



NEWSLETTER - 24th January 2025

VALUE: Courage

Focus: Doing the Right Thing, Not the Easy Thing

Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'

Joshua 1.9

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

World Religion Day: World Religion Day takes place each January, aiming to promote understanding and peace between all religions as well as mutual understanding and tolerance between peoples from different backgrounds. World Religion Day 2025 took place on Sunday, 19 January. We celebrated World Religion Day on Monday. As we focus a great deal on Christianity, through RE and Collective Worship, including coming to Great St Mary's, we spent the day learning more about five other World Religions. The children were in mixed age groups of Nursery to Year 6, and each group took part in five activities:

Buddhism. The children retold the story of Prince Siddhartha Gautama and how he became aware of sickness and suffering and then meditated until he reached enlightenment. They then learned more about Buddhist practices and were shown some mindfulness and yoga activities by two of our parents. The children loved the action of the drama and then the calmness of the mindfulness and yoga.



Hinduism. The children learned about Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. They heard the story of Rama and Sita, looked at pictures of diva lamps then made Rangoli patterns using coloured rice. They showed great attention to detail in producing beautiful patterns.



Judaism. The children learned about Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of light, and heard the story of the miracle of the oil lamp burning for eight nights. One of the parents shared his own experiences of Hanukkah and retold the story through songs. The children joined in with some joyful singing and then had a taste of latke, a food associated with Hanukkah. This proved to be very popular with most of them.



Islam. The children learned about Muslim prayer. They learned that Muslims face Mecca and can use an app on their mobile phones to identify the direction. They learned about prayer mats then made their own miniature prayer mats with geometric patterns and tassels. They were fascinated and enjoyed making their own prayer mats.



Sikhism. The children learned about Sikh clothing and the importance of the five K's; the five items of faith worn by Sikhs. They cut out items to dress a little figure in the different items and some added a turban.

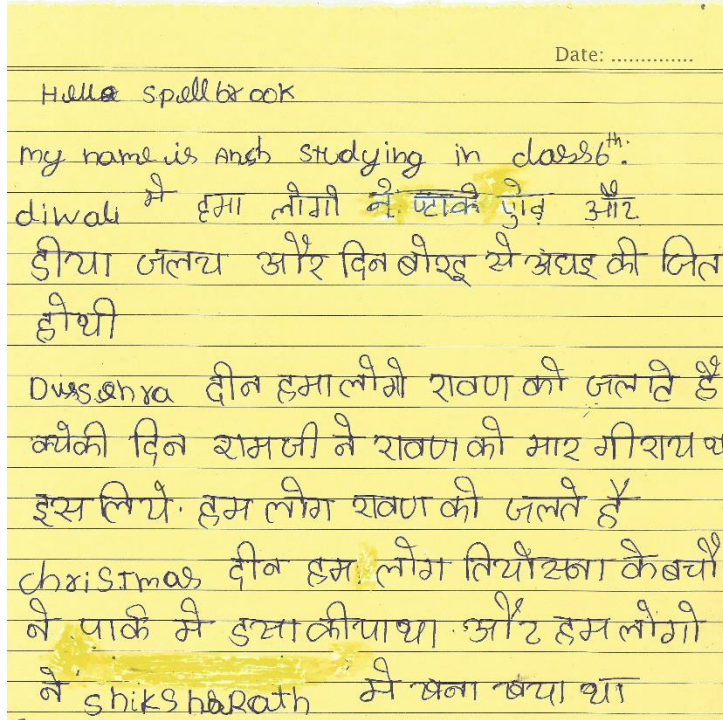


Each time we organise a whole school day, with the children in mixed age groups we see many friendships developing and many acts of kindness, particularly from older children supporting younger ones. It helps develop the community we are all delighted to be part of. Throughout the day, the children responded superbly, showing respect and developing their own understanding for other people's beliefs

Shiksha Rath: We have just received a message from Atula, the director at Shiksha Rath and included were scans of letters the three children that we have been sponsoring had written.

Atula writes, "Please find attached Anu, Diya and Anch's letters. They have never written a letter, nor have they received any except from the Spellbrook school. They tried their best to include a few English words. (We have translated their letter). Thank you for all your help and support!"

This is one of the letters – we will be sharing the others with the children in school.



This is the translation:
My name is Ansh, studying in class 6.

I played with crackers and put lights and candles around the house on Diwali.

On Dussehra, I went to see Ravana burn to show that Ram won the fight with Ravan, with my family.

On Christmas, my friends dance and sing so I watch with my friends and also eat lots of good food at Shiksha Rath with friends.

It is great to see that these children are doing so well and gaining from Spellbrook's support.

Wraparound Afterschool Care: A new wraparound care has started to be offered to parents at Spellbrook. Though small in number, they are having a great time. If you want more information, please see the notices and the poster below for more information.



Have a lovely weekend,

Jeremy Fisher

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Sapphire
Elle
Devon

Emerald
Lilly

Diamond
Sienna



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ❖ Sidney for great effort during lessons and super engagement.
- ❖ Eliza for fantastic listening and participation.

Sapphire

- ❖ Evie for always being extremely helpful and polite and an excellent role model.
- ❖ Eliza for super effort in her swimming lessons.

Emerald

- ❖ Issy for working hard and being more confident.
- ❖ Lilly for great effort in English lessons, suggesting ideas and checking her writing.

