



NEWSLETTER - 21st June 2024

VALUE: Truth and Truthfulness

Focus: Living without lies

'Tell the truth to each other.' Zechariah 8.16



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Teacher changes from September: As you know, Mrs Cook is leaving us at the end of this term to start the next phase in her career as the Headteacher of Furneux Pelham Primary School. Kate Rutt, an experienced teacher who has most recently been working at All Saints School will be joining us as our new Deputy Headteacher.

Mrs Smith will be going on maternity leave from November. She will be with us for the initial half term but in order to provide consistency for the children, Mrs Todd will be moving into Diamond Class from September, and we have recruited a new teacher to take Emerald Class for the whole school year. Zoe Crisfield is coming over to the UK from Canada to take up this post. Miss Green and Mrs McDonald will remain where they are.

Later on this term, I will provide more information about where the support staff will be focused and we will have a transition morning for the children to find out more about the Autumn term. If you have concerns and feel your child will require additional support for transition, please let us know.

Art: The Countryside Charity (CPRE) in Hertfordshire, recently invited schools to take part in an art competition. The whole school have focused recent art lessons on the landscapes, nature and wildlife of our county. After looking at various photographs the children have created works of art using a variety of techniques and styles. Two pieces per class have been submitted to the competition. These are pieces from each class.



String Recital: Diamond Class put on a musical recital for their parents. The children demonstrated the great progress they have made during this year playing the stringed instruments. They played five songs, some of which included improvisation by individuals using call and response. The children played confidently and enthusiastically as they worked through their repertoire. Parents who have attended these presentations in the past recognised one of the favourites, 'Airport', which featured again in the encore.



Ruby Class are now totally immersed in their pirate topic. They have been dressing up and enjoying saying "Arrrgh" in a pirate voice. They have used a number of large pieces of equipment to make their own pirate ships and boats, complete with telescopes and cannons and have enjoyed using these in their imaginative play. They will be enjoying a special Pirate Day on Wednesday 3rd July, and I may well dress up and join them.



Internet Safety Update. Information from Alan Mackenzie (esafety-adviser): [For Parents - WhatsApp Safety Guide](#): Given that WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, it's no surprise that I find children from Year 3 upwards using it with very little understanding of what safety features are available. Internet Matters has a great guide for parents about privacy settings, where to get support and more. You can find the guide [HERE](#). There is also a great deal of information for parents on this website <https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-matters>

Have a lovely weekend.

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

When did you last gird up your loins? I ask because it's one of those many biblical phrases which, in the past certainly, has been part of our colloquial English. And its source - the book of the prophet Job (pronounced 'Joh-b') - is one of our readings in church this Sunday morning.



I had to metaphorically gird up my loins when it came to making my difficult announcement the other week, letting people know that my time at Great St Mary's is coming to an end; in September I'm taking up the role of vicar at one of the churches in Bishop's Stortford. So, it will be sad to be also leaving the wonderful Spellbrook School family at the end of this term, along with all our other school leavers.



But of course, whilst wearing long priestly robes as I made my announcement, I didn't feel the need to actually gird my loins. As you may know, girding your loins is when you bend down, grab the back of your robes, pull them between your legs, and tuck them into your belt or girdle at the front. It allows the person doing the girding to have legs free from long swathes of cloth which might trip you up when you need to make a quick exit. But in biblical times, girding wasn't only done to beat a hasty retreat. It was also done in preparation for work, battle or confrontation.

And that, it seems, is why God calls on the prophet Job to gird up his loins. God has a battle of words with Job, challenging him, in essence, to get a grip of himself. After all, in God's eyes, it seems that Job, who's been going through bad times, is being rather self-indulgent in his complaints to the Lord and is forgetting all that God gives us.



And perhaps that's what we all do - perhaps much of the time. As we go about our daily lives, we too often don't notice, for instance, the beauty of creation or the goodness and kindness of others. So perhaps we too need to be reminded once in a while to gird up our loins and get a grip. There's so much that's miraculous around us which we miss because we've got used to it and take it for granted - even on a sunny day such as this.

Mind you, England's performance last night at the Euros certainly wasn't a thing of beauty. The only miracle is that we remain unbeaten! So, there's another group which needs to think about girding up its loins... and soon!

With God's blessing,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby
Peter

Diamond
Oscar



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Axl for making really positive choices.
- ✚ Evie for trying hard in all activities.

Sapphire

- ✚ Jessica for super depth in her writing.
- ✚ Teddy for great work in maths.

Emerald

- ✚ Harry F for his super independent writing.
- ✚ Harvey for his increased focus on handwriting.

