



NEWSLETTER – 15th March 2024

VALUE: Justice

Focus: Seeing God's love in action

'Learn to do right. Seek justice.' Isaiah 1.17



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week has been British Science week. The teachers planned the week using ideas from the British Science week theme, time. We focused on farming and the use of technology and how that will change farming in the future, as well as learning about the timeline of one specific animal, a hen. The children have been fascinated with observing the life cycle of hen chicks. They have loved watching the eggs as they have cracked and opened and have seen the chicks from their first minutes of life into their first few days. The cute little chicks have captured everyone's hearts.



Even though we are only keeping the chicks until the middle of next week, each class was keen to choose names. Through a democratic process they came up with:

- Diamond: Cheddar and Floof
- Emerald class voted for Chirpy and Lucky
- Sapphire: Cookie and Marshmallow
- Ruby: Memo, Zara, Emily and Susie



The children also had a close-up encounter with a tractor. Despite the awful weather, they were fascinated with the technology, the engineering and the different tasks the tractor can be used for. The younger ones were most impressed by the size of the wheels.



The children also learned about a local farm and some of the produce that is grown.

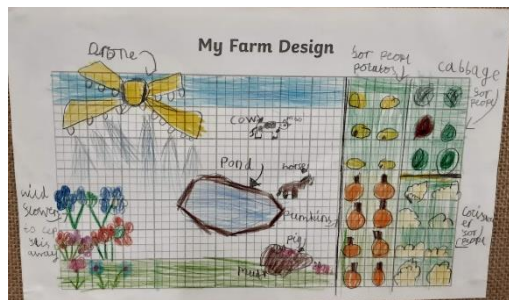


The children have added to their understanding of farms by accessing some live lessons. These explored the life of a farmer and they saw how farmer Fiona looks after her animals, helps feed them and how she grows their food from scratch. Emerald and Sapphire classes saw the birth of a calf on screen and there were mixed reactions including many of them describing the entire process as gross. They also learnt about the machinery she uses on her farm and how an agricultural engineer helped her to fix her broken tractor.



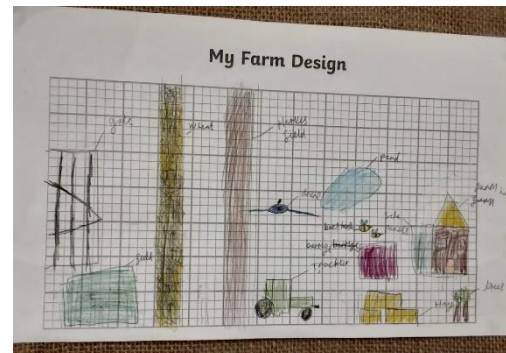
Emerald Class explored what farms may be like in the future.

In Emerald class, our Science Week challenge was to 'Design A Farm Of The Future'.



We found out that there are now over 8 billion people on Earth, most of whom rely on farmers to produce food for them. We talked about the impact this has on the Earth and wondered how farmers can rise to the challenge of feeding everyone, whilst still looking after our planet.

We worked in groups to research new and innovative farming methods and then put these ideas into our own farm designs. We were particularly interested to learn about the use of drones to fly over crops to help farmers check for disease and areas of flood or drought. We were also surprised to hear about new, 'driverless' tractors, and the use of technology to monitor livestock and send alerts to the farmer if an animal became unwell or was about to give birth. We also really liked hearing about the use of 'wildflower margins' to attract insects who would help protect the crops by eating other, harmful insects.



Diamond Class have also looked ahead and considered a time when single use plastics are no longer produced. They have learned about bioplastics and how they can be used to reduce plastic pollution. They followed a simple process to make their own biodegradable plastic using simple household ingredients.

Cllr Ruth Buckmaster came into school this week to meet our School Council. Two of the school council told me about her visit. They found out a little about her role. They heard that she had met the Queen and Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace. She told them about some of the local projects including turning the area outside of Sawbridgeworth doctors into a meadow with lots of flowers. She explained that a person can only be a mayor for one year from May to May and the new mayor will be a young man. She said she has really enjoyed being the mayor because she enjoys going round loads of schools and meeting lots of children.



Harry asked if she had a private jet, but she said no, she only has a small blue car.



The children looked at the mayor's chain. They found out that the blue part has on it engraved name plates with all the people who have been mayor for the past years. At the bottom is Sawbridgeworth Badge and every part relates to Sawbridgeworth including the bridge that the town was named for. The chain was really heavy. The children enjoyed the visit and shared their recollections with their own classes.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

This Sunday is the day on which the theme of so many parties will be green.

