

SPELLBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

FLOURISHING IN LOVE AND LEARNING

NEWSLETTER – 28th March 2024

VALUE: Justice Focus: Easter 'Learn to do right. Seek justice.' Isaiah 1.17



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Easter Service: This has been a busy final week to the term. It was lovely to see so many families at the church on Monday for our Easter Service. The children and teachers had worked very hard to prepare and practise the poems, prayers, readings and songs. With the contributions from each class and the beautiful singing, this was a lovely way to reflect on the Easter story and what it means to Christians. Father Simon's chocolate tale was enthusiastically received. He has included it in his contribution to this newsletter if you want to check the chocolate references. I really value how attending these services together adds to our identity as a community and thank you for your attendance and support.

Eco Team: The Eco Team presented to the school, explaining their Earth Day Easter Challenge. They have set

tasks for the children to complete over Easter for return by Friday the 18^{th of} April.



- making a bird feeder,
- litter picking,
- planting
- creating a poster

More details are included in the Dojo School Story Post from Miss Green (March 26) and in a letter sent out from the office.

The School Council: I am delighted that the School Council are leading us all in a project to provide support for a charity in India who work with children from the Outram slums of northern Delhi, India. Our church, Great St Mary's have supported this group for a number of years. The School Council presented to us all this week and have asked everyone to help with a sponsored event. The intention is to raise money to sponsor a child for a year. – this would pay for a child's education at the academy for a year including meals, books and stationery. The School Council have challenged us to collectively walk the same distance as 50 times the height of the highest mountain in India (Kanchenjunga)



This is a total of 266 miles and it has been averaged out per class:

- Diamond just over 3 miles each (16 laps)
- Emerald 2. 5 miles each (12 laps)
- Sapphire just under 2 miles each (8 laps)
- Ruby just under a mile each (4 laps)

This will be quite a challenge for some of the children. The staff will be joining in and the children will be given the time they need. If we all work together, we can achieve this. Sponsor forms have been sent out with the children and a separate letter has more information.

Easter Egg Hunt:

Thank you to the PTA for organising the easter Egg Hunt, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the children. This year, in addition to all of the coloured eggs, there was one Golden Egg for each class to find. The children loved running around searching for eggs. They found ingenious ways to carry their eggs, such as putting them up their sleeves or even in their socks. There were lovely examples of children finding a set quickly, then helping others to locate the ones they were looking for. The children were pleased to receive a chocolate egg at the end of the day.



Easter Bunny: The results from the Name the Easter Bunny competition

Bunny Names:	Child's Name	
Button	Issy	Winner
Flopsy	Henry	Runner Up
Smudge	Flora	Runner Up
Toffee	Lily	Runner Up

Benji	Lucas	Runner Up
Willow	Jessie K	Runner Up
Scamp	Dylan	Runner Up

I hope you all have a lovely Easter and I look forward to our return and the commencement of the summer term on the 15^{th} of April.

Best wishes,

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

It was wonderful seeing not only the school but so many parents and carers in church on Monday for the end-of-term Easter service.



At it, I read out a (mock) report from one of the Roman guards who had been asked to guard the tomb in which Jesus' dead body was lying. The report covered the events of the night before that first Easter Day when, it seems, the stone at the entrance to the tomb was mysteriously rolled away and the resurrected Jesus came forth.

