



## NEWSLETTER - 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### VALUE: COURAGE

#### Focus: Overcoming Fear

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



**Food and Farming in Sapphire Class**

### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This has been a busy week with lots of exciting and memorable learning activities.

**Food and Farming in Sapphire Class:** On Monday the children in Sapphire Class enjoyed a visit from a local farmer (who also happens to be a parent of a child in the school) with his huge tractor. The class are learning about food and farming and were delighted to get close to the tractor and ask many questions about all the different parts, what they did and how they were operated. They loved seeing different parts of the tractor being remotely activated. They were even more impressed to see the tractor being driven and to see how easily it can manoeuvre within a small space. They then came into school to look at pictures of the work on a farm and to find out about some of the produce and what it is used for. They were given samples of some of the seeds to have a further look at.

**The Anglo Saxons in Emerald Class:** On Tuesday, Emerald Class had a great visit to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village. As they are studying the Anglo-Saxons, this was a great way to see for themselves the way they would have lived in that time period. They started the day by exploring the museum. There were lots of interesting Anglo-Saxon items to look at and to read about. Some of the children dressed up in Anglo-Saxon clothes. Then, they all had the chance to hold and examine lots of different Anglo Saxon artefacts and try to work out what they were made from and what they might have been used for, before finding out what they actually were. After lunch, they explored the village. There were many different types of buildings, set up to show how the Anglo-Saxons would have used them. Some of them showed how the people in the village would have lived and some showed the different crafts they carried out. The day finished in the Hall, learning more about the way the Anglo-Saxons lived and thinking about which house the children would have liked to live in and why.



**Football:** On Wednesday, some of our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils took part in a football event at Leventhorpe, (led by the Year 10 sports leaders) with six other Sawbridgeworth or nearby schools. This is the first time that many of our pupils have taken part in competitive football as part of a school team and they really enjoyed it. According to the Leventhorpe PE teacher who organised it, our children were a credit to us and there was some really excellent football on display.

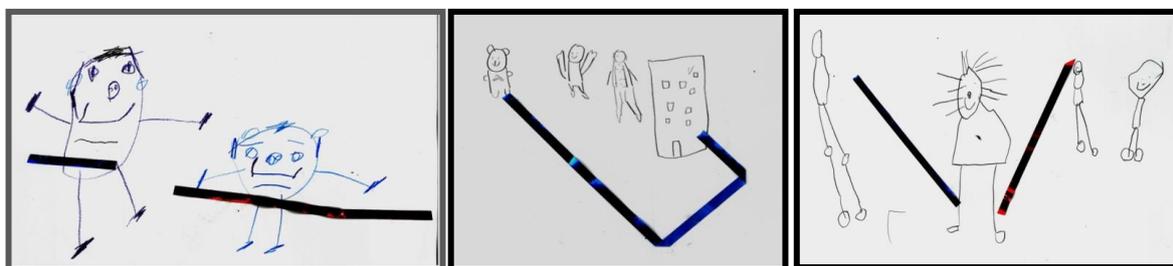


**Cress Caterpillars:** Ruby Class have now harvested some of the cress from their caterpillars. I am told that there was a mixed reaction, with some liking the taste and others ... not so much.

**The Sawbridgeworth Primary Yellow Book.** The online gallery of shortlisted pieces of art has now been launched. A selection of these images from each school will soon be chosen by the assessors to feature in the published book. Do have a look. [www.rethinkyourmind.co.uk/The-Sawbridgeworth-Primary-School-Yellow-Book](http://www.rethinkyourmind.co.uk/The-Sawbridgeworth-Primary-School-Yellow-Book)

The Yellow Book road gallery is in full swing in Bell Street, Church Street & Knight Street - the pieces will remain in the windows through half term.

