



NEWSLETTER 23RD APRIL 2021

VALUE: FRIENDSHIP

“Encourage one another and build each other up.” - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

“Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It’s not something you learn in school. But if you haven’t learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven’t learned anything.” - Muhammad Ali



Learning about capacity and colour mixing



Using our scientific skills of careful observation and identification

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week the teachers and I have been finishing off the reports. They should come out to all children in KS1 and KS2 today. Ruby class parents will be invited to have a phone update (as well as having access to Tapestry) as their reports will come out later in the term.

Emerald Class: They are focusing on electricity in their science topic. They have thought about electricity in the home including how to be safe. They have learned about batteries and are now applying that by making simple circuits.

The teachers and I have been considering the priorities for the core subjects and over the next few weeks we will be increasing our focus on reading, including asking parents to try and ensure their child reads each night at home.

We have also been continuing the work we started last week, looking at evidence of progress in the different subjects. This week we looked at the evidence for Art, Design & Technology, French, Music, Computing and PSHE.

Despite the need for extra focus at the moment on English and Maths, we value the other areas of learning and are determined to keep the curriculum as balanced as we can.

The pictures included in this newsletter all show elements of that wider curriculum that have been taken this week.

Diamond Class: Their current topic is ‘How does the Earth shake, rattle and roll?’ And this week they have been learning about volcanoes. This builds on last week’s work about tectonic plates and the effects on the earth of plate movement. This is proving to be a very popular topic.

In science they have continued learning about plants and have been using their scientific observation skills as they look closely at plants, identifying the different parts.

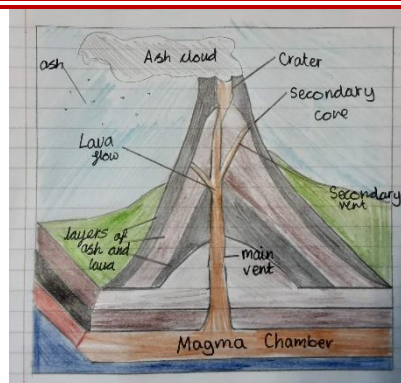
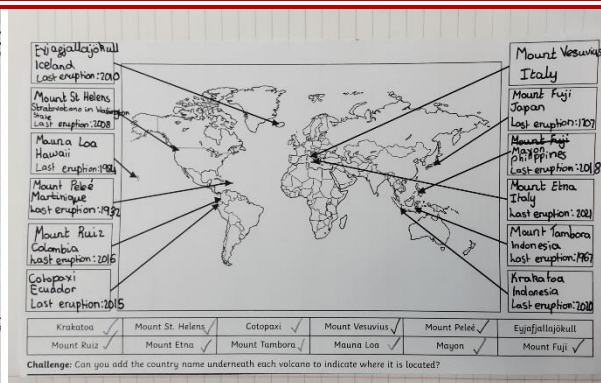
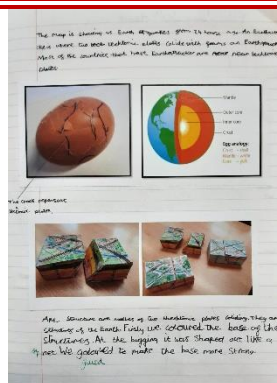
Ruby Class have been learning about capacity and colour mixing as they had great fun making potions.

We think that the children really benefit from the hands on and practical aspects of our curriculum and enjoy their learning too.

I hope you have a great weekend. Stay safe and well,
Jeremy Fisher



Making simple circuits



Tectonic plates and volcanoes

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Fr Simon writes:

Today is St George's Day - the patron saint of England. But he's also the patron saint of many other countries including China and Russia, of groups of people such as soldiers, farmers and scouts, and gives his name to the chapel in Windsor Castle where last weekend's funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh took place.



Tradition has it that George was a Greek-speaking Christian Turk who lived in Palestine in the third century. He joined the Roman army but was killed for refusing to persecute Christians who, as a group, would have come from all over the Mediterranean and therefore contained many nationalities.