The report also suggests that this particular Roman guard was a chocolate-addict because it contained the names of 31 types of chocolate. I challenged the congregation to count how many they noticed. Many claimed to notice all 31; indeed, some claimed they'd heard 32!! So, for the record, here is that Roman guard's report, recording the events of a night which Christians believe changed the course of all history.

~~~~~~

It was one Saturday night - <mark>After Eight</mark> - and me and my mate, <mark>Freddo</mark>, were being paid a <mark>Bounty</mark> to guard this tomb. "Guard a tomb?" you say. Yeah - that's a <mark>Whole Nut</mark> of an idea, I know.

There was this guy, you see. We'd executed him on the Friday, but he had said he would come back to life, so we were there to make sure he stayed dead! No really, I'm not Lion! You think that's mad? Join the Club!

Now my mate is a bit of a Smartie. So while we're stood guarding this tomb and its dead body, he says, "Why don't we have a Picnic?" And I thought, 'Well, why not? I could do with some Time Out.'

So we sat down and we ate our sandwiches – <mark>Crème egg</mark> and cress for me. Then I thought I'd do some <mark>Chomp</mark>-ing on some <mark>Fruit and Nut</mark> for one of me five-a-day. I washed it all down with a nice big glass of <mark>Dairy</mark> <mark>Milk</mark>.

Anyway, back to the Topic at hand. After our food we were Flaked out and ... well ... I'm not going to Fudge the facts, we fell asleep. I know we shouldn't have, but we did. We loosened our Buttons, pulled off our Snickers (that's sneakers, not knickers!), and lay down under the Milky Way.

Next thing I know, there's a <mark>Crunchie</mark> sound like when you <mark>Rolo</mark> way a stone. I sat bolt upright. "What <mark>Kinder</mark> Surprise is this?" I said. Me and me mate couldn't have been more shocked if a <mark>Penguin</mark> had arrived on a <mark>Double Decker</mark> bus!

And what was it, this surprise? Only an angel – clothes all Milky Bar white and hair all Curly Wurly – just sitting there, on top of the entrance stone and the dead guy's tomb open!

Me and my mate, we were in a complete Twirl I don't mind telling ya. We were so scared we called for our Mars! But just before we fainted clean away we heard a Ripple of fabric from the tomb... seems the dead guy wasn't so dead after all! Then I heard a Wispa as he stepped out. He winked at me and said, "Aero, mate! I'm Jesus!" You could have knocked me down with a feather!

Wishing you all a wonderful and very chocolatey Easter,  $\mathcal{F}r$  Simon

| BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE EASTER BREAK                                                                               |                                                                 |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                                                                                             | Diamond<br>Stanley H                                            |  |
| STARS OF THE TERM                                                                                                           |                                                                 |  |
| Ruby                                                                                                                        | Emerald                                                         |  |
| Peter for excellent concentration,<br>enthusiasm and progess within all lessons.                                            | Lara for her hard work and fantastic<br>contributions.          |  |
| Jesse for building in confidence and great focus in lessons.                                                                | Johnny for his fantastic attitude to learning.                  |  |
| Courting                                                                                                                    | <u>Diamond</u>                                                  |  |
| <ul> <li>Sapphire</li> <li>Lorenzo for always having a positive outlook<br/>on his learning and trying his best.</li> </ul> | Mariia for great effort and progress in all of<br>her learning. |  |
| Charlotte for always trying her best and<br>putting maximum effort into everything she<br>does.                             | Ewan for quiet hard work in all lessons.                        |  |

| ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK                                                                                                                                               | NOTICES                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Whole School                                                                                                                                                       | <b>School resumes</b> on <b>Monday 15th April</b> at the usual                                                                                      |
| Attendance – <mark>89.69%</mark>                                                                                                                                   | time.                                                                                                                                               |
| Whole School Target Set – 96%                                                                                                                                      | <ul> <li>Diamond Class Swimming starts on Wednesday<br/>17th April. Payment is due by Thursday 28th<br/>March.</li> </ul>                           |
| Please contact school every day of any absence. This can be done by calling <b>01279 723 204</b> , <b>Option 1</b> and then leaving a message on the absence line. | Gardening Club resumes on Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup><br>April to Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May.                                                    |
| If you are going to be late, please also advise the school office to ensure a meal is ordered in time.                                                             | Lost Property – we have a lot of unclaimed<br>uniforms in the lost property box. If your child is<br>missing items of uniform, could parents kindly |

| Attendance Ladder |      |                     |
|-------------------|------|---------------------|
| 0 SCHOOL<br>DAYS  | 100% |                     |
| 4 SCHOOL<br>DAYS  | 98%  |                     |
| 7 SCHOOL<br>DAYS  | 96%  | <b>6000</b>         |
| 9 SCHOOL<br>DAYS  | 95%  |                     |
| 11 SCHOOL<br>DAYS | 94%  | NEEDS TO            |
| 20 SCHOOL<br>DAYS | 90%  |                     |
| 30 SCHOOL<br>DAYS | 85%  | SERIOUS<br>CONCERNS |
|                   |      |                     |

#### MENU w/c 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

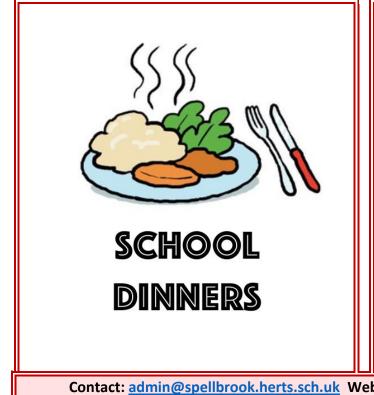
| Day       | Menu                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | <ul> <li>Pork Sausages with Gravy (Red)</li> <li>Cheese &amp; Tomato Quiche (V)<br/>(Green)</li> <li>Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> <li>Cheese Roll (Blue)</li> </ul>                                      |
| Tuesday   | <ul> <li>Herb Crusted Chicken with<br/>Spaghetti Marinara (Red)</li> <li>Mild Sweet Potato &amp; Chickpea<br/>Curry (Ve) (Green)</li> <li>Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> <li>Cheese Roll (Blue)</li> </ul> |
| Wednesday | <ul> <li>Roast Beef (Red)</li> <li>Mince Slice (Ve) (Green)</li> <li>Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> <li>Cheese Roll (Blue)</li> </ul>                                                                      |
| Thursday  | <ul> <li>Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Red)</li> <li>Cheesy Spring Vegetable Bake (V)<br/>(Green)</li> <li>Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> <li>Cheese Roll (Blue)</li> </ul>                                           |
| Friday    | <ul> <li>Battered Fish Fillet (Red)</li> <li>Cheese &amp; Tomato Pizza(V)<br/>(Green)</li> <li>Jacket Potato (Yellow)</li> <li>Cheese Roll (Blue)</li> </ul>                                            |
|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

check lost property as we will be clearing out the box.

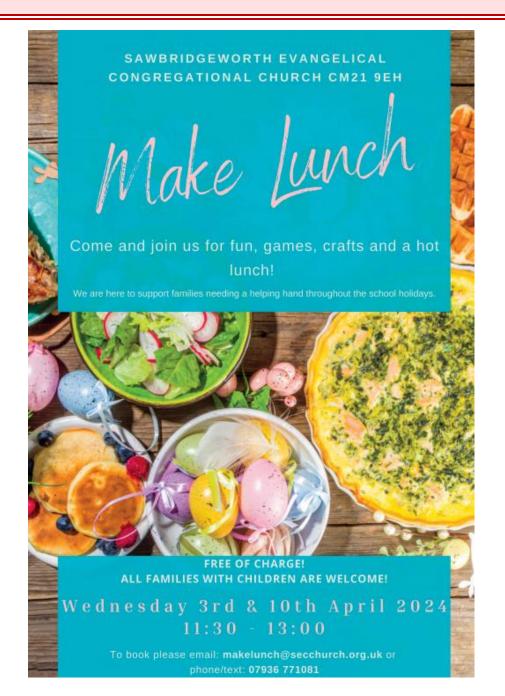
School Dinner and Breakfast Club Debt – could we kindly ask that accounts are cleared by the end of day today (28/03/24)

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|            | -                                         |
|------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Date       | Event                                     |
| 15/04/24   | First Day Back                            |
| 17/04/24   | Diamond Class Swimming Starts             |
| 01/05/24   | <b>Reception Vision/Hearing Screening</b> |
| 06/05/24   | Early May Bank Holiday                    |
| 23/05/24   | Year 6 Crucial Crew                       |
| 27/05/24 – | Half Term                                 |
| 31/05/24   |                                           |
| 03/06/24   | Inset 5                                   |
| 14/06/24   | Bag 2 School                              |
