



NEWSLETTER – 3rd February 2023

VALUE: COURAGE

Focus: Facing a challenge

‘Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.’ Joshua 1.9

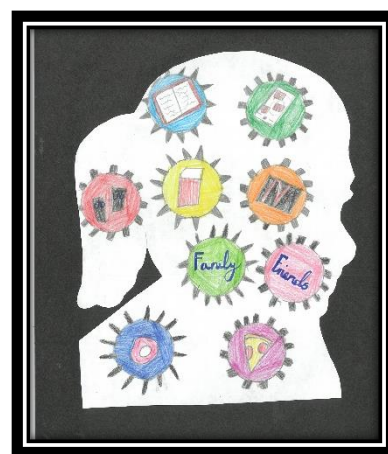
Sapphire Class



Ruby Class



Diamond Class



Emerald Class

Art Work from the Primary Yellow Book Art Competition

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Teaching children to read is one of our passions in school and we love taking advantage of opportunities to encourage readers at all different ages and stages to be involved in activities that increase their motivation and enjoyment of books. This week, a group of Year 6 children had the opportunity to take part in the Leventhorpe Annual Book Awards with other local primary schools. They had a big reveal of the 6 books that had been shortlisted for them to read by May when they will return to discuss the books and vote for their favourite.

Sam said that lots of the children liked the different books chosen and it was a fun afternoon. “I’m looking forward to reading them and have already started Bigfoot Mountain which I am loving. It was a great chance to discuss our first thoughts about

them all together. “

This event helps to further encourage the love of reading that these children already have and also encourages them to read a range of books that they may not usually choose. It is great to be part of a wider community that works together to promote a love a books and to share experiences of really good books. I recall the excitement and enjoyment experienced by all of the participants from our school when they took part last year and anticipate that this year will be same. I am looking forward to hearing more about the books and which ones

the children recommend. I may even have time during half term to pick up one or two if the recommendations are strong enough. (see pictures below)

Ruby class have been enjoying time outside looking to see what is growing. They saw these snowdrops and then looked for more. They have also been watching the growth of their cress caterpillars that they planted last week.



Uniform for PE: I have noticed that a number of children are not wearing the PE clothing that we request as part of our uniform. Please see the list below:

- Red PE T-shirt with school logo
- Navy blue shorts / skirt
- Plain navy tracksuit or navy hoodie and tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers

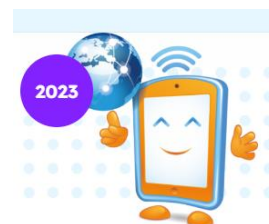
Please name the uniform: We are experiencing a lot of issues with lost clothing and would urge to name your child's items so that they can easily be returned. Children take off sweatshirts, hoodies and tracksuit tops when they become too warm, which can even happen at this time of year when they are physically active, and without names it is very difficult to unite these items with their owner. We have recently accumulated a lot of lost property, particularly hoodies and despite efforts, have been unable to identify who they belong to.

If any parent is interesting in helping the school to set up and run second hand uniform sales, then please do contact the office.

Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the 7th of February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

The aim is to engage children and to try to answer the following questions:

- What issues really matter to children and young people?
- What changes do they want to see?
- How can we all work together to advocate for them moving forward?



We shall be providing opportunities for children to discuss and feedback to us their thoughts on each of these questions but would also welcome your views and will be sending out a brief questionnaire, that the children will help us to design, in order to find out. If you haven't had a look at this website, please do.

[Top tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)



Children's Mental Health week: Next week is also Children's Mental Health week and will see the launch of the art work for the Yellow Book that we are involved in with other local schools.

Artwork from each of our year groups has been entered for the shortlisting – see above. Of those selected for shortlisting, 10 of ours will be in the published book.

[Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher



The Leventhorpe Book Awards

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

Last weekend was rather busy in the life of Great St Mary's. On the Saturday, more than 30 of us went on a parish awayday to Windsor. The weather was kind allowing us to watch the Changing of the Guard at the castle in the morning, while others took a look around the shops.



But the main aim of going was to have a tour of St George's Chapel within the castle. This is the place where Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth now lies, alongside the graves of her father King George VI, her husband Prince Philip, and sister Princess Margaret. Queen Elizabeth joins other monarchs such as Edward III, Henry VIII, and Charles I who are also buried in the royal chapel.