**Children's Mental Health Week:** This week has been children's mental health week and the theme has been "Let's Connect". Some of the children had a book called 'The Invisible String' by Patrice Karst read to them and they thought about their invisible strings and who they are connected to - family, friends, pets, people who they no longer have much contact with. They discussed how they feel when they are with people that they love and how they feel when they are apart. The children in Ruby class (Nursery and Reception) drew super pictures to show some of their connections and joined the people together with a ribbon.



**Earthquakes:** We have been saddened this week by the news of the devastating earth quakes in Turkey and Syria and would like to draw attention to everyone in the school community to the need for support. This week's newsletter from Great St Mary's Church reminds us that the government have pledged to match the public donations. There is further information on Red Cross and Oxfam websites. (see links) [https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal?c\\_name=Turkey-Syria%20Earthquake%20Appeal&c\\_source=Homepage%20Herobox&c\\_medium=Internal&c\\_creative=Donate%20Landing\\_Turkey-Syria%20earthquake%20appeal%20launch&c\\_code=175149&adg=BRC%20Site](https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal?c_name=Turkey-Syria%20Earthquake%20Appeal&c_source=Homepage%20Herobox&c_medium=Internal&c_creative=Donate%20Landing_Turkey-Syria%20earthquake%20appeal%20launch&c_code=175149&adg=BRC%20Site)

<https://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam-in-action/current-emergencies/turkey-and-syria-earthquake-appeal/>

After half term, on Friday 24th after school, the School Council will be holding a cake sale to raise funds for this. They would appreciate donations of cakes on the Thursday or Friday.

What a very busy week and we are now going to enjoy the half term and hope that everyone has a restful and lovely week.

Jeremy Fisher



West Stow Anglo Saxon Village

## MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

*Fr Simon writes:* At the end of last week, we had the great pleasure of planting three new trees in honour and memory of recent royal events, and a fourth tree in recognition of our bonds with Spellbrook School.

The trees were planted to replace ones which, because of their condition, have had to be removed recently. The new trees were donated by Hertfordshire County Council's "Your Tree - Our Future" scheme whose aim has been to plant 46,000 trees in Hertfordshire this winter with the possibility of removing 77,000 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere over their lifetime. So our four trees could potentially remove 7 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere whilst also benefiting biodiversity and wildlife.



The first tree - a silver birch - was planted by Ron and Angela Alder near the main gate to the churchyard at the west end of the church. It was planted in celebration of Her Late Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The second tree - a cherry - was planted towards the bottom of the churchyard by our Lay Minister Diana Kitson to commemorate the death of Her Majesty.

The third tree - also a cherry - was planted by Revd Debbie who has just retired, and by her husband Richard, close to the path at the church's east end to celebrate the accession of His Majesty King Charles III.





Lastly, Fay Clark - our chair of governors - planted a hornbeam on behalf of Spellbrook, also close to the bottom of the churchyard.

We hope that these trees will flourish in their various positions, adding to the calm and tranquillity of our churchyard for all those who pass by.

Have a restful half-term break.

God bless,

*Fr Simon*

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE HALF TERM BREAK



Ruby  
Samuel  
Eloise

Emerald  
Harry F

Diamond  
Honey  
Celia



## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Ruby

- ✚ Georgia for listening to advise and having a positive attitude to learning.

### Sapphire

- ✚ Annabelle for amazing effort in phonics and English lessons.
- ✚ Harrison for excellent focus when working independently.



### Emerald

- ✚ Sergiusz for working hard and continuing to make great progress.
- ✚ Stanley T for the amazing effort he's put into improving his handwriting.

### Diamond

- ✚ Josh for huge progress in his English writing.
- ✚ Daniel for sustained effort in all his learning.



## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

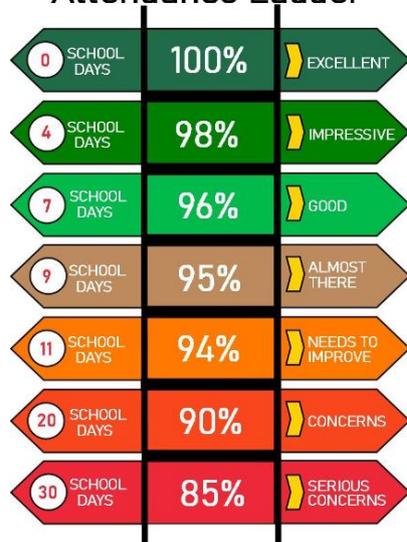
**Whole School  
Attendance – 92.85%**

**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	❖ INSET
Tuesday	❖ Beef Bolognese (Red) ❖ Macaroni Cheese (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Wednesday	❖ Roast Chicken (Red) ❖ Sausages in Yorkshire Pudding (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Thursday	❖ Cottage Pie (Red) ❖ Quorn Burger in a Bun (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)
Friday	❖ Battered Fish (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green)

## NOTICES

- ✚ **School resumes on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February** at the usual time.
- ✚ **Change to the Menu** – we have made a slight change to the menu in Week One (Tuesday) where we will be serving Beef Bolognese instead of the Mediterranean Roll and Week Three (Monday) will have Meat Balls instead of Vegballs. These substitutes have been made due to popular demand.
- ✚ **Diamond Trip to the Royal Gunpowder Mills** is on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**. The deadline for payment is today.
- ✚ **Gardening Club** starts again straight after half-term on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:wendy@wellbeangardening.com)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow)

01/09/23	Inset 1
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

Contact: [admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk)

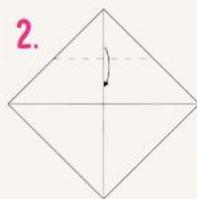
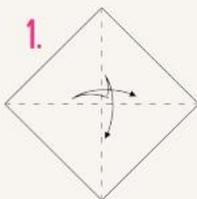
Website: [www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk](http://www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk)



SHARE THE LOVE WITH

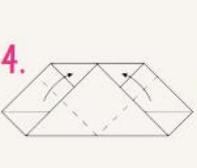
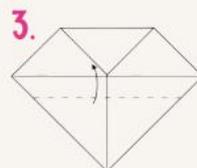
ORIGAMI LOVE HEARTS

We're feeling crafty this Valentine's Day. These folded paper love hearts are the perfect, easy craft to share with the ones you love.

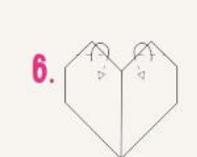
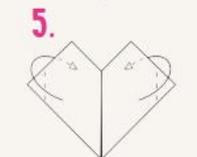


Grab yourself any piece of paper and cut it into a square (equal length on all 4 sides)

Follow the instructions by folding your paper on the dotted lines.



You can write a secret message inside before folding it all up, or on the front. Decorate your heart however you'd like and share the LOVE!



HELLO, PARENTS & GUARDIANS!

WE ARE BEEZEE BODIES, AND WE WORK WITH HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE FREE (AND FUN!) HEALTHY LIFESTYLES SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR FAMILY TO BE HEALTHIER?

BOOK A FREE, 1:1 SUPPORT SESSION WITH OUR FAMILY WELLBEING TEAM

We are experts in engaging children with healthy eating and physical activity and can help you turn healthy efforts into healthy habits for life!

Over an hour's chat, we will give you advice about family nutrition & exercise, and work together on a personalised behaviour change plan for your family.

We'll check in a month later to see how you're getting on!



SCAN ME WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA OR CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

\*to be eligible for this awesome free service, your family must live/go to school/be registered with a GP in Hertfordshire and include one child aged 5 - 15 who is above their ideal healthy weight OR have additional learning/educational needs, general concerns over family's health and wellbeing (including lack of physical activity, excessive screen time or low self-esteem), or fussy/restricted eating and is not underweight.



[beezeebodies.com](http://beezeebodies.com)

BeeZee Families

01707 248648



## 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](https://form.jotform.com/230092753155049)

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

£22 PER DAY

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

## 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

# 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](mailto:enquiries@gjwsports.co.uk) £7.50 per session



## 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

