



NEWSLETTER – 13th October 2023

VALUE: Thankfulness

Focus: Giving thanks even when times are difficult

**"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
(Ephesians 5.20)**



Little Red Riding Hood (Sapphire Class)

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

One of the roles of a headteacher is to work with the governing body to formulate the school's vision and values. As a church school, we draw from our identity of being a Church of England school that was founded to provide education and spiritual support for those in the local area, regardless of their background and status. When I first joined Spellbrook, we worked on our vision statement and agreed this:

Our vision is for Spellbrook Primary School to be an inclusive learning community, where everyone strives for excellence within a Christian environment.

Last year, we adopted a particular verse from the bible from one of the gospels: "In everything - in every circumstance - do to others as you would have them do to you." (St Matthew's Gospel, chapter 7, verse 12)

This is often referred to as the Golden Rule, and its inclusion in many religions and belief systems as a specific scriptural verse or general piece of teaching, was one of the reasons we chose it. We refer to it often and encourage the staff and children to make choices that reflect this intention.

More recently we have reconsidered the school Mission Statement and motto. We have done this to celebrate the church school identity, with values such as love and supportiveness at the heart of all we do, whilst focusing on being an inclusive school where we do our best to ensure that pupils of all faiths and backgrounds are able to flourish and reach their potential. The result is:

Mission Statement: Through a culture of kindness and supportiveness built on the Golden Rule, we will meet the needs of all learners and enable them to flourish and reach their full potential.

Motto: "Flourishing in Love and Learning"

As we continue to embed this phrase in our school's culture and do everything to live by it, we hope it will increasingly reflect the school that your children experience and that you all know and support.



English in Sapphire Class: (See first page) Sapphire Class went to the woodlands this week to reenact a scene from Little Red Riding hood. The children took it in turns to be Little Red Riding Hood and the wolf. The children had to be in character. Little Red Riding Hood was walking through the forest without a care in the world on her way to Granny's house, the wolf spotted her and decided that she would make a tasty treat, so crept up behind her to chat to her and find out why she was in the forest. This led to a good discussion about whether we should talk to strangers and what sort of people we should trust.

Gymnastics in Sapphire: All children are now able to perform a forward roll independently or with minimal support and they have been working on their balances specifically an arabesque and stalk pose, really focusing on head control, ability to adjust to a movement and gross motor skills to enable them to balance on one leg for a longer period of time.



Rangoli Patterns: For R.E, Emerald Class are learning about Hinduism. They have found out about Diwali and have been working in groups, using natural pulses and grains to create these Rangoli patterns.



Dance Workshops: (See next page) As part of Black History Month, a time where we specifically focus on widening our cultural experiences, we had dance workshops for each class. The dancer, Emmanuel, has worked around the world teaching dances that originate from different parts of the African continent. Each class had a workshop with him. Our journalists, Josh and Alden wrote this report.

"On Monday, each class had an African dancing lesson in the hall. The moves we learnt had lot of meaning and came from different parts of Africa. For example, one move was from South Africa and was used to warm hunters up when they were cold. There were moves with your legs, your hips and your arms. There were wavy motions, with different parts and many more. We had an instructor; his name was Emmanuel. He was from Uganda. He was fun he taught us what the means of the moves we did. We found concentrating difficult because it was so exciting. Also remembering the moves and how to do them. Our favourite part was when he told us the meanings of the dances and where they came from.

We were able to ask questions. We asked, "how and why were we doing the moves?" and found out that some moves were to excite hunters when they go away.

We asked, "Do they do this everywhere in Africa?" and found out that different countries and tribes have different moves.

Dancing was also extremely fun. Mainly we felt hot, sweaty and exhausted but it did make us feel happier, fitter and more knowledgeable about African dancing."

Visit to Duxford: Diamond Class had a great trip to Duxford Imperial War museum. Our journalists are working on a report that we will share with you next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jeremy Fisher





Congratulations to Amelie who won 2nd place in her category, Modern Dance for 7-8 year olds at the East Herts Festival of the Arts.

