



NEWSLETTER – 25th October 2024

VALUE: Generosity

Focus: Giving our Time

'God loves a cheerful giver.' 2 Corinthians 9.7



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

End of Half Term: As anybody who has involvement with schools will be aware of, schools are always busy. The first half term of the year is no exception. With new staff, new children, children moving classes and getting to know new classmates, or getting re-established with previous classmates there are many adjustments for everyone. Making a strong start to the year's learning is also a priority and means that everyone is doing a great deal. That said, it has certainly been a productive term, and you will have seen from the newsletters how much has been going on. At the start of this week, we had a visit from our new School Effectiveness Advisor, who works with us, always striving to develop the school and do the best for all of the children. Within a short time here, she said she could feel the calm, purposeful atmosphere throughout the school and was impressed with the supportive, teamwork that she observed at all levels. It is reassuring that the culture that we want to create, in line with our values, is evident to those that work with us.

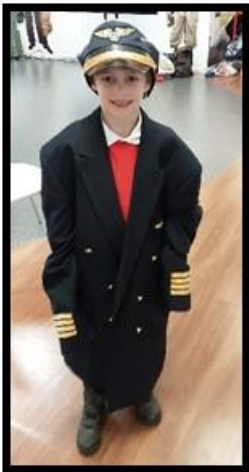
Sapphire Trip to Stansted Airport: Report from Mrs McDonald:

Yesterday, Sapphire Class visited the Aerozone at Stansted Airport. We met the firefighters who look after the airport. They let us sit in the back of the fire engine and we even got to shoot the hose! The children loved it when they could spray the hose really high and make a rainbow.





Then we learnt about the different jobs at the airport and got to try on all the different uniforms. They had real plane seats for us to try and we pretended that we were the pilots and air stewards taking care of the passengers. We had another visitor from the airport teaching us all about the noises of the plane and learnt that sound is measured in decibels.



The Aerozone had its own special viewing platform, and we got to see a variety of planes take off and land, even the huge Emirates plane who had just landed from Dubai. We also made paper aeroplanes and tried to see which plane went the furthest, Vinnie was definitely the winner! His plane was very streamlined and went really far!



The children behaved very well, and the coach driver loved their singing on the way back when they all broke out into a rendition of "We are the children at Spellbrook School". A lovely way to end our history topic on the history of transport!

Diamond Class Weather Reports – In French: Diamond class have completed their current topic for French, which is all about weather, by writing their own weather reports. They then practised their French speaking by presenting the reports to video. It is great to see that they are developing the confidence to speak in French and they have been trying hard not only to remember the vocabulary but also to pronounce the words correctly.



MacMillan Coffee afternoon: Thank you so much to the PTA for their organisation and to all the parents that came to the Macmillan fund raising event. Together we raised

£170.17.

PE Kits: Please check out the email that was sent earlier this week regarding the change from after half term that we would like children in all classes except Ruby Class to come to school in their PE kit on the days that they have PE lessons.

Saying Goodbye: This week we are sad to say goodbye to Miss Crisfield, who is heading back to Canada and also 'bye for now' to Mrs Smith, who starts her maternity leave. We are looking forward to seeing Mrs Smith and baby Smith sometime later this term.

Date for the Diary: We have worked with another local school to secure online safety training for the children, staff and parents for November 25th. This will be led by the 2 Johns, who are very well known for the quality of their advice. [Home - eSafety Training](#) The parents' session will be on zoom in the evening from 8pm but we are planning to include a viewing in school for those who would like to attend. Keeping up with the ever-changing online world and having the knowledge and understanding that enables us all to support our children, enjoy the benefits but also to stay safe is often tricky, and this should be a truly useful session, so please save the date. More details will come out after half-term.

Thank you for all of your support this half term.

Have a lovely weekend and half term,

Jeremy Fisher

GREETINGS FROM GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

The first half of the first term for this year has ended. What an action-packed time everybody has had.

We at Great St. Mary's have a 'Friday E-Mail' which is like your 'Weekly Newsletter'. Each week, Mr. Fisher sends us an account of what has happened so that we are kept well informed about our Church school.

We know that you have taken 'Generosity' as your value this half-term and we have had an insight into how you have developed ways of practising this both in and beyond school. We have seen that some of the special activities you have all shared have given you opportunities to build on living out the values.

