



NEWSLETTER - 20th December 2024

VALUE: Compassion

'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'

Colossians 3.12

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As I write this final newsletter of the term, and look forward to the break, I am aware that Christmas is for many families a lovely time to get together and enjoy the festivities. I am also aware that for some families, there can be another side to Christmas, where the usual support systems seem harder to access. We have therefore put together a few useful links and places for support and advice.

If you need some support or need to tell us some information about your child, please get in touch via admin@spellbrook.herts.sch.uk

- **In an emergency:** Did you know that if you call 999 and can't talk, you can listen to the operator and try to respond. If you can't then it will prompt you to dial 55 so that the police know it is a genuine call for assistance.
- **Any crisis any time:** [Shout](#) is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text 85258
- **Worried about a child:** The NSPCC are here to help 24/7 and children can call their [Childline](#) number on 0800 1111
- **Unsafe? :** Safer Places offer help if you are worried or experience domestic abuse [Get Help – Safer Places](#)
- **Help with food:** [Bishop's Stortford Food Bank - Helping local people in need](#)
- **Housing support:** [Get help from Shelter - Shelter England](#)

What a Festive Week! These last few days have been Christmas from start to finish. Wednesday began with children coming into school in Christmas jumpers, raising money for Save the Children. It continued with a visit from Santa, who came into each class and spent a few minutes with the children. He read, "The Night Before Christmas" to the Ruby and Sapphire children and they loved hearing Santa tell his own story. He then left a little something for every child.



The children then made Christmas hats to wear for Christmas Dinner.

Christmas Dinner: Our usual 'organised chaos' that is Christmas dinner was a fantastic success. All of the children in the school sat together. The staff and some of our governors (thank you all) worked frantically to serve the children the beautifully prepared Christmas meal from our kitchen – as ever, Mrs Blackham and Mrs Reyes provided a lovely Christmas Dinner. Some of the adults ate with the children so they could then go outside with them whilst the rest of the adults enjoyed their own delicious meal. It was a lovely occasion.



The day ended with a PTA event that involved some stalls and a raffle and the community getting together to sing Christmas songs and Carols led by some of the children and their teachers.

With our final event, our Carol Service at Great St Mary's yesterday afternoon, this has been a very Merry Week. It was lovely to see many of you there and to hear the children (from the youngest to the oldest) read the Christmas story from the bible so confidently and clearly, and to hear everyone sing the carols so beautifully. I do hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. It was lovely to hear Reverend Tim Weeks share his thoughts about the lovely singing and how well even the youngest children had taken part.

What a lot of Festive events and people to thank!

- Carol Service -thank you to all of the staff and children for providing such a beautiful way to end the festive period in school.
- PTA Christmas raffle and carols (not around the campfire unfortunately) – thank you to the staff and PTA for organising this event and parents for turning out on a blustery afternoon.
- Christmas Dinner in school – the staff and helpers and most importantly the kitchen staff.
- The Pantomime – Robin Hood – all of the staff for helping the children to have such a lovely afternoon.
- The PTA for their Christmas shop and their help with snacks for the pantomime.
- Ruby and Sapphire classes and their adults for all of the hard work, performing such a lovely Nativity.
- The children from Diamond Class for representing the school so well and singing beautifully at the Bishop Stortford Primary School Carol Service at St Michael's Church.
- The staff and children for making such lovely tree decorations for the Tree festival at Great St Mary's Church and the children who made lanterns for the Festival of lights and the Church for including us in these community events.
- The staff for arranging all of the creative activities and the parents and family members who came along to help the children at Decoration Day.



As well as the festive events, we have had a packed Autumn Term, providing for every child's needs and adding memorable activities and events. The staff have all worked tirelessly, those already established within the school, as well as those who have joined recently. My heartfelt thanks to every one of the staff for all that they do. I would also like to thank the governors for the work they do in ensuring the school always works towards its vision in meeting the needs of every child.



And behind the scenes for all of these events, we have our administrative and site staff who do so much to ensure everything is organised and that you, as members of our school community know what is going on.

And finally, my thanks go to all the parents for supporting the school and the children's learning and development in so many ways. Oh, and an extra thank you on behalf of the staff for all of the Christmas cards and gifts.

Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year.

Jeremy Fisher

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK AND OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK



Ruby
Riaan
Toby

Sapphire
Herbert

Emerald
Jessie

Diamond
Alice
Louis

STARS OF THE TERM

Ruby

- ❖ Toby for a great attitude to learning and brilliant joining in with activities.
- ❖ Rowan for fantastic effort in lessons and working hard and completing challenges.

Sapphire

- ❖ Thea for fantastic progress in all of her learning and always trying her best.
- ❖ Lily for giving everything a go and always trying her best.

