

SPELLBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARN TOGETHER - ENJOY TOGETHER - SUCCEED TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER - 24th June 2022

VALUE: TRUTHFULNESS

Focus: Living without lies

'Tell the truth to each other.' Zechariah 8.16





Emerald Class Tag Rugby

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This Week in School

Parents Consultations: Thank you for attending the consultations. It is so important to have these discussions about your child's/children's learning and to be in a position to address any issues together. There are a few parents who did not make an appointment or were unable to attend. Please contact the class teacher via ClassDojo ASAP in order to make an appointment. This may need to be a phone call, depending upon their availability at this busy time.

Magistrate Visit: Diamond Class learned a lot more about the Rule of Law in the UK during a really engaging visit from Elaine Terry, a local magistrate. She explained a great deal and encouraged the children to share their own knowledge and apply this to different scenarios.

The children learned about the difference between magistrate and crown courts. We discussed a whole range of crimes. I was amazed at the number of different crimes they could name and the knowledge they have picked up from television, news and discussions. We did have a brief chat afterwards about the differences between the UK and America and that not everything we see on dramas is accurate or without bias. Elaine explained that the magistrate

Attendance: We are having some very significant problems caused by poor attendance at the moment. Families are choosing to take holidays or to take their children out of school for days for a range of reasons. We do not seem to have returned to the awareness and commitment to high attendance that was evident before the pandemic. I know it has been a unique time and on returning to 'normality' it has been very difficult in schools to enforce the previous expectations. I am not referring to genuine illness as this is unavoidable. This is very much on my mind at the moment and I really need parents to appreciate the impact.

Learning builds on learning and by missing lessons, learning is slowed down or is not secure. This creates problems when that prior learning is needed in the future. High attendance is demonstrated to be closely linked to success. There is a correlation between high attendance even at primary school with success at GCSEs and A levels.

Coming into a sequence of lessons part way through is very difficult and disorientating for a child. Information that others take for granted means very little to them. There are only so many opportunities in a lesson for a teacher to track back for a specific child.

court decides whether to hear a case or send it on to the crown court and that between ninety six and ninety seven percent of cases are heard at a magistrates court. In a magistrates court there are three magistrates, so that there is always a majority decision. We found out about the different punishments that can be given to a guilty defendant and that the magistrates court can only sentence up to 12 months in prison, whereas crown courts can sentence for life. The children were encouraged to think about the impact of a criminal record on someone's life choices and agree that they must do their utmost throughout their life to avoid receiving one.

Tag Rugby: This week the children in Emerald Class have taken part in a Tag Rugby competition, organised by Saracens. They played in small teams and enjoyed lots of games against children from other local schools. This is the first time some of them have played a competitive match. As the games progressed, they became more confident, and played together with increasing effectiveness. Thank you to the parents who helped with the transport.



Diamond Class took part in the Thales Glider Challenge delivered by the Smallpeice Trust on Thursday. The aim of this STEM event was to provide the children with an exciting way to learn about engineering. This was a great way to extend and develop their understanding of forces (science), researching, designing and making (Design and Technology) and problem solving (science, D&T and maths).

The morning began with a livestream during which the activities were introduced and the children were taught about the components of a glider and the forces which affect its ability to stay in the air. They then worked in groups to design and make up to three different gliders.

Throughout the morning, they tested and refined their designs. They also had additional information at different times on the livestream. Schools were invited to upload photos and some of ours were shown, with faces replaced by smileys for GDPR. The children rose to the challenge, working extremely well in their teams and producing some excellent gliders. Some flew in excess of 12 meters, which is impressive.

Confidence is vital to a learner. Being overwhelmed and feeling that everyone else understands or can do a task and you cannot, leads to a loss of confidence. This can impact on motivation and on well-being.

Children's social relationships are complex and missing time in school can result in children feeling left out and feeling they are less valued within their friendship groups.

My staff are working really hard to meet the learning needs of **all** of the children and we all believe that they all deserve to succeed so that they can make whatever choices they want when they leave school. A good start in primary school makes such a difference to their successes in secondary school. Thank you to those parents who are already supporting this.

Is 90% attendance good for a child? We have an unprecedented number of children whose attendance is near or below 90%. This is a huge worry. For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks. Over the primary and secondary school years, this adds up to 48 weeks off, this is more than a whole year of learning missed. Noone would expect a child who has missed a whole year to have the same understanding.

I would like all parents to appreciate that from September, a new school year, this has to be different. We need your support and the commitment that your child will always be in school unless they are significantly unwell. From September we will be working with the local authority Attendance to formally follow up where this is not the case. Please support your child's future by ensuring that their attendance is as high as it can possibly be.

