



NEWSLETTER - 7th June 2024

VALUE: Service

Focus: Living for Others

'Serve one another in love. 'Galatians 5.13



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dogs Trust: We have had a busy first week to the final half term of the year. A representative of the Dogs Trust came in to talk to the children about recognising dog's behaviour and how to behave safely around dogs. They had a whole school assembly and met Chewy, (a toy dog, named after the owner's real dog) then had lessons in their classes. Some of them shared their knowledge with me afterwards. They had learned that you can tell how a dog is feeling by watching them and looking at the position of their eyes, whether their jaws are tense, whether they are licking their lips and whether they look at you directly or from the side. They said that if a dog is happy, their ears will be forward, their eyes wide and their mouth open.



I found out some information about behaving safely around dogs from some of Ruby and Sapphire Class. They told me that:

- If a dog knocks you over, you curl up into a ball.
- If a strange dog comes up to you, you should not put your hand out but should stand still, cross your arms over your chest and let them sniff you.
- You should always ask the owner before you touch their dog and should ask the dog's permission by patiently letting them sniff you. If they do sniff you, then walk away, you should just let them be.
- You should not touch a dog if they are playing with a toy as they may think you are trying to take it away and may growl or even bite.

They have learned a great deal from this that will help them interact safely with dogs, so we are very grateful for this visit.





Sports Day: This year we scheduled the Sports Day a little earlier in the term than usual in order to try and avoid very hot weather. We were very lucky, and it was cool but also dry. The afternoon started with children moving around a set of seven different activities in their year groups, for which they scored points for their Houses. They had long jump, bean bag throwing, football dribbling and shooting, hockey dribbling, hurdles and beanbag balancing. This required a range of skills as well as teamwork, effort and supporting each other. After that there were running races where groups of children from each class competed against each other. The parents were very supportive, and the children demonstrated a great deal of focus and resilience. The range of activities gave everyone something they could succeed at and enjoy, and the races enabled the children to demonstrate their more competitive natures. The Red House were delighted to be the overall points winners and the children ended a great afternoon with a well-deserved ice lolly (provided by the PTA).





Sponsored Walk for Shiksha Rath: I am so pleased and proud of the £817 that we raised. We have now heard back from Atula, our contact with the charity. She wrote:

"Hello and greetings from Shiksha Rath, Delhi! Hope the UK weather is kind and all of you are doing fine. The heat in Delhi is increasing day by day but this does not deter the children coming to the centre and their learning. To begin with, welcome to the family of Shiksha Rath! We are really grateful to the children and the school for your kindness. We have chosen 3 of our children to be sponsored by your school. They are really excited and are encouraged.

Annu (10 years old)



She started her journey with Shiksha Rath from 2019. When Annu first came here, she was struggling with the basics, but in just a matter of 4 months she improved much ahead of her classmates. She is a fast and keen learner and loves playing with jigsaw puzzle and the Lego.

Her father is a carpenter and mother is a housemaid. Annu's father earns around Rs. 15,000 – 20,000 in a month (GBP 150 - 200). However, there are times when her father does not get work and the family struggles to make ends meet.

Ansh (10 years old)



He started coming to Shiksha Rath since his Nursery. Unlike his earlier years, he is very interested in his studies now. He is polite and respectful, and very sporty, loves playing cricket. But as the big brother to his disabled sister due to an accident, he hardly gets time to play outside as before. He helps his mother in the house by sweeping and mopping every day. He even cooks for him and his sister if their mother is at work. Ansh's father is a rickshaw driver and mother a housemaid. With the monthly income of INR 15,000 (GBP 150) Ansh's parents are quite determined to let him and his sister get the best of education.

Diya (9 years old)



Diya is the 3rd among 5 siblings, all girls. Four of them come to Shiksha Rath. She started coming here since 2023. Diya is very friendly and eager to learn and loves playing board games, colouring and dancing. She is a fast learner and very proactive. Diya's father was a daily wage earner as a labourer but has not had any work for nearly a year. Her mother's monthly income of INR 7000 (GBP 70) is not enough to feed a family of 7 members. This is one reason she looks quite tiny due to malnutrition. Nothing deters Diya from coming to Shiksha Rath with so much enthusiasm to learn every day.

According to all the parents of these three children, having found Shiksha Rath is the best thing that could happen to them as they do not have to pay any fees, but the children are getting good education and guidance here. It will be such a relief and blessing for the parents to hear that they have sponsorship. Your every rupee donated towards their sponsorship will play a key role in getting holistic education here in Shiksha Rath.”

