



NEWSLETTER – 5th July 2024

VALUE: Truth and Truthfulness

Focus: Telling the whole story

‘Tell the truth to each other.’ Zechariah 8.16



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Emerald Trip to Rye Mead Nature Reserve: At the end of last week, Emerald Class enjoyed a lovely day out at Rye Meads Nature Reserve.

The weather was slightly overcast but perfect for spending the day outside exploring the natural habitat and finding out about minibeasts and their habitats.

They went bug hunting with large nets then had assistance from the experts at the centre to identify what they had caught. It was mainly beetles, spiders and one group were delighted with the grasshopper they had netted. They were very careful as they used a brush to gently move the creatures so they could examine them closely.

They also got involved in pond dipping and used magnifying glasses and identification charts to name what they had caught. Newts, pond skaters and water snails were the most prevalent catch of the day.

They learned more about the climate by using devices to test air and soil temperature as well as to measure the brightness of the daylight.

They then focused more on plants and with a number of clues they set out to identify a number of trees. When they had found the correct leaf, they were then able to find out what tree it had come from.

The parents who went along were a great help and the children had an enriching and enjoyable day.



PTA Summer Fair: Saturday's PTA Summer Fair was a great success. The volunteers, alongside school staff, worked very hard to provide a great day on the school field. The weather played its part, and it was sunny, but not too hot. The perfect temperature to enjoy a burger or hot dog at lunchtime, with a chilled drink, then an ice lolly later on during the afternoon, maybe followed by cakes or a tasty, sweet crepe.

But it wasn't just about food and sitting in the sunshine. The children enjoyed having glitter tattoos and hair braids, racing plastic ducks, building a Lego model in record time, making bracelets and whizzing down the giant slide or helter skelter.

The majority of the adults were more content to browse the stalls and see what they could win from the tombolas and raffle. The bottle tombola was very popular.

It was lovely to see so many of the school community enjoying the day and we even welcomed some of the new families who are going to join us in September. Thank you to everyone involved for their hard work.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jeremy Fisher



MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

When you woke up this morning, were you amazed at the result of the General Election? I suspect that most of us won't have been amazed. After all, whilst it takes quite a bit for us to be surprised, amazed is a whole other level. Amazed is: "Well, I didn't see that coming!"



Of course, being amazed is a very human response. Whilst animals can be surprised if, for instance, you approach them and they're not expecting it, amazement, it strikes me, is another level of surprise altogether; one which requires the cognitive processing of information which even the brightest canine pooch isn't able to do.

But what about Jesus? Many believe that being God, Jesus lived life 2000 years ago in Israel like a spiritual 'Superman', possessing all the knowledge, power, and insight of God within him. Surely then, Jesus would have seen amazing moments coming; surely it would have been impossible for him to be amazed. Yet there are a couple of places in the Bible where we're told Jesus was amazed.



How is that possible? Well, the Bible makes it clear: Jesus is fully human and fully divine, and by fully experiencing what it's like to live as a human, God in Jesus drew even closer to us, understanding first hand our pains and our joys.

And so, born fully human yet fully divine, Jesus is able to be amazed because, as we know, being amazed is part of our everyday human living.

Of course, in a world of advertising hyperbole when even loft insulation is described as 'amazing', we've become rather immune to true levels of amazement. We live in a world where, for many, the majority of the week is a mundane experience, with everything routine; a world in which, at the end of the day, the question 'How was your day?' is answered by many with the single word 'Fine'. So a moment of positive, pleasurable, genuine amazement can be such a wonderful experience - like a beautiful shooting star: rare and uplifting. No wonder the advertisers so frequently use the word 'amazing'!



So, what are the things that have truly amazed you recently? I hope the positive, joyful moments of amazement have outnumbered the negative, sad occasions. And I hope it'll be that former happy sensation of amazement that we'll all be experiencing tomorrow evening at the end of England's Euros match against Switzerland! Here's hoping!

Yours in Christ,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Sapphire
Kaiya

Emerald
Lyra
Nikita

Diamond
Poppy-Sue



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ✚ Sidney for great joining in with PE.
- ✚ Cara for super effort in writing.