Emerald

- ❖ Seb for an amazing attitude to learning and for being a good friend.
- ❖ Jessica for always trying her best in everything and completing work to a high standard.

Diamond

- ❖ Nicolas for fantastic improvement in his handwriting and presentation.
- ❖ Lexie for supe progress in reading and independent writing.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 88.83%**

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

- ❖ **School resumes on Wednesday 8th January** at the usual time.
- ❖ **NEW Wraparound Afterschool Care** starts on **Tuesday 14th January** until **Thursday 13th February**, running on a trial basis for children in **Reception to Year 6**. Bookings can be made online at [Services 3 — GJW SPORTS](#) or by emailing enquiries@gjwsports.co.uk to book an ad hoc session.
- ❖ **Afterschool Clubs resume** as follows:

Yoga & Mindfulness Club – Wednesday 8th Jan
Secret Art Club – Friday 10th Jan
Stage Steps – Monday 13th Jan
Football Club – Tuesday 14th Jan
Dodgeball Club – Thursday 16th Jan
- ❖ **Sapphire Class Swimming** starts on **Wednesday 15th January**. Payment is due by **Thursday 19th December**.
- ❖ **Save the Children - Christmas Jumper Day Donations** – a huge thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause. We raised **£71.10!**

MENU w/c 8th January 2025

Day	Menu
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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
23/12/24 – 03/01/24	Christmas Break
06/01/25	Inset 3
07/01/25	Inset 4
08/01/25	First Day Back
08/01/25	Yoga & Mindfulness Club Starts
09/01/25	Dodgeball Afterschool Club Resumes
10/01/25	Secret Art Club Resumes
15/01/24	Nursery Deadline to apply for a Reception Place
15/01/24	Sapphire Class Swimming Starts
17/02/25 – 21/02/25	Half Term
24/02/25	First Day Back
06/03/25	World Book Day
21/03/24	Red Nose Day
27/03/24	Emerald Class Showcase
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
12/05/25 – 15/05/25	KS2 SATS Week
19/05/25 – 23/05/25	Diamond Class Activity Week
26/05/25 – 30/05/25	Half Term
02/06/25	Inset 5
03/06/25	First Day Back
06/06/25	PTA Non-Uniform Day
14/06/25	Summer Fair
24/06/25	Class Photos
22/07/25	Leavers Service
23/07/25	Last Day of Term



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.

£36 for 5 weeks (VAT included)

Starting week commencing 13th January

Keep fit, make friends and have fun!

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

www.gjwsports.co.uk

SAWBO DESIGN CO.

fit INITIATIVE

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

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 10th January 2025, 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



PRESENTING



DANCE ★ ACT ★ SHINE



DANCE AND ACTING CLASS!



This performance class not only nurtures creativity but also builds confidence, whether through movement or theatrical performance. Learn diverse dance styles, understand the skills of stage acting, and combine the two to participate in super fun and exciting term projects showcased to friends and family.

Unique content taught by an industry professional!

[SIGN UP | StageSteps](#)

Every Monday 3:20-4:20pm

Join our StageSteps family!

Visit

WWW.STAGESTEPS.CO.UK

and head to our Sign Up page to join today!

@stagesteps

@stagesteps



Wrap Around Club

Spellbrook C of E School

5 week trial

Starting Tuesday 14th January

Tuesday - Thursday

- Session 1:
 - 15:20-16:20
 - £42.50 for 5 week block booking of a given day
 - Ad-hoc: £10 per session
- Session 2:
 - 15:20-17:20
 - £85 for 5 week block booking of a given day
 - Ad-hoc: £20 per session

Children are offered:

- A snack (breadsticks/rice cakes/crackers)
- A 'light bite' tortilla wrap (butter/cheese/ham/chicken/pepperoni/chorizo)
- A drink (summer fruits/orange/mango/water).

Ad-hoc bookings can be made by emailing enquires@gjwsports.co.uk

Children will have access to online educational resources, a variety of board games and outdoor play facilities.

*All prices are VAT included

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

www.gjwsports.co.uk

SAWBO
DESIGN CO.

fit
INITIATIVE

FUNCTIONAL
FITNESS

GJW
SPORTS



Rainbow
Relaxation

Yoga, mindfulness
and happy vibes!

@rainbowrelaxation

Hannah.rainbowrelaxation@gmail.com

Spellbrook after school yoga and mindfulness club

Starting- 8th January 2025

When- 3.20-4.20 pm, every Wednesday

How much- £42 for 6 week half term

What we do- - group games
- yoga
- mindful crafts
- breathwork/simple meditation
Most of all, we have a lot of fun!

Who can join- limited spaces available
from year 1 - year 6

How to book- email me at
Hannah.rainbowrelaxation@gmail.com