So, in England's increasingly diverse multi-cultural, multi-lingual society, George seems peculiarly appropriate to be our patron saint. He seems not only representative of what it means to stand up for Christian beliefs and pay the ultimate price but - as we continue to shine a light on systemic racism in this country following this week's verdict in America in the George Floyd murder trial, and despite this past week's BBC *Panorama* investigation into racism within the Church of England - also representative of the diversity and inclusiveness of the kind of Christianity which sees all fellow women and men, girls and boys, as sisters and brothers of equal standing.

So may I encourage you to fly your flag of St George with pride.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Simon

STARS OF THE WEEK

YR – Scarlett for working really hard and for resilience in writing.

Y1 – Harry for amazing ideas and resilience when writing.

Y2 – Percy for becoming much more resilient in lessons.

Y3 – Oliver for being resilient with his learning.

Y4 – Celia for being resilient in her learning.

Y5 – Charlie for being super resilient in Maths.

Y6 – Ava for excellent resilience in Maths problem solving.



TTRS

TTRS Leaderboard

1. Ranjeet
2. Alfie D
3. Jasper
4. Joseph
5. Sam



Highest earners from each year group

- Y6** – Alfie C
Y5 - Jasper
Y4 – Alfie D
Y3 - Finley
Y2 - Lorcan
Y1 - Flora



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK & DURING THE EASTER BREAK

Y2 – Lorcan
Y3 – John



PE DAYS

Ruby Class – Tuesday & Thursday
Sapphire Class – Tuesday & Friday
Emerald Class – Wednesday & Thursday
Diamond Class – Monday & Wednesday



Please wear PE Kit to school on these days to avoid the need to change.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Whole School Attendance – 98.1%

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

- We will be running an **in-house afterschool club** for parents in need of afterschool care every Monday from **3.30-4.30 pm**, starting on **26th April** until **19th July**. **£4** per session via School Gateway, more details in letter sent out.
- The **Maths Skills for Parents** workshop will continue in two weeks' time on **Thursday 6th May at 7.30 pm** and the topic will be multiplying and dividing fractions.
- Read, Write, Inc Books** – could we kindly ask that these books are handled with care please. Some of the books have been returned damaged, rendering them unusable.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU



Day	Menu
Monday	❖ Pork Sausages with Gravy (Red) ❖ Cheese Roll (Green)
Tuesday	❖ Beefy Pasta Bolognaise (Red) ❖ Cheese Roll (Green)
Wednesday	❖ Roast Pork (Red) ❖ Cheese Roll (Green)
Thursday	❖ Quorn Hot Dog (Red) ❖ Cheese Roll (Green)
Friday	❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (Red) ❖ Cheese Roll (Green)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
03/05/21	Bank Holiday
17/05/21	Walk to School Week
–	
21/05/21	
31/05/21	May Half Term
–	
04/06/21	
07/06/21	Occasional Day
08/06/21	First Day Back
22/07/21	Last Day of Term
01/09/21	Inset 1
02/09/21	First Day Back
22/10/21	Inset 2
25/10/21	Half Term
–	
29/10/21	
21/12/21	Last Day of Term

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

Parent / Carer Survey

Partners from across the Hertfordshire mental health system (led by the Public Health team at Hertfordshire County Council) have worked together to develop a short survey for all parents / carers of children and young people living or being educated in Hertfordshire.

The survey is completely anonymous unless you choose to leave your email address at the end, and should take you around 10 minutes to complete.

Covid-19 has been a difficult time for many of us and mental health and wellbeing information, services and support have often had to be delivered or accessed differently.

We want to ensure that we are supporting families across the county as effectively as possible - your answers to these questions will help us to do this.

The survey can be accessed via this link <https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/parentsurvey210421/> and will close on Monday 17th May.

The Big Ask

The Children's Commissioner has launched the biggest ever consultation with children.