Many of you now will be planning what you are going to be doing on 'All Hallows' Eve' or Halloween next Thursday. Hallow means holy or a person who is holy. We use hallowed when we say the Lord's Prayer. This can be found in the Bible, in Matthew Ch.6 v9. 'Our Father in Heaven hallowed be thy name'.

We recognise holy or hallowed people now as Saints. Saints are known for the holy lives they lived and the good they have done. Some we remember lived over a thousand years ago, but some are modern. You will all have heard of Mother Teresa who was made a saint in 2003. You may have heard someone say 'Be a saint and do for me'. In a small way, we are all 'mini saints' when we think carefully about acting on each of the different values. On Halloween, you are celebrating all that is holy or hallowed.

The celebrations start the evening before the main celebration. (Think of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day). The day after Halloween is All Saints' Day and services are held to give thanks for all the saints and pray for help to follow their example.

Looking further ahead, GSM's is getting ready for the Christmas Tree festival at the beginning of December. We are looking forward to seeing your tree. If you can come and look at the display of trees, we ask you to fill in a slip of paper to say which is your favourite. Becky and I will be writing Spellbrook, but it would be great if you could too.

God Bless,
Fay Clark

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Diamond
Lexie



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ❖ Milo for always being polite and choosing positive language.
- ❖ Petru for fantastic effort in lessons and good concentration.

Emerald

- ❖ Amelie for working really hard in writing.
- ❖ Connor for contributing for our class discussions.

Diamond

Sapphire

- ❖ Elle for writing some beautiful independent sentences.
- ❖ Emilia for trying really hard in Maths lessons.

- ❖ Poppy for giving everything her full focus and effort.
- ❖ Ewan for fantastic independent writing.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 94.67%**

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

- ❖ **Year 6 deadline to apply for a secondary place is Thursday 31st October.**
- ❖ School resumes on **Monday 4th November.**
- ❖ **Afterschool Clubs** resume as normal from **Monday 4th November.**
- ❖ **Parents Evening Meetings** – parents are invited to meet with teachers on **Tuesday 5th November.** Meetings can be booked in Arbor by clicking on **Guardian Consultations** and following the prompts. If you are having difficulty booking, please contact the office.
- ❖ **The Gardening Club** resumes on **Wednesday 6th to Wednesday 27th November** for children in **Years 3 to 6.** To book, please contact **Wendy Gordon** at wellbeangardening@gmail.com or **07817 528652.** Please see the flyer below for more information.
- ❖ **The Secret Art Club** resumes on **Friday 8th November** for children in **Years 1-6.** To book, please contact Caz on **07847 269 734** or www.carolineclarkartist.com

MENU w/c 4th November 2024

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Breaded Chicken Grill (Red) ❖ Margherita Wrap (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Pie (Red)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term
31/10/24	Year 6 Deadline to Apply for Secondary School Place
05/11/24	Parents Evening Meetings
15/11/24	Children in Need Day

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Veggie Sausage Bow Pasta (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Beef (Red) ❖ Shepherdess Pie (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Red) ❖ Egg Breakfast Muffin (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

21/11/24	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
22/11/24	Year 6 Height & Weight Screening
28/11/24	Ruby Class Bonfire
29/11/24	Occasional Day
02/12/24	Christmas Decoration Day
10/12/24	Nativity
11/12/24	Nativity
11/12/24	Emerald Class Last Swimming Lesson
12/12/24	Panto
13/12/24	PTA Non-Uniform Day
18/12/24	Christmas Lunch
19/12/24	Christmas Service
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
15/01/24	Nursery Deadline to apply for a Reception Place
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	



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

Football



Tuesdays

Dodgeball



Thursdays

Footballers must bring trainers or astro turf trainers, shin pads, long socks, PE kit or sports wear, and goalie gloves if wanting to play in goal.

Please ensure children are collected on time at 4:20pm, or a late collection fee may be charged as per terms of our service.

£42 for 7 weeks

Starting week commencing 9th September

Keep fit, make friends and have fun!