After tea and cake, we attended choral evensong beautifully sung by the gentlemen of the chapel choir, before we headed back to the coach - weary but thankful for a wonderful and enjoyable day of fellowship.

The following day we bid a fond farewell to Revd Debbie and her husband Richard. Revd Debbie preached and led the service after which our bell ringers honoured Revd Debbie's six-year ministry to our town by ringing a quarter peal. We then all gathered for a wonderful celebratory lunch. The turnout - not just from Great St Mary's but from the town and the deanery - was a testament to the impact Revd Debbie's had on our lives. There was a cake to be cut, a splendid spread of food, and there were, of course, speeches.





Revd Debbie received a cheque collected from the congregation totalling an incredible £2,000, the *Sunday Club* gave Revd Debbie a beautiful heart-shaped fingerprint painting to say thank you for her ministry to them and to *Mustard Seed*, and the PCC gave Revd Debbie and Richard a framed photograph of Great St Mary's which will no doubt take pride of place in their new home.

Have a great weekend.

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Diamond
Ella
Michal



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Sam for brilliant effort in all areas.
- ✚ Gracie for joining in well in everything.

Sapphire

- ✚ Caitlyn for working hard in English lessons.
- ✚ Amelie for excellent effort and focus in lessons.



Emerald

- ✚ Alice for her fantastic progress with her times tables.
- ✚ Harry F for working so hard in English.

Diamond

- ✚ Olivia for excellent focus and effort in her learning.
- ✚ Dominic for excellent focus in Maths.



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

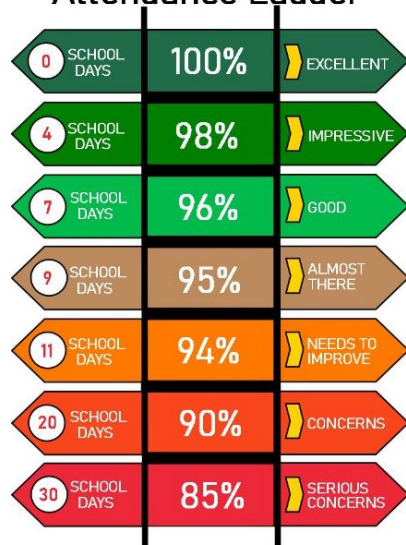
Whole School
Attendance – 96.75%

Whole School Target Set – 96%

Please contact school every 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.

Attendance Ladder



NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Vegballs in Homemade Tomato Sauce (Ve) (Red) ❖ Cheese Pinwheel (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mild Chicken Curry with Rice (Red) ❖ Omelette, Grilled Tomatoes & Baked Beans (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Pork (Red) ❖ Tomato Bolognese (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Cheese, Potato & Broccoli Bake (V) (Green)

NOTICES

- Emerald Trip to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village** is on **Tuesday 7th February**. If you require a school lunch for the trip, please email or ring the office. Payment is due on **Friday 3rd February**.
- Year 6 Height/Weight Measurement and TLM** - the school nurse will be in school on **Friday 10th February**. If you do not wish your child to take part, please contact the school nursing team. Details included in letter sent out today.
- Half Term** - school breaks up for half term on Friday 10th February at the usual pick up times of 3.10 pm (Ruby & Sapphire) and 3.20 pm (Emerald & Diamond). School resumes on **Tuesday 21st February**.
- Diamond Trip to the Royal Gunpowder Mills** is on **Wednesday 22nd February**. If you require a school lunch for the trip, please email or ring the office by **Friday 10th February**.
- Gardening Club** starts again straight after half-term on **Wednesday 22nd February**. It's open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. New starters welcome. Registration forms available from the school office or email: wendy@wellbeangardening.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
07/02/23	Emerald Trip to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village
10/02/23	Year 6 TLM /Height & Weight
13/02/23 – 17/02/23	Half Term
20/02/23	Inset 5
21/02/23	First Day Back
22/02/23	Diamond Trip to Royal Gunpowder Mills
01/03/23	Secondary School Allocation Day
08/03/23	Diamond & Emerald Trip – Faith Tour
29/03/22	Sapphire Class Last Swimming Lesson
31/03/23	Last Day of Term
17/04/23	First Day Back
01/05/23	Early May Bank Holiday
08/05/23	Coronation Bank Holiday
18/05/23	Year 6 Crucial Crew
22/05/23	Class Photos

	❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)	29/05/23 – 02/06/23	Half Term
Friday	❖ Fish Fillet Fingers (Red)	21/07/23	Last Day of Term
	❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green)	01/09/23	Inset 1
	❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)	04/09/23	Inset 2
		05/09/23	First Day Back
		23/10/23 – 27/10/23	Half Term
		01/12/23	Occasional Day – School Closed
		20/12/23	Last Day of Autumn Term 23
		04/01/24	Inset 3
		05/01/24	Inset 4
		08/01/24	First Day Back
		19/02/24 – 23/02/24	Half Term
		26/02/24	First Day Back
		28/03/24	Last Day of Spring Term
		15/04/24	First Day Back
		06/05/24	Early May Bank Holiday
		27/05/24 – 31/05/24	Half Term
		03/06/24	Inset 5
		23/07/24	Last Day of Summer Term
<p>Contact: admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk</p> <p>Website: www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk</p>			



2023 Camps Open

TECH HOLIDAY CAMP

BISHOP'S STORTFORD COLLEGE
School House, Maze Green Road,
Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2PQ

FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE
www.nextthing.education

FEB HALF TERM 2023

What's on?
Movie Making | Video Game Design | Robot Coding | STEM Experiments | Engineering

Curious Coders | Ingenious Inventors | Virtual Reality | Expert Engineers | Media Madness

Example weekly theme only, please see website for your camp specific activities

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5 - 11
13TH - 17TH FEBRUARY LIMITED SPACES
AGES 5 - 11 MULTI DAY BOOKING DISCOUNTS!

Rave Reviews
"My son gave the camp rave reviews. The type of activities on offer were perfect for him and it was nice that they also had outdoor time during the breaks. He loved so many of the activities on offer, it was a nice alternative to a purely sports-based camp. We will be back!"

How to book

STEP 1
SCAN THE QR CODE

STEP 2
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP

STEP 3
USE OUR COUPON TO GET £5 OFF

5FEB

W: WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION
E: INFO@NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150

SPORTS & ACTIVITY CAMP

SPECIAL EVENTS:

TUESDAY: BIKE/SCOOTER SKILLS

WEDNESDAY: BOUNCY CASTLES

FOODIE FRIDAY: CUPCAKE BAKING

MONDAY 13TH - FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
YEARS 1-7

FOOTBALL CAMP

SKILLS + DRILLS, ATTACKING, DEFENDING,
SHOOTING, FREE KICKS, TACTICS + TEAM PLAY,
MINI TOURNAMENT

TUESDAY 14TH - THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
YEARS 1-7

MINI CAMP

SCAVENGER HUNT, ARTS + CRAFTS, MULTI-SKILLS
ACTIVITIES, BUG HOTEL, SALT-DOUGH

MONDAY 13TH, TUESDAY 14TH, FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
RECEPTION, YEAR 1, YEAR 2

TO MAKE A BOOKING PLEASE VISIT:

<https://form.jotform.com/230092753155049>

REEDONS JUNIOR SCHOOL, BULLFIELDS,
SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS, CM21 9DD

£22 PER DAY

<https://form.jotform.com/230092753155049>

FUN CLUB

At Spellbrook C of E Primary School



Football - Tuesday

Reception - Year 6



Dodgeball - Thursday

Reception - Year 6



After school 15:20-16:20

Skills, Match Play, Balance, Coordination, Fitness
Sending, Receiving, Tactics, Teamwork
Learn through play, keep active, have fun!