If any parents would like us to share the celebrations when their child achieves something special outside of school, please contact the office.

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH



Father Simon writes:

This Sunday, we'll be celebrating the Feast of Dedication at Great St Mary's.

Having celebrated the life of Blessed Mary at our patronal festival in early September, this Sunday is an opportunity to give thanks to God for the church building itself, set at the heart of Sawbridgeworth.



Our church buildings are special places set apart, dedicated, and consecrated to God and part of our Christian mission to our communities precisely because they help us on *our* spiritual journey. They help us, through our worship and witness, "in everything - in every circumstance - to do to others as you would have them do to you."

So, this Sunday is an opportunity to give thanks for all that Great St Mary's means to us and for the countless number who've worshipped in it over its eight centuries and cared for the building. It's an opportunity to give thanks for the possibility the building affords us of placing God at the centre of our town and school's life. It's an opportunity for all of us to rededicate ourselves to ensuring that, through our prayers and actions, Great St Mary's is not only a memorial to the faith of previous generations but a vibrant, fitting, outward-looking home in which all may encounter the Living God for generations to come.



So this Sunday afternoon at 4pm we're going to be celebrating our Feast of Dedication with a special Mustard Seed gathering where, in addition to designing our own church buildings and stained glass windows, there will be party food a plenty (hot dogs!), all aimed at the younger members of our community. It would be lovely to see you.

God bless,
Fr Simon



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby
Luca

Sapphire
Issy

Emerald
Georgia



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Florence for always trying and having a go.
- ✚ Peter for fantastic participation in lessons and following the rules.

Sapphire

- ✚ Eliza for great participation in maths.
- ✚ Vogue for fantastic concentration and learning behaviours on the carpet.

Emerald

- ✚ Sergiusz for always trying his best in everything he does.
- ✚ Lisa for her fantastic attitude towards learning.

Diamond

- ✚ Lexie for excellent focus and behaviour at all times.
- ✚ Josh for great knowledge and enthusiasm on the school trip.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 94.81%**

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.

NOTICES

- ✚ **Half Term** – school breaks up for half term at the usual time on Friday 20th October. School resumes on Monday 30th October.
- ✚ **Year 6 deadline to apply for secondary school place is Tuesday 31st October.** Applications after this date will be classed as late applications.
- ✚ **Leave of Absence** – to request leave of absence for your child/ren, please ask at the school office for a Leave of Absence form. Family holiday requests are routinely recorded as unauthorised absence. Only in exceptional circumstances will days off school be authorised. You may be asked to make an appointment to discuss the requested leave with the headteacher.

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Burger in a Bun (V) (Red) ❖ Baked Bean & Cheese Slice (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Bolognese (Red) ❖ Sweet Potato & Pea Samosa Burrito (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Chicken (Red) ❖ Roast Quorn (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pork Sausages with Gravy (Red) ❖ Cheese Pinwheel (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fishcake (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)

Date	Event
19/10/23	Tag Ruby at BSRFC - Diamond
23/10/23 – 27/10/23	Half Term
31/10/23	Deadline to apply for secondary school place – Year 6
07/11/23	Parent Consultations
08/11/23	PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM)
29/11/23	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
01/12/23	Occasional Day – School Closed
07/12/23	Pantomime – South Mill Arts
13/12/23	Emerald Class Last Swimming Lesson
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
16/01/24	Young Voices @ O2 Arena (Diamond)
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

Website: www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk



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

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Half-term: 23rd - 27th October

Sports & Activity Camp (years 3-7)

Football Camp (years 1-7)

Mini Camp (reception, years 1+2)



Ages 4-12

To make a booking please visit: gjwsports.co.uk
9am-3pm, advance booking £22 per day (£26 on the day)

