



# SPELLBROOK NEWSLETTER

**FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

Dear Parents,

I can hardly believe that we are coming towards the end of this half term. In many ways it feels like my first term here. I am preparing a review of the half term that I will share with you next week.

Today we are saying goodbye and thank you to Luke, the sports coach from Super Star Sports, who will be taking a new job nearer his home. He has led activities at lunchtime, run PE lessons for each class and taken after school clubs this half term and we wish him well in his new post. Josh has been here to learn the ropes this week and will take over from him next week.

Each week, the teachers and I meet after school and part of our time is spent focusing on the key areas for improvement in our School Plan. This week, we have been looking at a range of the children's Power Maths books across the school. Power Maths follows the maths mastery approach and one of the key features is the reflection on the key learning from the lesson. We have been checking that children of all abilities are completing this part. Another key element is the challenge activity that deepens the thinking of those pupils who are the more able mathematicians and stretches them to apply their knowledge to complex problems. We are checking that as many pupils as are able, are getting onto and completing this. Teachers will be able to confirm whether your child is working at this higher level when you speak to them after half term for the teacher/ parent consultations that we are planning.

Please remember that for every child in the school, reading at home is a core of our homework (sharing books currently for Ruby Class) and the children need this regular practise to develop their fluency with decoding and comprehension. It also has a very strong impact on their vocabulary development. Please make sure your child is reading most nights and that the records are signed.

We have had to put a temporary stop to football at break and lunchtimes for Diamond Class. They will only be playing football when they have a sports coach as referee. There have been too many occasions where their over enthusiastic tackling and over competitive manner has caused problems. We will review this after half term.

Our Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) is proving to be a real asset and the children are really benefitting from having their PE on an all-weather surface. They also spend much less time retrieving balls that have escaped their control and more time developing their skills. Please make sure they all bring in long sleeved tops on PE days.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming you all back at school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Jeremy Fisher

### **Parent Survey**

A huge thank you to parents and carers who have filled out the survey sent out earlier on this week. We really encourage all parents and carers with parental responsibility to complete the survey to share your experience of your child's time at Spellbrook. This helps school to highlight any areas that may need addressing and those that are also working well. Comments are confidential and anonymised. Therefore, we will not be able to contact parents about their comments. However we strongly encourage and welcome parents and carers to contact school regarding any concerns they may have. Meetings at this time may be limited but we are happy to arrange a phone call or whatever is needed to discuss any concerns. The link for the survey has been added below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WsyR2FJ5HESaST904Yzvqcto-6uHzpNFnUi6DWAEaA1URVVIQ1k3N1hNSFM5QzdLNjFXREdSNTZNV4u>

### **Luke Temple's Books Order**

A reminder that today is the deadline for KS2 children to order books from the author – Luke Temple. Books cost £6.99 each but if you order 2 books, the cost is £11.98 (saving you £2) and 3 books are £16.97 (saving you £4). Prices include free delivery to school. Luke can also post books to your home address, with an added P+P cost. Please email [masterclass@luketemple.co.uk](mailto:masterclass@luketemple.co.uk) for more information.

### **Dress Up or Down Day**

The PTA invite children to participate in a 'Dress Up or Down Day' on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020** in exchange for a suggested donation of £1. Come to school in your own clothes, or fancy dress, your choice! No masks, face paint or witches or wizards costumes and please remember we are a church school ☺

### **School Photos – Early Bird Reminder**

Following Pret-a-Portrait's recent visit to take school photographs, we just wanted to remind you that the early bird deadline for you to receive a 25% discount on the school pictures finishes on **22<sup>nd</sup> October**. If for any reason you have lost your original viewing instructions please don't worry. Pret-a-Portrait will be more than happy to help and you can contact them directly on 0800 021 7626 or [customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net](mailto:customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net)

### **Inset Day**

A reminder that the school will be closed to pupils on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** for staff training. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

### **Deadline to submit Secondary School Applications**

A reminder to Year 6 parents that the deadline to submit applications online is **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**. Parents can make an application online or on paper but Admissions would recommend that parents complete it by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Parents should apply online at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) or alternatively if you cannot access the internet, you can request a printed version of the website information and application from the Admissions and Transport Team by contacting the Process Admissions Officer (contact details below).

Lorna McKay - [Lorna.McKay@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Lorna.McKay@hertfordshire.gov.uk). Tel: 01992 556822 Ext: 56822

Any applications received after Saturday 31st October will be considered as 'LATE' applications and are considered after all of the on-time applications.

### **Parent Consultations**

Due to the restrictions this year, we will be having our parent consultations by phone with each consultation lasting approximately 10 minutes. Consultations will take place the week beginning **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November**. We will be sending out more information next week on how to book your time slot.

## Dinner Menu

Please see the menu for next week below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sausages with Gravy	Beefy Pasta Bolognaise	Roast Pork	Quorn Hot Dog	Pizza
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato

## Attendance for this week

Whole School Attendance – 98.2%    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.

## Birthdays this Week

No birthdays this week!



## Stars of the Week

Reception:	Henry
Year 1:	Poppy
Year 2:	Stanley T
Year 3:	Ella
Year 4:	Eshal
Year 5:	Joshua
Year 6:	Ronnie



**Head Boy/Girl Award:** Jessie (Ruby Class)

**The Collective Worship theme for this week was 'Love your neighbour'.**

**The 'Great Expectation' for next week is Creativity.**

## PE Days

**Diamond Class** – Monday and Wednesday

**Emerald Class** – Wednesday and Friday

**Sapphire Class** – Tuesday and Friday

**Ruby Class** – Tuesday and Thursday

## Dates for your Diary

22.10.20	PTA Dress Up or Down Day
23.10.20	Inset
26.10.20 – 30.10.20	Half Term
31.10.20	Deadline to submit secondary school applications (Year 6)
02.11.20	Pupils return to school
09.11.20 – 13.11.20	Parent Consultations
13.11.20	Nasal Flu Vaccine (Rec – Y6)
18.12.20	Last Day of Term
21.12.20 – 01.01.21	Christmas Break

04.01.21	Inset
05.01.21	Inset
06.01.21	Pupils return to school
15.02.21 – 19.02.21	Half Term
22.02.21	Pupils return to school
19.03.21	Red Nose Day
26.03.21	Last Day of Term
29.03.21 – 09.04.21	Easter Break
12.04.21	Pupils return to school
31.05.21 – 04.06.21	Half Term
07.06.21	Occasional Day
08.06.21	Pupils return to school
22.07.21	Last Day of Term
23.07.21 – 31.08.21	Summer Break