We will be keeping the school community updated as we receive regular information about these children and learn more of the impact that our support is having. Once again, thank you for your support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

Well, I know that we've said farewell to last half term's collective worship theme of 'service' but if there were ever an example of sacrificial service, one couldn't do much better than to listen to some of the heartbreaking stories and memories which have been shared this past week of the D-Day invasion back in 1944.



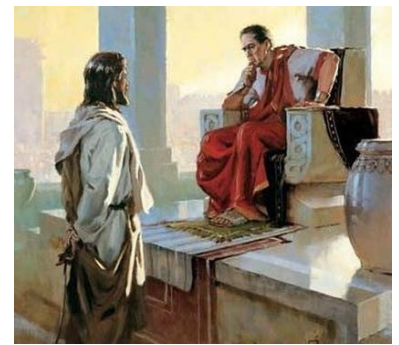
For me, one of the most impactful social media memes I saw was a split screen: the top half showed many families enjoying a sun-drenched day of fun on the beach. The bottom half was a black and white photo of so many soldiers and military vehicles attempting to gain a foothold on those French beaches in 1944. The meme read: 'Your day at the beach, brought to you by their day at the beach'. Powerful stuff.

But, I hear you cry, what's the new collective worship theme for this next half of term? Well, I'm glad you asked! It's 'truthfulness'.

"What is truth?", Pontius Pilate famously asked Jesus before he sentenced the Son of God to death.

Perhaps it's a question more at the forefront of our minds now than for a long while because the news seems to be so full of claims and counterclaims.

For instance, we've just had the high-profile trial of President Trump who, it seems, has, shall we say, a very relaxed relationship with the truth. Then there are the various opposing opinions surrounding the current horrific wars and conflicts going on around the world. We're continually being told that Russia, China, and North Korea shouldn't be trusted with the truth. Meanwhile, there are various ongoing inquiries in this country into, for example, the Post Office Horizon IT scandal and the Grenfell Tower fire which all aim to discern the truth. And then we have our media organisations trying to sift the wheat from the chaff from amongst the various claims, calculations, and accusations made by our party leaders as our country heads towards the General Election.



Of course, to coin a phrase, truthfulness is too often in the eye of the beholder - and many might think that of the claims of Christianity, though I challenge you to read Lee Strobel's 'The Case for Christ' or Francis Spufford's 'Unapologetic' to understand why Christians believe that Jesus was telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth two millennia ago.



However, whatever our position and world view, I think, not least with the rise of social media, 'the truth' has never been under greater threat. It's something we need to be prepared to stand up for and protect for the sake of justice, harmony, and equality in our world, and because, as Jesus himself said, "the truth will make you free". (John 8:32)

God bless you,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Diamond
Sid



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Devon for asking really sensible questions.
- ✚ Zara for fantastic focus all week.

Sapphire

- ✚ Niah for focused learning and improved presentation.
- ✚ Eliza for more independence in her writing.

Emerald

- ✚ Amelie for her super work in our maths topic on 'time'.
- ✚ Nikita for his fantastic contributions in French lessons.

Diamond

- ✚ Honey for working hard to improve her writing.
- ✚ Hudson for careful, accurate calculations in maths.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 94.37%**

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

- ✚ **Father's Day Gift Shop** opens on **Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th June**. Wrapped gifts are available to purchase for **£3.50**. Children can bring money in a purse or envelope or parents can pay using the online shop by clicking on the link: <https://spellbrookpta.sumupstore.com/product/father-s-day-gift-shop>
- ✚ **Bag 2 School** – on **Friday 14th June**, parents and carers are invited to bring in donations of unwanted clothing, bags, shoes etc. All donations should be put in bags and dropped off at the bike



MENU w/c 10th June 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Roasted Summer Veg Pasta (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Salmon Fishcake (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)

shelter at the front of the school. All donations should be dropped off on the day by 9.00 am.

✚ **PTA Donations for the Teddy Tombola** – the PTA are kindly asking for donations of good quality toys and games and clean soft toys/teddies for the stall. Donations can be brought into school from **Monday 17th June** and placed in a box at the school office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
10/06/24 – 11/06/24	Father's Day Gift Shop
14/06/24	Bag 2 School
20/05/24	Clean Air Day
20/06/24	Diamond Class Music Event
24/06/24	Outdoor Learning Day
25/06/24	Class Photos
28/06/24	Emerald Trip to Rye Meads Nature Reserve
29/06/24	Summer Fair
03/07/24 – 05/07/24	Diamond Class Residential
09/07/24	Parent Teacher Consultations (Y1-6)
10/07/24	Diamond Class Last Swimming Lesson
11/07/24	Secondary Transition Day
15/07/24	Ruby & Sapphire – Spirit of Wildlife Workshop (in school)
16/07/24	Diamond Class Production
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
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