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

www.gjwsports.co.uk

SAWBO DESIGN CO.

fit INITIATIVE

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

Ofsted Registered

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 8th November 2024, 3.20 - 4.30 pm

TO BOOK

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

Address

Spellbrook C of E Primary School, Spellbrook

For school years 1-6



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

[SIGN UP | StageSteps](#)

He

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! ✨

Well Bean Gardening



Learning through growing
Growing through learning

We still have places
in our Wednesday after-school
Gardening Club

November 6 - November 27



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £25.00 for the remaining four sessions of 2024 Nov 6 - Nov 27
- 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 Nov 6 and make a payment of £25 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)

Email: wellbeangardening@gmail.com
Mobile: 07817 528652

facebook.com/wellbeangardening
Instagram: @wellbeangardening

Exciting Christmas card competition launched for children of the Hertford and Stortford constituency

Primary school children across Hertford and Stortford are invited to showcase their creativity this festive season by entering a Christmas card competition. Open to children aged 3-11, this wonderful initiative will give young artists a chance to design a card that could be sent to some of the most important figures in the country.

The winning card will be sent to the Prime Minister, His Majesty The King, and to communities across the Hertford and Stortford constituency. It's a unique opportunity for local children to contribute to the holiday cheer in a truly special way.

Theme: My Favourite Things About Christmas

All types of media are welcome, from crayons and markers to paint and pens. The only rule is to have fun and let those creative ideas flow! Entrants must mark their name, school, and year group on the back of the card or include it with their entry.

How to enter: Submit your entry by either:

- Email: Josh.Dean.MP@parliament.uk
- Post: FAO Josh Dean, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

Deadline: All entries must be received by **10th November**.

Beezee
FAMILIES



Sign up to our FREE masterclass

How to support children with a limited diet?

Date: **Mon 18th Nov** Time: **6 to 7pm**

This one hour session will be led by our nutritionists who can help you understand more about limited diets and offer their expert support. By signing up, you can:

- Share challenges and tips with liked-minded parents/carers
- Join an informal, inclusive and non-judgemental atmosphere
- Get lots of practical tips you can use for your family

This is available to all parents, whatever your child's age.



Secure your
FREE SPOT today!

Scan or click
the QR code



Need a hand signing up?
Email BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

Hertfordshire
24 - 2294

Recorders Rock !

FREE TRIAL SESSION FOR AGES 5-8

- Did you know there are different kinds of recorders, each with a unique tone?
- Have a go trying out various recorders with guidance from our amazing woodwind teachers, whether you've played before or not
- Great instrument to start your musical journey, accessible and progress quickly
- Play in groups after learning a few basics



Saturday 23rd November 2024



10.00-12.00 with a free concert at 11.45



Bishop's Stortford Music Centre, CM23 5BD



To book a space use the QR code to register

For more information visit the following link

[Bishop's Stortford Music Centre \(hertsmusicservice.org.uk\)](https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk)



Scan me for more



01992 556752



www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/HMS-Stortford



Hertfordshire
Music Service

Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND





Invite and Inspire

FREE workshops for Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Saturday 9 November 2024

9.00am — 12.00pm, Bishop's Stortford College

An academic enrichment programme developed to spark intellectual curiosity and ignite a love for lifelong learning.

November Workshops:

- Young Scientists
- Design Technology
- Creative Writing and more



Scan the QR code for more information and to book.

www.bishopsstortfordcollege.org



Meet father Christmas church farm Ardeley

Selected dates in December

Festive Farm Entry includes
Christmas Activity Pack * Festive Woodland
Walk the farm & see the farm animals

Meet Father Christmas

Father Christmas in his outside grotto
(includes a quality toy)

Meet the Elves

Write a letter to Father Christmas

Write a wish for the Wish Tree

Bag up reindeer food & carrot to take home to Rudolph

Additional Activities

Santa Paws – bring your beloved pooches to meet

Father Christmas include treat & toy

Harvest your Own Christmas Tree

Festive Tractor & Trailer Ride

Feed the farm animals

Book online www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk

This is an outdoor event so plenty of fresh air. Wrap up warm & wear wellies!

CHURCH FARM, ARDELEY
A Free Range Experience



Library Adventure with Hertfordshire Libraries

For parents and carers of Reception children - has your child visited the library to take part in the My First Library Adventure? Here's how to take part:

Visit a Hertfordshire Library twice by 30 November 2024 with their special 'My First Library Adventure' bookmark. They were given one at school. Or you can ask for one at the library.

