



NEWSLETTER – 19th July 2024

VALUE: Truth and Truthfulness

Focus: The Trinity

'Tell the truth to each other.' Zechariah 8.16



Spirit of the Wild

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This final full week has been another extremely busy one with many highlights for different children.

Animal Experience: One of the highlights for, Ruby and Sapphire Classes was their 'Summer Curriculum Enrichment Event', which they enjoyed without even leaving the building. That's because 'Spirit of the Wild' came into school bringing many animals for the children to see, touch and learn about. Through meeting these animals and being told facts about them they learned about the classification of animals. The children were able to get up close to many of the animals with some of them touching or even holding them.

There were: -

- arthropods: a stick insect, a millipede and two rather large spiders
- amphibians: a frog and a toad
- Reptiles: a milk snake (that mimics the colours of the deadly coral snake and a large constrictor that some children had draped across their shoulders,
- birds, including a caique (a beautiful species of parrot) and a barn owl that flew across the room, giving the children a chance to notice how silently it can fly.
- and mammals - a skunk, that didn't make a nasty smell and was apparently great to cuddle, and a Husky that was friendly and obedient. The owner used 'Ice' to demonstrate how to call and reward a dog for obeying instructions and the children loved doing this.



The children (and some of the staff) experienced a great range of emotions from worry and fear, that was reduced through reassurance and having the opportunity to engage with the animals, amazement at what the animals are like in real life and what it is like to touch them and absolute pleasure at the experience of being so close to such wonderful creatures.



Diamond Class Performance: Diamond Class put on fantastic performances of "Treachery at Traitors Quay" for the rest of the school and their families this week. With so much going on this half term, I was amazed at how well they had managed to fit in the preparation and practice. One group had worked hard making the props. The costumes, that were provided by the parents, meant that they all looked the part too. All of the children had a speaking part (which was very challenging for some) and they had worked really at hard learning their lines and trying to project their voices so they were heard. They danced enthusiastically and sang beautifully. Some even sang solos and that takes a great deal of ability, not to mention courage, and they all did so brilliantly. Each performance was excellent and very well received by the audience.



So many family members told me afterwards how wonderful it was and how they had been so proud of their children. I can add my own feeling of pride towards the children for working so hard and doing so well and the staff, especially Mrs Smith, for giving all of the children the opportunity and support to perform so well and gain great memories and a well-deserved appreciation of their own achievements.



Bouncy Day: Thank you to the PTA for not only providing the funding for Bouncy Day but also providing a much appreciated ice lolly at the end of the day. The children had a really fun and very active time as each class had the run of four different inflatables. They chased, slid, climbed and bounced and had a really good time doing so. Many of the children were rather tired at the end.



Year 6 Enterprise Event. As part of their final half-term's curriculum Year 6 have been involved in an enterprise challenge. Given a starting fund of just £5, each group had to come up with a stall to make as much profit as they could. In teams of about four they worked out what to do and set about purchasing and manufacturing their products and preparing their advertising materials. There was a great turn-out after school from children in other classes and many parents and each group did really well, selling everything they had. The children told me that they had really enjoyed it and had gained experience of making money, marketing and working in teams – all skills that will serve them well in the future.

The children made £259, which is £239 profit, and this being used for the t-shirts that they have already received and for other end of the year events and prizes.



Saying Goodbye: It is always sad when we have to say goodbye to friends and people we have loved being with, however we always recognise that everyone's journey through life is different, and we always hope to see those people again.

We have now said goodbye to Mr Biggs, our sports coach who thinks he is going to do less work and take it easy, but we all suspect we may see him again to at least cover absences from GW Sports. The children have thoroughly enjoyed his lessons, lunchtime activities and after school clubs.

Next week we will be saying goodbye to:

- Mrs Humphries who leaves us to work at Leventhorpe. We have loved having her support at lunchtimes and she was a brilliant member of the team at the Diamond Class Residential, providing support and care for the children.
- Mrs Wallace, who has been part of our school for a very long time and is much loved by children and staff for her kind, and thoughtful nature but also for her more determined side that means she always does the best she can for anyone, regardless of what is being asked of her.
- Miss Lucas, who will now go on to be a secondary school sports teacher, having gained Qualified Teacher Status and graduated with her Masters Degree in Physical Education. She has become a valued and appreciated member of our school community and we wish her all the best.
- Father Simon, who after giving us four years of fantastic support and guidance will be taking up the position as Vicar at All Saints, Hockerill and providing support for the congregation and schools associated with that church.

- Mrs Cook, who has given so much as a teacher and leader in our school and will be greatly missed by governors, staff, parents and children alike. She leaves with our love and best wishes as she takes on the challenge of being a headteacher in her own school. We know she will be fantastic.

In the new term, we will make sure you all get a chance to meet our new staff and start to get to know them as we welcome them into the Spellbrook School Family.

