



NEWSLETTER – 10th May 2024

VALUE: Service

Focus: Looking at the Heart

'Serve one another in love. 'Galatians 5.13



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This week, the children have enjoyed the lovely weather. I have been outside each lunchtime and have been really pleased to see all the children enjoying the space and playing many different games. We are very fortunate to have such lovely grounds. We have recently welcomed onto our team, an additional Mid-Day Supervisor, Miss Perrett and having another person on the field increases the amount of support and interaction with the children, making it more fun and pleasant for everyone. We continue to have an option for children to come inside, if for any reason the full lunchtime out, is too much. We have been encouraging children to drink lots of water and would like to see every child bringing in a water bottle each day.



Ruby Class have enjoyed taking their learning outside. One of the activities they have enjoyed is using the chutes, watering cans and containers to get the ducks floating.

They have also been taking care of the bean plants that they originally started inside. The children know that now it is sunny, the plants need watering every day.



They were also having conversations with the telephones. Apparently, the favourite topics were what you like to eat and what you like to play with.

Emerald Class took their Collective Worship outside and enjoyed exploring the story of King David through some drama.

Here we have the prophet Samuel meeting Jesse's strong and handsome sons, in his search for the right person to be the king.

But there was one son missing. David was out, looking after the sheep, So Samuel asked to see him and recognised him as God's choice to be the king. Samuel soon anointed David with oil.



Of course, David was particularly noticed when he fought Goliath. Here Goliath is fighting one of the Israelites before his final downfall at the hands of David. We certainly have some budding actors in Emerald Class!



For maths, the Year 1 children in Sapphire Class have been finding fractions of different amounts. They divided their cubes into two equal groups to find out what half of a number is.

Science and PSHE: Sapphire Class have also been learning about ways to look after their teeth. They explored some tooth brushing techniques and wrote their own top-tips for healthy teeth. We hope they are able to put this knowledge to good use and develop great habits while they are still young.



Food Hygiene Rating: Today our kitchen received the annual visit from the Environmental Health Food Inspector. As we have come to expect, Mrs Blackham was awarded 5 stars (the maximum) for the Food Hygiene Rating – Very well done!

Sponsored walk: I am delighted that we have raised over £600 for Shiksha Rath from the sponsored walk event. I am very grateful to the families that have already contributed. As there are over half of the families in the school that have yet to donate, I would urge you to do so. Any contribution is appreciated, and it would be lovely to see the majority of our school community being part of this. If it is easier to send in a £1 or so at the beginning of next week, please hand it in at the office or to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your support with this.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

Mr Fisher and I recently reviewed the prayer corners we have in each of the Spellbrook classrooms. They're simply a shelf, a corner table, or a window sill. But all offer something different from that to be found in the rest of the classroom. They offer a few resources - a couple of age-appropriate books on prayer and meditation, perhaps a prayer cube, and a cross. They're also not only a reminder to the children that many of us think there's more to life than meets the eye but also offer the children a place to gather their thoughts for a moment, away from the hustle and bustle of school life.



Prayer is, of course, something common to most faiths. So, what is it in a Christian context? Why do Christians pray?



Well, Christians pray because Jesus encouraged us to do so. Whilst prayer can involve silence, reading, responding to art, or listening, Jesus considered it sufficiently important to talk to God that he even gave us a template - The Lord's Prayer.

In our own personal prayer, Christians often start - in the quietness of our hearts or in words - by praising God, placing ourselves in appropriate humility before God who is utterly holy, loving and just. We go on to thank God, recognising that everything that gives value or joy to life is the gift of our Creator, not merely good fortune. We might share with God our personal concerns such as the sickness of a relative, a friend who is struggling, or a whole group of people such as a nation at war. Usually, we ask God to intervene in a way which brings wholeness to a situation, and which is in line with God's long-term desires for his kingdom; we shouldn't see prayer simply as a series of requests for God to change the world in the way we personally want it to be. As part of this, we may also want to seek forgiveness from God - either personally or as part of a worldwide injustice - recognising that God has mercy on all those who regret what they've done and want to change. Lastly, we look to God for guidance, praying frequently for direction or clarity in the face of the many mysteries involved in being alive.



Many view prayer as being inactive. I can assure you though that, if you're able to cultivate a daily rhythm of prayer and meditation - even if it's only a minute or so a day - one soon recognises the way prayer's able to ground our souls and bring a moment of reassurance.



So, I pray that that sense of solid foundation may also be discerned by the pupils in their classroom prayer corners, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen! (which, in Hebrew, simply means 'So be it!')

Yours in Christ,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



No Birthdays This Week



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Sonia for speaking more on the carpet.
- ✚ Devon for trying hard and persevering in challenges.

Sapphire

- ✚ Jessie for trying hard in her Read, Write, Inc lessons.
- ✚ Milana for a great first week at Spellbrook.

Emerald

- ✚ Nicolas for his hard work at handwriting.
- ✚ Arthur for his fantastic progress in English.