To make a booking please email: enquiries@gjwsports.co.uk £7.50 per session

BREAKFAST CLUB

8am - 8.40am everyday
cooked breakfast
served at 8am



£4.50 per
session
payable
via arbor

NB late
arrivals will
not be
catered for
cooked
breakfast

Please book 24
hours ahead to
ensure
availability



CRAFT CLUB

NOW AVAILABLE FROM
RECEPTION TO YEAR 6

STARTS WED 18TH JAN
WITH MISS PROW
IN THE LIBRARY

£5 PER SESSION

PAYABLE VIA ARBOR



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

Join our After-School Gardening Club

Starting again on Wednesday February 22 from 3.20pm-4.30pm



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £36.00 for six sessions
- All equipment supplied but pupils must bring appropriate clothing as we will be outside in all weathers
- This half-term we'll be:
 - Working to improve the school gardens
 - Taking part in the RHS Campaign for School Gardening Award Scheme - LEVEL 4

If you would like your child to attend, please return the slip below to the school office before Wednesday February 22 and make a payment of £36 in cash/a cheque made payable to: WENDY GORDON or with a BACS payment to: Wendy Gordon/27441520/07-04-36 (Use your name as reference)

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

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.

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 on Facebook please tick the box: (Please note that children are never named)

☐

Payment of £36 has been made via Cash/Cheque/Bacs with the reference name of:

Email: wendy@wellbeangardening.com
Mobile: 07817 528652

facebook.com/wellbeangardening
www.wellbeangardening.com

Teach in Herts

Teach in Herts



Flexible, term-time jobs at almost 700 schools and settings across Hertfordshire, for a better work/life balance.

EARLY YEARS JOBS

Pre-school Nursery Nurse Key Worker Early Start Worker Wrap-around Care Early Years Practitioner Room Leader Nursery Teacher

- Register and apply online
- Set up automatic job alerts
- Follow us on socials [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Instagram](#)
- And finally... book your place at our recruitment fair to meet schools f2f!

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY 4TH
MARCH 2023
THE ANNUAL
HERTFORDSHIRE
SCHOOLS
RECRUITMENT
FAIR



www.teachinherts.com
#notjustforteachers

Teach in Herts



Essex Fire Museum Open Days
Tuesday 14th February 2023
Sunday 26th February 2023
(10.00am to 4.00pm)



Visits must be pre-booked via:
museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS

Families Feeling Safe

Supporting families with Protective Behaviours

ONLINE course
starting
February 2023

A FREE course for Mums,
Dads and Carers



Thursday evenings Online
7.15pm - 9.15pm

23 Feb, 2, 9, 16 & 23 March 2023
Sessions will run on Zoom

Are you looking for some strategies and new ideas to help improve family life? This course can help you to

- ♦ Understand the links between Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour
- ♦ Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour
- ♦ Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- ♦ Improve communication to build better relationships
- ♦ Build on your own and your child's strengths
- ♦ Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe and have problem-solving skills for life

Places are funded by HCC for families in Hertfordshire and there are eligibility criteria.

For eligibility and to book your FREE place please:

Email: enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk

Tel: 07748 332606

Please quote course number OL4/02



Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeeling-safe



Families Feeling Safe Protective Behaviours Services has been funded through HCC to provide Families Feeling Safe programmes across Hertfordshire. We deliver Protective Behaviours training for professionals and provide programmes and workshops to children and their families. www.familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk E-mail: enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Snowdrop Sundays 2023

12 February & 19 February 2023

Opening times: 11.00 to 4.00 (last entry 3pm)

Adults £6.50 (£5.50 if booked in advance)

Children free, dogs on leads welcome. Refreshments available



Snowdrop Thursdays 2023

16 February & 23 February 2023

Opening times: 11.00 to 3.00 (last entry 2pm)

Adults £5.00 (£4.50 if booked in advance), children free entry to the Gardens (excluding the Gardens of Warwick House)

Refreshments available

Tickets for both Sundays and Thursdays will be limited and bookable in advance: www.eastonlodge.co.uk or direct through www.Trybooking.com.

Little Easton, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 2BB
Enquiries: 01371 876979; enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk

Registered Charity number: 1104412



Reach Out - Volunteers required, can you help ?

Reach Out is looking for people in Hertfordshire who can spare an hour a week to help an elderly person in their local area who is home from hospital, or living with frailty, and feeling lonely and isolated.

Reach Out offers companionship and practical support to people as they recover and rebuild their confidence. Many elderly people really appreciate someone popping in for a cuppa, or helping them by collecting small items of shopping for them. Reach Out links up people who are isolated with volunteers who can offer a friendly face and a chat.

Just giving a small amount of your time can make a huge difference.

Find out more here <https://www.reachout-project.org.uk/> or contact Reach Out via email at reachout@nhcvs.org.uk or by calling 01462 689403.