The survey is live from now until **Wednesday 19th May** and asks children across England to set out their priorities for improving childhood post-Covid.

The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

Children and young people can take part in the survey at: thebigask.uk



Confidence Building Fun

Try a **FREE** drama class

Drama, dance and singing for 4–12s

Visit perform.org.uk/free to book a FREE class

SAWBRIDGEWORTH MEMORIAL HALL, CM2 (THU)
SUMMERCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL, CM2 (MON)
EPPING HALL, CM1 (MON)
BROXBOURNE SPORTS CLUB, EN1 (THU)
MILL MEAD SCHOOL, SG1 (SAT)





Social Media and Mental Health

Thursday 29th April 2021
7pm – 9pm £5.00 per household

To book please email: admin@aspects.org.uk

1 in 5 young people say they wake in the night to check their messages on Social Media

In this interactive workshop, delivered via Zoom, we will:

- look at the mental health benefits and risks associated with using Social Media
- learn about children's 'social' development
- discuss key concerns and look at current research
- look at the science behind Social Media
- discuss Fake News
- identify solutions and strategies
- look at a variety of online safety resources
- signpost where to get more help



Keeping Families Safe Online

Thursday 20th May 2021
7pm – 9pm £5.00 per
household

To book please
email: admin@aspects.org.uk

70% of children experience bullying online

In this interactive workshop, delivered via Zoom, we will:

- look at the benefits and risks of going online
- discuss key concerns
- share tips on how to talk to children about online safety
- share tips on how to develop children's digital resilience
- identify solutions and strategies
- look at a variety of online safety resources
- signpost where to get more help



VEGPOWER

60-Second Vegtastic Lunchbox Hacks

Veg are a key part of a healthy diet but it can be a real struggle to get kids to eat enough of them. Adding an extra portion or two to their packed lunch will help to up their intake. Try these simple ideas to **veg-pack their lunchboxes** with limited faff.

The basic toolkit:

- **Containers** (small and lidded for dips, leftovers and more)
- **Cutlery** (if needed)
- **Thermos** (any heat-retaining flask is great for soups, baked beans, leftovers, etc.)
- **Bamboo kebab sticks** (optional, but helpful for making veggies more fun)

Top tip: Know your portions – a child's portion of veg is roughly 50g or what fits into a child's hand.

#LunchboxHacks
@VegPowerUK
For recipes, tips and
free downloads visit:
vegpower.org.uk

kids
fruit

VEGPOWER

5 easy #LunchboxHacks to add more veg in 60 seconds or less:

1. The Salad-on-a-Stick

Get a bamboo kebab stick and thread on different veg such as cherry tomatoes, cubed cucumber, cubed cooked beetroot, chunks of peppers, raw button mushrooms, crunchy lettuce, etc) in fun colours. If your child isn't a fan of veg, try starting off by alternating veg with cooked meat, cubed cheese, etc to ease them into it.

2. The Lunch Crunch

1 carrot chopped into sticks (or pre-chopped carrot sticks) with a pot of hummus (or their favourite dip) adds a portion of veg.

3. The Sandwich Slice

Slice 5cm cucumber (about the length of a small egg) and add to a sandwich for an extra portion of veg with minimal effort.

4. The Helpful Handful

Add a handful of ready-to-eat snacky veg to a container. Try cherry tomatoes, drained tinned sweetcorn, celery sticks, green beans, cucumber etc.

5. The Half-Baked Plan

Heat through half a tin of baked beans (ideally low sugar and salt) and stick in a heat-retaining flask for an easy veg portion win.

Top tip: Keep trying! If they are not used to veg in their packed lunch, it may be picked out and ignored on the first few days. The more they see it and interact with it, the more the veg becomes "normal".

My Favourite veg was:

I ate this many carrots:

I ate this much cucumber:

My Favourite veg was:

This week my rating is:

For recipes, tips and
free downloads visit:
vegpower.org.uk