Next Week: As you know, term ends at 1:30 on Tuesday and I look forward to seeing many of you on Monday at the Church for the Leaver's Service -all parents are welcome. I am hoping to see many of you at the end of the day today or Monday, or at the start of the day on Tuesday to wish you well for the holidays as unfortunately I will not be around Tuesday afternoon. It is very rare that my parent role trumps my professional one during the working day, but my eldest son's Graduation from University is something I certainly cannot miss. Mrs Cook and the other staff will be around to say goodbye to those who are leaving us and to wish all of you well for the summer.

Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher

MESSAGE FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Father Simon writes:

And so, the final full week of this school year is over and on Tuesday we'll be breaking up for the summer holidays.

Many - both pupils and teachers - will be returning to Spellbrook in September. But for some of us, Monday afternoon's Year 6 leavers' service in Great St Mary's will be particularly poignant.



We'll of course be saying farewell to our brilliant Year 6 pupils. We'll remember the important contribution they've made to our school family, and wishing them every happiness and success in the future as they head to new schools.

We'll also be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Cook; thanking her for all the wonderful things she's done for Spellbrook over her years with us, and wishing her well as she moves to pastures new and fresh challenges.

And I'll also be bidding farewell to Spellbrook on Monday as I too move on: I'll be leaving Great St Mary's in a couple of weeks' time for a new position at a Bishop's Stortford church.

I think most of us find it hard to say goodbye to people or situations when they've meant something dear to us. Indeed, there are those who say 'I don't do goodbyes', preferring to close the door or leave the railway station early rather than waiting for the car to depart or for the train to leave the platform and to have to wave that final wistful farewell.

I suppose there therefore may be some truth in what the poet Les Murray writes: that 'people can't say goodbye anymore, they say last hellos.' Whilst I'm looking forward to my new role and ministry in my new parish, I'm now finding myself not wanting to say goodbye to people - not wanting to say goodbye to you: the amazing school family of Spellbrook. And, whilst she's got so much to look forward to, I'm sure Mrs Cook feels the same... but no doubt even more so, having been far more at the heart of the Spellbrook school family than me.



In the early 1950s, Sheldon Vanauken was an American student of the English professor, Christian apologist, and author of 'The Chronicles of Narnia' - C.S. Lewis. In his 1977 book 'A Severe Mercy', Vanauken recalls his last meeting with his mentor when Vanauken was leaving Oxford to head home to the United States. Over one final pub lunch together, they spent time wondering aloud about the nature of life after death.

When they'd finished eating, they stood outside the pub, talking for a few more minutes. Then, just before parting, Lewis said to Vanauken, "I shan't say goodbye. We'll meet again." The great Christian apologist then plunged into the traffic, crossing the street, leaving Vanauken standing there. When Lewis got to the other side, he turned around, anticipating that his friend would still be there. With a grin on his face, Lewis shouted over the great roar of cars to his friend: "... Besides, Christians never say goodbye."

Of course there's an important truth behind what Lewis said. Namely that Christians trust that our goodbyes are not permanent; they're not the final word. Christians believe those words so memorably sung by Dame Vera Lynn all those years ago: "We'll meet again. Don't know where - don't know when. But I know we'll meet again some sunny day".

But, in this life, before the opportunity of an eternal life, we do often have to say 'goodbye' - albeit temporarily. And for our Year 6 friends, for Mrs Cook, and for me, that time has come: it's our turn to say 'goodbye'.

Coretta Scott King, the wife of Martin Luther King Jr, once wrote 'The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.'

Spellbrook is one of those great communities. It's special, with a strong sense of compassion, with pupils and staff - supported by parents and guardians - looking out for one another and modelling the school's values as everybody builds strong foundations for life. I pray that Spellbrook continues to be great in the way it cares and works for one another, and that the blessing and peace of God may continue to rest upon you.

*"In everything - in every
circumstance - do to others as you
would have them do to you"*
Matthew 7:12

As I say 'goodbye', may the Lord be ever with you,

Fr Simon

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE SUMMER BREAK

Ruby	Sapphire	Emerald	Diamond
Arthur	Emilia	Johnny	Jim
Jesse	Abel	Poppy	Zainab
Sidney	Kaden	Scarlett	Alden
Vinnie	Niah	Donnie	Stanley T
Florence	Jessica		Jacob



ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 97.06%**

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.



MENU w/c 22nd July 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"> ❖ Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)



**SCHOOL
DINNERS**

NOTICES

✚ **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.**

✚ **Change to Menu on Tuesday 23rd July** – as it is the last day of term and due to popular demand, the menu will read as follows:

Quorn Hot Dog (V) – Red
Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) – Green
Jacket Potato – Yellow
Cheese Roll – Blue

✚ **Last day of term** – school finishes at the earlier time of **1.30 pm** on **Tuesday 23rd July**.