No - I'm not referring here to climate change protesters letting their hair down and having a ball, but to those celebrating the feast of St Patrick. The Irish diaspora will be marking St Patrick's Day all around the world. So much so that, among other places, the Sydney Opera House is lit up in green, the beer in New York is green, and they even use vegetable dye in Chicago to turn the river green! And that's not even to consider the festivities which will be happening in Ireland.



And I know the Irish know how to party. There's an Irish phrase 'ceol agus craic' which means 'music and laughter', and I saw plenty of that when I attended a friend's wedding in Ireland a few years back.



And then there's another phrase which also plays into the Irish partying atmosphere: 'céad míle fáilte'. It means 'one hundred thousand welcomes'. It describes the welcome of the Irish to everybody; whether it's to your home or to your workplace; whether it's to your friend, neighbour, new-comer, or visitor. The attitude to one and all is more than warm; it's incredibly generous and open-hearted, and reminds me of Jesus' 'Parable of the sheep and goats' (Matthew 25:31-46) in which he describes the subject of the story being "hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."



We're going to be celebrating the life and faith of St Patrick on Sunday from 4pm at our monthly gathering for young people: 'Mustard Seed'. Crafts and games will be followed by party food for the children. And no doubt the colour green will be much in evidence along with both 'céad míle fáilte' and 'ceol agus craic'! See you there!



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Sapphire
Lucas



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Petru for good participation.
- ✚ Peter for great contributions.

Sapphire

- ✚ Emilia for trying her best in maths.
- ✚ Caitlyn for working hard in her presentation.

Emerald

- ✚ Charlie for a huge improvement in the presentation of his work.
- ✚ Michaela for settling in well and showing amazing learning behaviours.

Diamond

- ✚ Sienna T for excellent work in maths.
- ✚ Dominic for good focus and effort in maths.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 92.66%**

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

- ✚ **Big Walk & Wheel Challenge** continues next week. A huge thank you to all the parents, carers and children who have participated in walking, scooting or cycling to school this week.
- ✚ **Ruby Class Parents Evening** is on **Tuesday 19th March** from **1.00 – 5.30 pm**. Bookings are now open in Arbor. To book, please click on **Guardian Consultations < Meetings** and follow the prompts. The deadline to book is **Monday 18th March**. If you have any difficulty with booking, please contact the office.
- ✚ **Midday Supervisory Assistant Vacancy** – we are recruiting for the position above. The closing date is **Monday 18th March**. Please click on the link for more information. <https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job.htm?keyword=spellbrook>
- ✚ **Easter Church Service** is on **Monday 25th March** from **2.15 – 3.00 pm** at **Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth**. The children will be travelling to the church by coach. Pick up will be from the church at **3.00 pm**. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.

MENU w/c 18th March 2024

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Burger in a Bun (V) (Red) ❖ Baked Bean & Cheese Slice (V) (Green)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
11/03/24 – 22/03/24	Big Walk & Wheel Challenge
15/03/24	Red Nose Day (Non-Uniform)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 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 Fillet (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)



SCHOOL DINNERS

19/03/24	Ruby Class Parents Evening
20/03/24	Sapphire Class Last Swimming Lesson
25/03/24	Easter Service
26/03/24	Easter Egg Hunt
28/03/24	Last Day of Spring Term
15/04/24	First Day Back
17/04/24	Diamond Class Swimming Starts
01/05/24	Reception Vision/Hearing Screening
06/05/24	Early May Bank Holiday
23/05/24	Year 6 Crucial Crew
27/05/24 – 31/05/24	Half Term
03/06/24	Inset 5
14/06/24	Bag 2 School
25/06/24	Class Photos
03/07/24 – 05/07/24	Diamond Class Residential
10/07/24	Diamond Class Last Swimming Lesson
11/07/24	Secondary Transition Day
22/07/24	Leavers Service
23/07/24	Last Day of Summer Term
02/09/24	Inset 1
03/09/24	Inset 2
04/09/24	First Day Back
07/10/24	Harvest Service
14/10/24	Individual Photos
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term
29/11/24	Occasional Day
02/12/24	Christmas Decoration Day
12/12/24	Panto
20/12/24	Last Day of Term
23/12/24 – 03/01/24	Christmas Break
06/01/25	Inset 3
07/01/25	Inset 4
08/01/25	First Day Back
17/02/25 – 21/02/25	Half Term
24/02/25	First Day Back
04/04/25	Last Day of Term
07/04/25 – 21/04/25	Easter Break
22/04/25	First Day Back
05/05/25	Early May Bank Holiday
26/05/25 – 30/05/25	Half Term
02/06/25	Inset 5
03/06/25	First Day Back
23/07/25	Last Day of Term

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

GJW Sports Afterschool Clubs

Spellbrook C of E Primary School

Dear Parents,

07.2.24

Mr Dave Biggs will continue to deliver the football and dodgeball after school clubs during spring 2 term. Football will begin on Tuesday 27th February, dodgeball will begin on Thursday 29th February. Both clubs will be delivered for 5 weeks.