Diamond

- ✚ Finley for his excellent performance on the double bass.
- ✚ Lorcan for his great work on negative numbers.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 94.27%**

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

- ✚ **PTA Cake Donations for the Summer Fair** – from **Monday 24th June**, donations of cakes can be dropped off in the school office. Homemade cakes can be dropped off on Friday 28th June. Please ensure that allergens are clearly marked, and no nuts are used if homemade.
- ✚ **Class Photos** – the school photographer will be in school on **Tuesday 25th June** to take class photos. Please ensure that children are in full uniform. Nursery children who do not normally attend on a Tuesday are invited to attend.
- ✚ **PTA Summer Fair** is on **Saturday 29th June** from **11.00 to 3.00 pm**. Wristbands are available to pre-order (collect on the day) using the link: [Summer Fair Wristband | Spellbrook P T A \(sumupstore.com\)](https://www.sumupstore.com). Adults and babies in arms go free! The PTA are also looking for volunteers, specifically for the BBQ and to run some football matches/games. Please click on the link to fill out the form if you are able to volunteer [Summer Fair Volunteers 2024 \(office.com\)](https://www.office.com)
- ✚ **Parents Evening for Sapphire, Emerald and Diamond Classes** is on **Tuesday 9th July** from **1.00 to 6.30 pm**. Bookings will be available in Arbor by clicking on **Guardian Consultations** from **Monday 24th June** at **9.00 am**.

MENU w/c 24th June 2024

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pork Sausage with Gravy (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Quiche (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Herb Crusted Chicken with Spaghetti Marinara (Red) ❖ Mild Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Beef (Red) ❖ Mince Slice (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Favourite Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Red) ❖ Cheesy Spring Vegetable Bake (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Battered Fish Fillet (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)



SCHOOL DINNERS

✦ **GJW Sports** – the online link to book Football & Dodgeball afterschool clubs is currently not working. For bookings, please email enquiries@gjwsports.co.uk or ring 07519 722135

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	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
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

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
£7.75 a week

THE SECRET ART CLUB

With Artist Caroline Clark

Activities:

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

Date:

Weekly, starting on Friday 13th
September 2024, 3.20 - 4.30 pm
NB SORRY, NO ART CLUB ON
20th/27th SEPTEMBER

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
COMMUNITY



**WE NEED
YOU!**



We are low on numbers for the Summer Fair,
even for just an hour - you don't have to
attend any meetings

If you are able to set up in the morning or run a stall
for a while or tidy up, please complete this very quick
form using the link below and we will be in contact
with you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/hXwt0ivk79>



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



[Summer Fair Wristband | Spellbrook P T A
\(sumupstore.com\)](#)

[Summer Fair Volunteers 2024 \(office.com\)](#)

HERTFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

22nd June 2024
12-4pm



WORKING TO PROTECT. ACTING TO SAVE.
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fire

PATHWAY TO WORK

Volunteer with us!



Looking to return to work?
Interested in a career
working with children
and families?

Gain new skills and build on your experience by volunteering for Home-Start Hertfordshire

Be a Volunteer Family Mentor and help build brighter futures for children – and we will support you on your Pathway to Work. **It's a win win!**

Your free training will include:

- Safeguarding & confidentiality
- Communication & values
- Meeting the needs of children

We can also offer you a reference* and support with writing your CV. We are an inclusive charity and value a diverse volunteering workforce.

* Subject to a minimum of six months volunteering

FREE TRAINING COURSE



"If anybody is looking to do some volunteering I would recommend Home-Start without hesitation. As a volunteer you support the family – but Home-Start supports you."
HSH Volunteer Family Mentor



Contact us today for more information:

For an informal chat about this opportunity please call us on 01438 367788 or email admin@home-startherts.org.uk
www.home-startherts.org.uk



HAF Places Available

TECH CAMP 2024

TWO WEEKS OF TECH FUN
AT EACH LOCATION



ROBOTICS, VR & TECH FUN



MINECRAFT & LEGO ENGINEERING

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY

FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE



www.nextthing.education



SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2024 JULY - AUGUST

NEW ACTIVITIES THEY'LL LOVE!

ORDER OF WEEKS MAY VARY, PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE

WEEK 1

ROBOTICS, VR + TECH FUN

Program robots, design games, model 3D creations, experience Virtual Reality, learn to mix like a Pro DJ, master Videography and Editing... plus MEGA LASERTAG! A week of inspiration and creation with MAXIMUM excitement. Children will experiment and challenge themselves, whilst learning real-world skills.



WEEK 2

MINECRAFT + LEGO ENGINEERING

Designed for ULTIMATE fun and education! Students can dive into Minecraft Education and design game elements, build Redstone circuits and delve into coding fundamentals. Then take a deeper look into engineering using LEGO bricks combined with sensors and motors, to create cool inventions powered by code.



What to bring to camp?



Packed Lunch and Snacks
NOT FREE



Water Bottle



Medication if Required



Weather Appropriate Clothing

We are in your area!

We have more than 80 camps running this Summer. Find your local camp on our website:
www.nextthing.education



RAVE REVIEWS ★★★★★

"Both my son and daughter had lots of fun, made new friends, learnt new skills and will not stop talking about the Robots!"

Lucy Hart - St Ebbes Primary School



Only
£175
for 5 DAYS
or
£299
for 10 DAYS!

www.nextthing.education

E: info@nextthing.education
T: 01442 873150