Diamond

- ✚ Stanley H for sensible behaviour and hard work in lessons.
- ✚ Oliver for focus and determination during practice SATs.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 94.05%**

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

- ✚ **KS2 SATs** commence on **Monday 13th to Thursday 16th May**. Year 6 children are invited to breakfast for the duration of the SATs week. Children should arrive at **8.20 am**.
- ✚ **Gourmet Burger Day** – following on from the success of our last theme day, we will be holding another Gourmet Burger and Hot Dogs theme menu on **Thursday 16th May**. The cost of this delicious meal is the school's normal price, no additional costs incurred. Children who normally have a packed lunch are invited to have a school meal. **If you have already pre-ordered the 'roasted summer veg pasta' in Arbor, we will make the necessary adjustments on the day to reflect your child's meal choice.**
- ✚ **PTA School Disco** on **Friday 17th May**, from **6.15 – 7.45 pm** in the main hall at **Leventhorpe School**. Entry is **£3.50** and includes drinks and a snack. Tickets can be purchased online at [School Disco Ticket \(sumupstore.com\)](http://SchoolDiscoTicket(sumupstore.com)) in advance or at the door on the night. There will also be a tuck shop with goodies starting from 50p, so bring some extra change! There is plenty of parking at the front of Leventhorpe.

MENU w/c 13th May 2024

| Day | Menu |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Tex Mex Quorn Fajita (V) (Red) ❖ Creamy Macaroni Cheese (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue) |
| Tuesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Pie (Red) ❖ Moroccan Tagine (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue) |
| Wednesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Chicken (Red) ❖ Plant Balls with Gravy (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue) |
| Thursday | <p><u>Gourmet Burger Fun Day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) |

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| Date | Event |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 13/05/24 – 16/05/24 | KS2 SATs Week |
| 17/05/24 | PTA Disco |
| 23/05/24 | Year 6 Crucial Crew |
| 27/05/24 – 31/05/24 | Half Term |
| 03/06/24 | Inset 5 |
| 07/06/24 | PTA Non-Uniform Day |
| 14/06/24 | Bag 2 School |
| 25/06/24 | Class Photos |
| 29/06/24 | Summer Fair |
| 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 |

| | |
|--------|--|
| | ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue) |
| Friday | ❖ Salmon Fishcake (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue) |



SCHOOL DINNERS

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 14/10/24 | Individual Photos |
| 25/10/24 | PTA Film Night |
| 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

AFTER SCHOOL Sports Clubs

Spellbrook C of E Primary School

3:20 - 4:20pm

April 16th - 23rd May

Football
- Tuesdays

£6
per session

Dodgeball
- Thursdays

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

SAWBO
DESIGN CO.

www.gjwsports.co.uk

GJW
SPORTS



Club Fee
£7.50 a week

THE SECRET ART CLUB

With Artist Caroline Clark

Activities:

- Painting
- Printing
- Drawing
- Pottery
- Collage
- And more!

Date:

Weekly, starting on Friday 26th
April 2024, 3.20 - 4.30 pm

TO BOOK

www.carolineclarkartist.com or
Caroline Clark (Caz)
07847269734

Address

Spellbrook C of E
Primary School,
Spellbrook

For school
years 2-6



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:
 - Working to improve the school gardens
 - 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



IT'S DISCO TIME!

FRIDAY 17TH MAY
6:15PM - 7:45PM
LEVENTHORPE MAIN HALL

Tickets - £3.50

SPELLBROOK PTA

Gourmet Burger & Hot Dog Fun Day Menu

Thursday 16th May 2024



Menu

Beef Burger in a Bun (Red)
Or
Quorn Hot Dog (Green)
Or
Jacket Potato (Yellow)

Cheese Roll (Blue)

Sides

Potato Wedges
Pasta
Sweetcorn
Baked Beans



Dessert

Cookies, Jelly or Fruit

Great St Mary's
Sawbridgeworth *Passion for Christ - Compassion for all*

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 18th May
7pm in Church House

With Ploughman's Supper, BYO drinks
£12.50 per person

Tickets available from Parish Office
(Tuesday to Friday mornings - 01279 726629)

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.

Why not join us at 4pm on the following third Sundays of the month?

2024

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 19 th May | 15 th September |
| 16 th June | 20 th October |
| 21 st July | 17 th November |
| | 15 th December |



THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Sunday 19 May: Art & Nature

Exhibition by Jane Frederick
of her Garden Seeker's
Project

- An optical promenade through the great gardens of Essex;
- The 'old garden magic' of Edith Wharton in contemporary context



Nature activities for the family

- Pond life; insects and wildflowers
- Bushcraft, Herbalism & Essex Bat Group
- Fun trail and crafts for children



Plant & craft stalls



Gardens Open 11.00

am - 5.00pm www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

19 May

Nature Day at the Gardens of Easton Lodge

There will be fun nature activities for children, including pond dipping, bug hunts, bats and wild adventure crafts; and a fascinating art exhibition too.

Gates open at 11.00.

Children free. Adults tickets in advance £5.50 or £6.50 on the Gate.

Plant stall, craft stalls and refreshments available.

And another thing....just a heads up that our 23 June Open Day is a fully Tudor Event, with Tudor activities including archery and Tudor music



Essex Fire Museum Open Days
Sunday 26th May 2024
Tuesday 28th May 2024
10.30am to 4.00pm
(Last suggested entry time: 2.30pm)





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

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