SCHOOL DINNERS

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

Spellbrook
School
PTA

FATHER'S DAY

Gift Shop - £3.50

Open on Monday 10th &
Tuesday 11th June

<https://spellbrookpta.sumupstore.com/product/father-s-day-gift-shop>

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

4th June – 19th July 2024

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 7th
June 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 1-6



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



Spellbrook
School
PTA

FATHER'S DAY

Gift Shop - £3.50

Open on Monday 10th &
Tuesday 11th June

<https://spellbrookpta.sumupstore.com/product/father-s-day-gift-shop>



Spellbrook Primary School StageSteps Dance and Acting Class

👉 Taught by an industry professional, this innovative class will seamlessly blend the worlds of dance and acting to provide a unique and engaging experience. Our students explore diverse dance styles, from Street to Musical, while also delving into the art of acting through script reading, character development, and stage dynamics. The fusion class not only nurtures creativity but also builds confidence in expression, whether through movement or theatrical performance. Stretch and refine dance techniques, understand the skills of stage acting and combine the two to participate in exciting term projects showcased to friends and family.

Each child will be taught based on their own ability and growth, it doesn't matter how experienced/inexperienced they are, they will achieve in their own personal way, and they will have the most fun doing it! 🌟

When?

Every Monday after school

3:20pm-4:20pm

Term time only

Starting 9th September 2024

How do I sign up?

Please visit the website: www.stagesteps.co.uk and click the 'Sign Up' button to complete your sign up form.

Here is the link <https://www.stagesteps.co.uk/sign-up>

Year 2-6 welcome

Payment details:

StageSteps Dance and Acting Class is only £78 per term.

You will receive an invoice for the term shortly after you submit your sign up form.

I can't wait to meet your superstars! 🌟

[SIGN UP | StageSteps](#)



Great St Mary's, Sawbridgeworth

Flower Festival 2024

Saturday 27th July - 10am to 5pm
Sunday 28th July - 12noon to 3pm

Theme 'Children's books'

Children's activities in the church yard

Treasure Hunt

Refreshments and
grand raffle at
Church House

FREE ENTRY



Have YOU got
what it takes
to turn
the page?

Are you aged 8+?
Come and join us to complete fun
activities, chat about books and
make new friends!

Bishop's Stortford Library
Wednesdays 4pm-5pm
12th, 19th, 26th June and 3rd July.
£2.50 per session - please book in the library.

TALKING FAMILIES



Wednesdays 8pm to 9.30pm
Online Course: ID 653
12th June - 17th July 2024

NEW DATES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 0-12 sharing tips on how to:

- Manage challenging behaviour with consistency
- Encourage positive behaviour
- Build your child's self esteem
- Set and maintain boundaries
- Respond to tantrums and difficult feelings in children
- Develop a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future

Our online support sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom. Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'Every parent should do this course! It has taught me so much about how to deal with family life.'

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:
07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk
www.supportinglinks.co.uk



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS



Mondays 8.00-9.30pm Online Course: ID 675
16th September - 21st October 2024
Our online support sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am ST ALBANS Course: ID 676
6th November - 11th December 2024
Venue: St Albans (to be confirmed)

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children with any additional need from 2-25. Your child does not need a diagnosis to join.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict, anger and arguments.
- Improve Emotional Regulation
- Explore sensory needs.
- Motivate, encourage and support your child.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage the different needs within your family.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'I have been on a few courses to help me with my son, this was by far the most helpful.'

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

www.supportinglinks.co.uk



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TALKING DADS



Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm Online Course: ID 685
18th September - 23rd October 2024

Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm Online Course: ID 686
6th November - 11th December 2024

Our online support sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of all ages, sharing information on:

- Increasing confidence in your parenting.
- Developing a healthy dad/child relationship now and for the future.
- Improved listening and communication skills.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad you want to be.

Groups are open to male parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'I can break out of the cycle and make things different for my child.'

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk
www.supportinglinks.co.uk



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TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES



Tuesdays 9.45-11.30am Online Course: ID 677
5th November - 10th December 2024

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged under 12, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety and be able to avoid escalation.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour and strengthen relationships in the family.

Our online support sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom. Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'This course has helped us massively. We are responding so differently, and its really helping us all to cope day to day.'

Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk
www.supportinglinks.co.uk



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