Maternity: Mrs McDonald has now commenced her maternity leave. She has asked me to pass on my thanks to parents and children for their lovely gifts and wishes. She has promised to share pictures when her baby son arrives, and we are all looking forward to that. Meanwhile, Miss Keeble and Miss Neary, both known to the children are responsible for Emerald class until the end of the term. I am confident that the children will have a good end to the term. We also wish Miss Grainger well, as she has now completed her teacher training. She has been very hard working, friendly and helpful and we wish her good luck in her teaching career.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher













Diamond Class Glider Challenge

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH



Revd Debbie writes:

Last Tuesday was the longest day of the year - the summer solstice. For some, it was a day of celebration when thousands gathered at Stonehenge to greet the dawn.

The word 'solstice' comes from the Latin *sol* (sun) and *sistere* (to stand still). At the moment of the solstice, the sun reaches its highest and northernmost points in the sky, and Earth's North Pole tilts directly towards the sun. And at that moment, the sun seems to stand still for a moment, hanging in the heavens, before beginning its long descent towards sunset. It's a time when many also stand still, watching in awe and taking time to be thankful for the world we live in; to be thankful for the fruitfulness of our planet, and the life that comes from the sun.





After all, without the sun there would be no life on Earth. Plants have life because of photosynthesis – the process by which sunlight is used, along with water and carbon dioxide, to create energy. And creatures have life because they consume plants or consume creatures that consume plants. So more or less all life is viable only because of the sun.

In Psalm 19, the author, who writes 'The heavens declare the glory of God,' goes on to call attention to the sun's orbit as it traces a path across the sky. The psalmist likens it to an athlete running around a racetrack: '[The sun] rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth'.

Many, such as St Francis of Assisi, have found God through the majesty and beauty of creation. As we enjoy this summer, may we too appreciate the beauty of nature, and may it give us a glimpse into the awesome power and artistry of God.

With every blessing,





BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby Lorenzo <u>Sapphire</u> Lisa Emerald Mariia

STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

Lorenzo for great effort when writing and using classroom tools.

Sapphire

- Nikita for working hard in lessons.
- Lisa for amazing listening in lessons.

Emerald

Emerald Class for being fantastic.

Diamond

- Teddy L for excellent concentration and focus in all his learning.
- Mya for good partner work in her STEM activity.



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK



Whole School Attendance - 93%

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.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	 Macaroni Cheese (V) (Red) Quorn Pattie in a Bun (V) (Green) Cheese Roll (Yellow)
Tuesday	 ❖ Chicken Pie (Red) ❖ Mild Vegetable Curry (V) (Green) ❖ Ham Roll (Yellow)
Wednesday	 ❖ Roast Pork (Red) ❖ Vegan Sausages (Ve) (Green) ❖ Cheese Roll (Yellow)
Thursday	 ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ BBQ Quorn Fillet (V) (Green) ❖ Ham Roll (Yellow)
Friday	 ❖ Battered Fish (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Cheese Roll (Yellow)

NOTICES

- ♣ Ruby Class Trip to Audley End is on Wednesday 29th June. Payments should be made on Arbor under Activities - Trips - Ruby Class Trip to Audley End by the end of today please.
- **Sapphire Trip to Epping Forest** is on **Friday 1**st **July.** Payments should be made on **Arbor** by clicking on **Activities − Trips − Sapphire Trip to Epping Forest** by **Thursday 30**th **June** please.
- ♣ Emerald Trip to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle is on Thursday 7th July. Payments should be made on Arbor by clicking on Activities - Trips -Emerald Trip to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle by Monday 4th July please.
- ♣ Dinner Money please ensure that your child's dinner account is in credit at all times.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
29/06/22	Ruby Trip to Audley End
01/07/22	Sapphire Trip to Epping Forest
04/07/22	Sports Day
07/07/22	Emerald Trip to Stansted Mountfitchet
	Castle
07/07/22	Reserve Sports Day
08/07/22	Diamond Class Music Afternoon
14/07/22	Secondary Transition Day
19/07/22	Year 6 Leavers Service
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 –	Half Term
28/10/22	
02/12/22	Occasional Day
08/12/22	Pantomime
05/01/23	Inset 3
06/01/23	Inset 4
09/01/23	First Day Back
13/02/23 –	Half Term
17/02/23	
20/02/23	Inset 5
21/02/23	First Day Back
31/03/23	Last Day of Term
17/04/23	First Day Back

29/05/23 – 02/06/23	Half Term
21/07/23	Last Day of Term

Contact: admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk







Summer camp (4.5 - 12yrs) at Sawbridgeworth Evangelical Congregational Church, Sawbridgeworth

Youth CREATE was founded by Carol Russell, originally named SMYT (Sawbridgeworth Musical Youth Theatre) as a focus for local young people. In 1987, the organisation gained its charity status and changed name to Youth CREATE. C R E A T E: Community Recreational Educational Arts and Theatre for Everyone. Over thirty years later, Youth CREATE is still going strong as a

youthcreate.class4kids.co.uk





FIND OUR MORE ONLINE

WWW.MULTI-ACTIVE.CO.UK

TEL:01462-351582

Children's Activitie Association



Ofsted