Reedings Junior School, Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, HERTS, CM21 9DD



www.gjwsports.co.uk

Well Bean Gardening



Learning through growing
Growing through learning

Start growing with our
After-School Gardening Club

Wednesdays 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 September 13 to half-term
- All equipment supplied but pupils must bring appropriate clothing as we will be outside in all weathers
- This half-term we'll be:
 - o Working to improve the school gardens
 - o 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 September 13 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



Parents can
drop off or
stay and relax
with a cuppa

THE SECRET ART CLUB

With Artist Caroline Clark
Half Term Activities:

- Saturday 21st October - Halloween Wreath Making 1pm - 3pm - £20
- Monday 23rd October - Spooky Pumpkins and Ghosts Bubble Painting 10am - 12 noon £10
- Tuesday 24th - Halloween Bag Painting - 10 am - 12 noon - £15
- Wednesday 25th October- Sketchbook Making Workshop 3pm - 5pm - £12
- Thursday 26th October - Halloween Wreath Making - 10 am - 12 noon -£20
- Saturday 28th October - Pet or Favourite Animal Portraits on Canvas - 1 pm - 3 pm - £17

All materials provided - SPACES ARE LIMITED

Address

The Secret Art House
Opposite Sheering Village Hall
Sheering,
Near Bishops Stortford
CM22 7LX

Register interest

Caz Clark (Caroline)
07847 269 734

Workshops for
children aged
5-11 years





Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth

Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

*Mustard Seed -
our monthly
short, informal
service
with crafts and
activities*



*Followed by a
party tea for
children
and hot
refreshments for
grown-ups.*

Join us

on Sunday 15th October at 4pm

**for fun, food, and crafts
as we celebrate our church building
and all it means to us**



Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth

Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

ALL SOULS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

***Remembering our loved ones
with gratitude***

*Our annual opportunity to gather
and remember those who have died,
and to light a candle in their memory*

**Sunday 5th November
3pm**

**Followed by light refreshments
in Church House**



SAWBRIDGEWORTH EVANGELICAL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CM21 9EH

Make Lunch

**Come and join us for fun, games, crafts and a hot
lunch!**

We are here to support families needing a helping hand throughout the school holidays.



FREE OF CHARGE!

ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

**Wednesday 25th October 2023
11:30 - 13:00**

To book please email: makelunch@secchurch.org.uk or
phone/text: 07936 771081

October Half-Term

23 - 28 October 2023

Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm

Saturday 10am - 4pm

Join us this October half-term for a fun-filled family-friendly week of arts and crafts topped off with a spooky family Halloween day on Saturday 28 October.

Discover more at discoverbucksmuseum.org
or scan the QR code



HOLIDAY CAMP SPECIAL EVENTS

October half-term

Bike/scooter skills: Tuesday 24th

Bouncy castle: Wednesday 25th

Water balloons: Thursday 26th

Cupcake decoration: Friday 27th



Events subject to change dependent on weather

Ages 4-12

To make a booking please visit: gjwsports.co.uk
9am-3pm, advance booking £22 per day (£26 on the day)

Reedings Junior School, Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, HERTS, CM21 9DD



**Essex Fire Museum Halloween
Open Days**

Tuesday 24th October 2023

Sunday 29th October 2023

(10.30am 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**



AmazeSwim

Learn Enjoy AmazeSwim

**Get your children confident
in the water and swimming!!**

Learn to swim with Amaze~Swim!
Fully qualified, DBS checked, Insured and Experienced instructors.

Small classes • Private luxury pool location in Dunmow
Instructors based in the water for clear instruction and assistance

Structured • Innovative • Fun • Flexible • Safe • Social

AmazeBaby - Parent & Baby 0 - 36 months
AmazeTots - Preschool 2.5+ years
AmazeSwim - After School 4+ years
and Child & Adult 121s 0-100+ years
AmazeFit - Parent and Baby AquaFit 0-18 months
AmazeSensory - Specialist classes for those with
SEN and disabilities

[f/amazeswimschool](https://www.facebook.com/amazeswimschool)
To book:
amazeswim.class4kids.co.uk
amazeswim@outlook.com
07525 475937

Swim England
Swim School Member