Complete your Library Adventure

To enter the Prize Draw

Win a visit from author/illustrator Chloe Savage for your choice of school. Plus 50 lucky winners get a personalised signed Chloe Savage book.

Each time you complete a step of your adventure, cut out & stick your bookmark.

It's easy to get a My First Library Adventure with your grown-up to bring proof of your school address already have a library card? Bring your library card to take part!

Spend time at the library discussing all the exciting books in the library. Don't miss the chance to take your completed bookmark to the enquiry desk to get it on your card.

Find out more about the My First Library Adventure at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

Visit 1:

- your child shows us their library membership card or
- your child joins the library. (For new members we will need to see proof of a parent/carer's name & address e.g. an energy bill, council tax bill or rent agreement)
- they choose and borrow 1 or more books
- then they ask library staff for the first 2 'paw stamps' on their bookmark

At home: have fun sharing the book(s) together

Visit 2:

- return the book(s) to the library
- tell staff about your favourite book,
- collect 2 more paw print stamps on your bookmark
- enter the prize draw. We have signed copies of 'The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish by Chloe Savage to win

Children love to choose their own books, and it's **free to join** and borrow books from the library – just remember to bring them back on time or renew them if you want them for longer. You can find the opening times of all the Hertfordshire Libraries at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

In your local library you can discover:

- picture books – to enjoy together
- beginning to read books - to encourage your child as they learn to read
- information books – to spark their interest in learning about the world
- eBooks and eAudiobooks (including picture books) online and via the BorrowBox app – www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks

So come on an Adventure and explore a Hertfordshire Library!



www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries



Families Feeling Safe

Supporting families with Protective Behaviours

ONLINE
starting
4th November
2024

A FREE 6-week course for Mums, Dads, and Carers of children 0 -19yrs



Monday evenings
7.00pm—9.00pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Nov, 2 & 9 December

Are you looking for some strategies and new ideas to help improve family life? This 6-week course can help you to

- Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together
- Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication to build better relationships
- Build on your own and your child's strengths
- Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe



Places are for families with Hertfordshire

For eligibility and to book your FREE place please contact:

E-mail: enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk

Tel: 07850 518216



Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeeling-safe



Autumn Half Term



South Mill Arts Family

Box Office:
01279 710 200
southmillarts.co.uk

South Mill Arts, 1-3 South Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3JG. South Mill Arts is a trading styling of Bishop's Stortford Museum and Arts CIC. Registered Charity No. 1189853.



Autumn Half Term



Pop Princesses

Mon 28th Oct
3pm | £19

*VIP Meet & Greet at 2pm £26

Drop in between:
10am-2pm
No need to book!



Kids Crafts: Halloween Masks

Tue 29th, Wed 30th
& Thu 31st Oct
£1 per child
Ages 4+



The Greatest Magician

Wed 30th Oct
7.30pm | £26.50
Ages 12+

*VIP Meet & Greet £38



An Inclusive Workshop with Herts Inclusive Theatre

Thu 31st Oct
3pm - 5pm | FREE
Ages 7+

To book your tickets please visit
southmillarts.co.uk
or call our Box Office: 01279 710 200



An Inclusive Workshop with Herts Inclusive Theatre - Taster Session

Thu 31st Oct | 3pm | FREE | Ages 7+



South Mill Arts Workshop

Box Office:
01279 710 200
southmillarts.co.uk

South Mill Arts, 1-3 South Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3JG. South Mill Arts is a trading styling of Bishop's Stortford Museum and Arts CIC. Registered Charity No. 1189853.



An Inclusive Workshop with Herts Inclusive Theatre

Thu 31st Oct | 3pm | FREE | 7+

This is a great opportunity to work with Herts Inclusive Theatre as they lead a bespoke workshop specifically for South Mill Arts aimed at children and teenagers (aged 7+) with additional learning needs.

The workshop will include drama games, creative activities, and some devised script work. The workshop is open to all abilities and levels and will be a great introduction to drama techniques.

For (ages 7+) young people with additional learning needs or SEND.

Parents advised to stay for the session also to support their child.



To book your tickets please visit
southmillarts.co.uk
or call our Box Office: 01279 710 200