Sapphire

- ✚ Samuel for his fantastic story writing this week during our independent write.
- ✚ Luna for being caring and supportive to her peers.

Emerald

- ✚ Louis for his enthusiasm and participation on our class trip.
- ✚ Charlie for his brilliant focus 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

- ✚ **Parents Evening for Sapphire, Emerald and Diamond Classes** is on **Tuesday 9th July** from **1.00 to 6.30 pm**. Bookings are now available in Arbor by clicking on **Guardian Consultations**. Please ring the office if you are unable to book.
- ✚ **Transition Day** is on **Thursday 11th July**. The Year 6 children will be visiting their new secondary schools and children in Nursery to Year 5 will also be visiting their new classes/teachers. Year 6 children who have already had their secondary transitions should attend school as usual.
- ✚ **Diamond Class End of Year Presentation – Tuesday 16th July** at **2.00 & 7.00 pm** – tickets were sent home this week. If you have spare tickets, please return them to the office.
- ✚ **Year 6 Leavers Service** is on **Monday 22nd July** at **Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth** from **2.15 – 3.00 pm**. Children will be travelling to church by coach after lunch. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. **Pick up is from the church at 3.00 pm**.
- ✚ **Last day of term** – school finishes at the earlier time of **1.30 pm** on **Tuesday 23rd July**.

MENU w/c 8th July 2024

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Curry (Red) ❖ Homemade Sausage Roll (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Rich Tomato Bolognese (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Turkey Roast (Red) ❖ Roast Quorn Fillet (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Lasagne (Red) ❖ Chipolata Sausages with Gravy (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fish Fillet Fingers (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)



**SCHOOL
DINNERS**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
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 (2 & 7 pm)
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 –	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

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



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



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](#)

Hertfordshire's
Holiday Activity Programme

HAPpy

Get set for a
summer of smiles



Does your child get benefits-related free school meals?

If so, then you can book them onto FREE HAPpy Camps during the summer school holiday.

HAPpy Camps offer a wide range of different activities for children from Reception to Year 11. They're great for keeping minds and bodies active during the long summer break, plus a hot meal is included with every place. Each session is packed with fun and physical activity to keep your child entertained, which is bound to put a smile on your face too.

Grab your child's unique code from school and book from midday on the 27th June using the QR code or at www.bit.ly/DPI524HAPpyCamps



Display until 30/08/24



THE SECRET ART HOUSE PRESENTS



£30*

4-11 years,
different activities
every day

SUMMER ART CAMP

with artist Caroline Clark

Dates for 5-7 years, 9am-1pm:

22 July - Bag/Pencil Case Painting Day

14 August - Decoupage Boxes Day

Dates for 7-11 years, 9am-3pm:

23 July - Cyanotype Photography Day

24 July - Decoupage Boxes Day

15 August - Bag/Pencil Case Painting

16 August - Jellyfish Lights

plus much more
arty fun and
messy madness
every day

Book now at: www.carolineclarkartist.com

07847 269 734

*(early bird booking £30,
then £34 from 10/07/24)

Address:

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



Visit the
chickens,
play games
in the outside
space



Get ready for a summer of imagination and creativity at your local Hertfordshire Library!

The **Marvellous Makers** Summer Reading Challenge is here to spark the joy of reading and creative arts, while addressing the dip in reading levels that can often occur during the summer holidays.

In collaboration with The Reading Agency and Create, a leading arts charity, we're celebrating creativity and storytelling for our young readers. This year's Challenge is an open invitation for children to explore books and stories, while taking part in free activities. From poetry and music to arts and crafts, there's something for every young creator.

The Challenge begins at all Hertfordshire Libraries from **Saturday 6 July**, and continues until **Saturday 7 September**. Children are encouraged to read six library books and collect exclusive stickers along the way. And that's not all—finishers of the Challenge will receive a medal and certificate, and a chance to win tickets to an interactive poetry workshop with the celebrated poet, Joshua Seigal.

Keep an eye out for pop-up Maker Stations at select libraries during the summer holidays, offering simple, engaging, and free activities designed to unleash the creative spirit in every child. Curious to learn more? Visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SummerReadingChallenge for all the details on the Challenge and discover some marvellous makes to create at home.