| 25/06/24   | Class Photos                              |
| 03/07/24 - | Diamond Class Residential                 |
| 05/07/24   |                                           |
| 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 - | Half Term                                 |
| 01/11/24   |                                           |
| 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 - | Christmas Break                           |
| 03/01/24   |                                           |
| 06/01/25   | Inset 3                                   |
| 07/01/25   | Inset 4                                   |
| 08/01/25   | First Day Back                            |
| 17/02/25 - | Half Term                                 |
| 21/02/25   |                                           |
| 24/02/25   | First Day Back                            |
| 04/04/25   | Last Day of Term                          |
| 07/04/25 - | Easter Break                              |
| 21/04/25   |                                           |
| 22/04/25   | First Day Back                            |
|            |                                           |



| 05/05/25                                  | Early May Bank Holiday |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 26/05/25 -                                | Half Term              |
| 30/05/25                                  |                        |
| 02/06/25                                  | Inset 5                |
| 03/06/25                                  | First Day Back         |
| 23/07/25                                  | Last Day of Term       |
|                                           |                        |
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| osite: <u>www.spellbrook.herts.sch.uk</u> |                        |





### Great St Mary's Passion for Christ - Compassion for all

An Easter Celebration **Holy Saturday** 30<sup>th</sup> March

> Pop in between 3 and 4pm

Enjoy a range of Easter crafts and activities for younger members of the family

# Holy Week and Easter

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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> March - 8pm - church EASTER VIGIL SERVICE

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

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 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!

WHAT'S ON THIS SPRING?

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr | 10.30am | Ages 2.5 - 5 | Free

Enjoy a story, songs and some colouring or craft. We can welcome up to 12 children at a time and will read the story several times if needed and provide activities whilst you wait.

Kids Craft - Make your own Victorian

Make your own Victorian Police Lamp, the centre turns to block or reveal the light!

Discover why the police take fingerprints then use yours to make some artwork.

Storytime

For ages 2.5 - 5

Police Lamp

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> | Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> & Thu 4<sup>th</sup> Apr

10am - 2pm | Ages 4+ | £1 per child

10am - 2pm | Ages 4+ | £1 per child

Kids Craft - Fingerprint Fun Tue 9th | Wed 10th & Thu 11th Apr

# South Mill Arts 👥





£70 Family Ages 5+



South

Family

Mill Arts

Tue 2™ Apr



Thu 30<sup>th</sup> May £15 | £13 Concs



Mark The

**Box Office:** 

01279 710 200

southmillarts.co.uk

South Hill Arts, 1-5 South Road, Dishop's Stortford, Hertfordahine CM23 3/9, South Hill Arts is a trading styling of Rishop's Stortford Museum and Arts CK

Science

Tue 28<sup>th</sup> May £19 | £17 Conc. Ages 5+

**Volcano Island** 

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Jun 2pm & 4.30pm £16 | £18 Premium 'Danger Zone' Ages 5+







Kids Craft - Mini Maypoles and Streamers

Tue 28th | Wed 29th & Thu 30th May 10am - 2pm | Ages 4+ | £1 per child It's May! Make some colourful decorations to welcome the cummer

Don't miss our Free Easter Museum Trail 1st Apr - 24th May | Anytime

Museum Activities

Bishop's Stortford Please note: all children must be accompanied by an adult when attending our Museum activities





Beezee

FAMILIES



Essex Fire Museum Open Days Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024 10.30am to 4.00pm



(Last suggested entry time: 2.30pm)



Visits must be pre-booked via: <u>museum@essex-fire.gov.uk</u>

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

# FREE Healthy Lifestyle support for families in Hertfordshire

Our FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes start soon, so secure your spot today!