Please ensure registration and payment is received by **Monday 26th February**.

Please visit www.gjwsports.co.uk to make a registration.

Clubs will start at 15:20 with a collection time of **16:20**. Please ensure the collection time is adhered to.

The total per club for the spring 2 term will be £30. BACS payment details are as follows:

Business Account: Gershon Williams - GJWSports

Account Number: 83780637 **Sort code:** 557049 **Reference :** SurnameSBS

Best regards,

Gershon Williams
GJWSports
www.gjwsports.co.uk
07519 722135

www.gjwsports.co.uk

SECRET ART CLUB PRESENTS



Advance
booking
£30

EASTER ART CAMP

With artist Caroline Clark
School years 3-6

Activities:

- Printing
- Collage
- 3D work
- Painting on wood
- Plus feed the chickens
- Outside space with trampoline

Dates:

Tuesday April 9th 9am - 3pm
Wednesday April 10th 9am - 3pm

Book now at:

www.carolineclarkartist.com
07847 269 734

Address:

The Secret Art House
Behind Sheering Village
Hall
Sheering
CM22 7LX



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

**Our After-School Gardening Club
starts again on Wednesday Feb 28
from 3.20pm-4.30pm**



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £30.00 for five sessions
September 28 to Easter Holidays
- 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 5

If you would like your child to attend, please return the slip below to the school office before Wednesday February 28 and make a payment of £30 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 & Instagram page (please check 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 social media please tick the box: (Please note that children are never named)

☐

Payment of £30 has been made via Cash/Cheque/Bacs with the reference name of:

Email: wendy@wellbeangardening.com
Mobile: 07817 528652

facebook.com/wellbeangardening
Instagram: @wellbeangardening

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 17th March at 4pm
as we celebrate the life of St Patrick**



Holy Week and Easter

at
Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth

Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th March - 8pm - church

HOLY WEEK MEDITATIONS

Three meditations in church followed by the service of compline

Thursday 28th March - 8pm - church

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE AND WATCH

Friday 29th March - GOOD FRIDAY

9.30am - The Stations of the Cross - church

12.30-1.45pm - Frugal lunch - Church House

2pm - GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY - church

A remembrance of our Lord's passion and death

Holy Saturday 30th March - 3 till 4pm - church

AN EASTER CELEBRATION

Holy Week and Easter crafts, including the creation of the Easter Garden,
for younger members of the family

Holy Saturday 30th March - 8pm - church

EASTER VIGIL SERVICE

The first celebration of Easter including the lighting of the Easter Candle

Sunday 31st March - EASTER DAY

8am - Said Holy Communion (BCP) - church

9.30am - EASTER DAY EUCHARIST

With joyful Easter hymns, Handel's 'Hallelujah Chorus',
and followed by an Easter egg hunt and Prosecco!

Hertfordshire's
Tuesday 2nd
April 2024

Hertfordshire's
Holiday Activity Programme



09.15 - 11.15: 8 FREE SEND Sessions
11.30 - 15.30: 26 FREE mainstream children
who are eligible for free school dinners

BOOKING Now LIVE!!!

STORTFORD
Gymnastics
Confidence to Succeed

**Booking now open for Stortford Gymnastics Easter HAPPy
Camps!**

Tuesday 2nd April

9.15 - 11.15 SEND Session

11.30 to 15.30 Mainstream places

Once you're ready to make a booking just make sure you
have your child's unique booking code from your school,
then simply go to <https://bit.ly/BLPWBookHAPPyCamps> to
book them on. **So, grab their code and get booking!**

HARLOW BALLET ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

Coppélia



11th & 12th April 2024
7.30pm

13th & 14th April 2024
2.30pm



WHISKERS
SOLICITORS &
NOTARIES



HARLOW PLAYHOUSE
CREATE • ENJOY • FOR ALL

Jack Petchey
Foundation
Engage • Inspire • Achieve