✚ Wishing you all a lovely and safe summer holiday. School resumes on **Wednesday 4th September (Year 1 – 6)**. Nursery and Reception, please refer to your individual transition timetable.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
22/07/24	Leavers Service
23/07/24	Last Day of Summer Term. 1.30 pm finish.
02/09/24	Inset 1
03/09/24	Inset 2
04/09/24	First Day Back (Year 1 – 6)
11/09/24	Emerald Swimming Resumes
07/10/24	Harvest Service
14/10/24	Individual Photos
25/10/24	PTA Film Night
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term
21/11/24	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
29/11/24	Occasional Day
02/12/24	Christmas Decoration Day
04/12/24	Emerald Class Last Swimming Lesson
12/12/24	Panto
18/12/24	Christmas Lunch
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

THE SECRET ART HOUSE PRESENTS



SUMMER ART CAMP

with artist Caroline Clark

£30*

4-11 years,
different activities
every day

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

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



plus much more
arty fun and
messy madness
every day

Visit the
chickens,
play games
in the outside
space



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



Promoting a healthy and active lifestyle

SUMMER Holiday Camps

Special Camps + Events

9am-3pm

Music
Camp

6th August



Performance
Camp

7th + 21st August



Arts + Crafts
Camp

8th + 22nd August



Bouncy
Castles

7th + 21st August



Bike + Scooter
Skills

6th + 20th August



Biscuit/Cupcake
Decoration

9th + 23rd August



Advance booking: £23 per day
Booking on the day: £30

Reedings Junior School,
Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth,
HERTS, CM21 9DD

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

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SPORTS

Promoting a healthy and active lifestyle

SUMMER Holiday Camps

22nd July - 30th August

9am-3pm

Main Camps (all summer)

Sports + Activity Camp: Years 3 - 7

Mini Camp: Reception, Year 1 + 2

Special Camps (selected dates)

- Football Camp
- Netball Camp
- Art + Crafts Camp
- Music Camp
- Performance Camp

Special Events (selected dates)

- Bike/scooter skills
- Bouncy castle
- Biscuit/cupcake decoration

Advance booking: £23 per day
Booking on the day: £30

Reedings Junior School,
Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth,
HERTS, CM21 9DD

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

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SPORTS



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](#)



Summer challenge!

This summer we have a competition running for all primary school children and we would love your school to be involved!

We are asking for students to find 5 defibrillators over the summer holidays, either on their travels or out and about in their local towns and take photos!

Send those photos to us and we will put them into a prize draw, the winner will receive a first aid lesson for their whole class!

The more photos, the more entries!

Our student first aid workshop retails to the public at £105 (plus VAT) per class and we will come to your setting to deliver a practical session!

We look forward to seeing your photos!

Hannah.allsop@daisyfirstaid.com

Please include:

Name
School
Class



SAFFRON SCREEN



SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER!

WHAT'S ON AUGUST 2024



HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON

ADULTS PAY KIDS PRICES WITH OUR FAMILY TICKET

BOOK NOW ONLINE OR AT THE TIC www.saffronscreen.com

SWAN Summer Netball Camp

10am - 3pm

£30 a day

Hosted at Herts & Essex Sports Centre

Friendship

Fun

Netball Skills

SWAN NETBALL CLUB

Book your place here,
<https://forms.gle/dcrBWofxghqgt9i17>

Dates	School year	Age
24/7/24	3-5	U8-U10
25/7/24	6-8	U11-U13
26/7/24	9-11	U14-U16
27/8/24	3-5	U8-U10
28/8/24	6-8	U11-U13
29/8/24	9-11	U14-U16

[SWAN Summer Camp \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com)

ONLY £34 PER DAY!!

ESSA

Mega SUP

Katakanu

Rafting

ESSA WATER ACTIVITIES CENTRE

MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

SUMMER HOLIDAY'S

Get ready to embark on an epic journey in our Summer Water Activities Camp. Offering 3 different activities per day including, Raft building, Kayaking, Stand up paddle boarding, Katakanu, Wobble boarding, Canoeing and Mega SUPs.

Date: 15th July - 30th August
 Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm
 AGE: 8-16 years old

BOOK NOW - WWW.ESSA.ORG.UK | MEADGATE ROAD, NAZEING EN9 2PB

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

21 July 2024: Open Day

A day to remember the Gardens in World War I and II

- Special exhibition from the Trust's archivists: focus on D Day
- Local history stalls
- Military vehicles
- Vintage cars
- Songs from Perfect Vintage
- Children's activities

Stalls

- plants
- plant supports
- jams
- crafts

Hot bacon, cheese or hummus rolls & a wide selection of homemade cakes, hot & cold drinks

Gardens open 11.00am to 5pm

Advance tickets £5.50 through www.eastonlodge.co.uk or Trybooking.com or tickets available £6.50 on the Gate. Children under 16 years old FREE entry

Gardens of Easton Lodge Preservation Trust: Registered Charity 1101442

Essex Fire Museum Open Days

Sunday 28th July 2024
 Tuesday 13th August 2024
 Sunday 25th August 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