celebrating Black History Month?

# HAVE YOUR SAY!

Parent and Carer Online Forum Thursday 19th May 5.30 - 6.45pm

Join parents and carers from schools around Hertfordshire at this free online event run by Herts for Learning (HfL) to express your views about celebrating Black History Month.

This event will be hosted by HfL Wellbeing and Race Equality Advisers who are particularly keen to listen to parents and carers who are and/or have children from Black and mixed heritage backgrounds. They want to hear direct experiences, find out what is working well and hear suggestions about where improvements could be made. They hope to welcome voices from early years settings, primary and secondary schools, as well as sixth form colleges.

HfL Wellbeing and Race Equality Advisers will lead and facilitate the discussions, ensuring that the forum is a safe space where everyone who is willing to share will be heard and respected.

Feedback from this event will be used by the team to provide further free resources and support to maintained schools in Hertfordshire to celebrate Black History Month in October 2022 and beyond.

To register to attend this free online event, please visit [Livesform/herts-for-learning/black-history-month-forum](https://livesform/herts-for-learning/black-history-month-forum)

Thursday 19th May 2022, 5.30 - 6.45pm  
Logon at 5.20pm

For more information, please contact the HfL Events team at [training@hertsforlearning.co.uk](mailto:training@hertsforlearning.co.uk) or call 01438 544477.

Do you know any organisations or people willing to stage an event for Black History Month in Hertfordshire 2022?

What activities and events would you like to see happening during Black History Month in Hertfordshire?

Are you involved in Black History Month in your child's school or in your workplace?

How is Black History Month celebrated in your child's school?

What do you think about Black History Month and why?

Do you have any suggestions for your child's school?

Herts for Learning (HfL) is a provider of products and services to schools and educational settings. We believe that every young person, through access to a great education, should be able to realise their potential, regardless of where they live or their circumstances.

Herts  
for Learning

[hertsforlearning.co.uk](https://hertsforlearning.co.uk)





Walk to School Week 16th - 20th May 2022



Clean Air Day 16th June 2022

# Confidence Building Fun

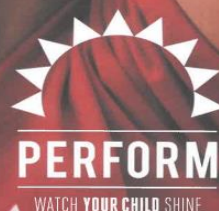
Try a **FREE** class  
Drama, dance and singing for 4–12s  
Visit [perform.org.uk/try](https://perform.org.uk/try) to book

Sawbridgeworth Memorial Hall, CM2 (Thursdays)

Summerville Primary School, CM2 (Mondays)

Epping Hall, CM1 (Mondays)

Broxbourne Sports Club, EN1 (Thursdays)



## Boost your child's social skills

Perform's drama, dance and singing classes use the performing arts to

- Build confidence
- Boost concentration
- Enhance coordination
- Develop communication skills



— He's learning to express himself in ways that he never knew how to before, giving him more confidence.

Anna Trieu

### Why try Perform?

- Unique performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps to support your child's learning
- End of term presentation for family and friends



### Try Perform for FREE

Your child can come and try a class for FREE and there's no obligation to join afterwards. With almost 500 Perform schools, find your nearest and book online at [perform.org.uk/try](https://perform.org.uk/try)