Diamond

- ❖ Tristan for his focus and hard work in every lesson.
- ❖ Zainab for her fantastic behaviour for learning.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 93.59%**

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

- ❖ **Emerald Parents Evening** is on **Tuesday 28th January** from **3.00 – 6.00 pm**. Please book your slot in Arbor by clicking on **Guardian Consultations**. If you have any difficulty in booking, please contact the office.
- ❖ **Year 6 SATs Information Meeting** is on **Thursday 30th January at 3.30 pm**. If you would like to purchase some useful **CGP SATs Revision Books**, please do so in Arbor from the **School Shop**. The deadline to order is **Friday 31st January**.
- ❖ **NEW Chess Afterschool Club** starts on **Thursday 27th February** from **3.20 – 4.20 pm**. The club is open to children in **KS2 (Years 3 – 6)**. Sessions cost **£3.50** and can be pre-booked on an ad hoc basis in **Arbor**. To book, please click on **Activities < Clubs < Chess Afterschool Club < Register**
- ❖ **Wraparound Care Ad Hoc Bookings** – parents are now able to book ad hoc sessions by emailing enquiries@gjwsports.co.uk **After booking, please contact the office to let us know you what session your child is attending.**
- ❖ **Nursery Places are Available for September 2025**. Please see the link to apply: <https://forms.office.com/e/QrLTXbRiMS>

MENU w/c 27th January 2025

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) ❖ 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**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
28/01/25	Emerald Parents Evening – 3-6 pm
30/01/25	Year 6 SATs Information Meeting
07/02/25	Dress to Express Day
17/02/25 – 21/02/25	Half Term
24/02/25	First Day Back
26/02/25	Diamond Trip to Ragged Sch. Museum
06/03/25	World Book Day
21/03/25	Red Nose Day
27/03/25	Emerald Class Showcase
02/04/25	Easter Church Service
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

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SPORTS



Rainbow
Relaxation

Yoga, mindfulness
and happy vibes!

@rainbowrelaxation

Hannah.rainbowrelaxation@gmail.com

Spellbrook after school yoga and mindfulness club

Starting- 8th January 2025

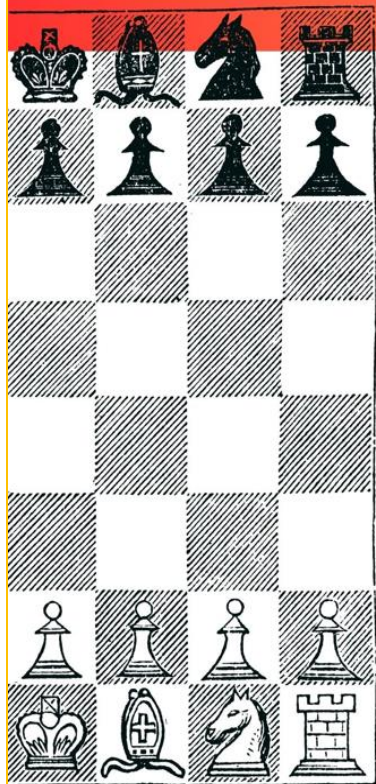
When- 3.20-4.20 pm, every Wednesday

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



CHESS CLUB

KS2 (YEARS 3-6)

THURDAY'S

3.20PM-4.20PM

IN THE LIBRARY

£3.50 PER WEEK

PLEASE BOOK YOUR SESSIONS IN ARBOR

Rotary
Club of Bishop's Stortford



ROTARY YOUNG MUSICIAN 2025

An exciting competition for young performers residing or
in full-time education in postcodes CM21, CM22, CM23 and CM24

SATURDAY APRIL 26th 2025

Bishop's Stortford College



Classes for: BRASS; WOODWIND; STRINGS (including Guitar);
PIANO (including Organ); VOCAL
in three age groups—Junior, Intermediate, Senior

Although there are likely to be some very high standards of performance amongst
the participants, we also wish to encourage entries from young instrumentalists and
singers at the beginning of their musical journey, who will benefit from the
experience of performing and from sympathetic and positive adjudication

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES — 15th March 2025

PLEASE NOTE—Because the Junior Piano Class had become too large to fit into the
day, there will be a Novice Piano Competition on Friday 21st April after school in the
Memorial Hall, Bishop's Stortford College for Novice Pianists of Grade 1-2 Standard.
This will give very new pianists an excellent opportunity to perform to an audience
and receive a certificate and critique from the adjudicator. There will be a winner,
who will receive a small trophy, but who will not participate in the Evening Concert
on Saturday 26th. No other class is affected by the change.

Entry and payment for all classes can be made online at www.bsrotary.org, where
the rules of the competition are also available.

For further information, please contact margaretwebb01@gmail.com

Come and join the fun at CROSSKEYS NETBALL CLUB

Get active, make friends, and learn
netball!

We currently have some spaces
available for children in Year 6. We
train at Herts and Essex Sports Center
on Thursday evenings 6pm-7pm

Would you like to come along for a
free taster session?

Please contact us to secure your spot and for
further information:

info@crosskeysnetballclub.co.uk

Half-term music making days!


Our Half-term music making days are the perfect opportunity for children aged 6–11 to explore the magic of music in a fun, safe and supportive environment. Scan the QR code to access the booking link and reserve your spot.



 Monday 17 Feb - Friday 21 Feb 2025


 9.30am - 3.30pm

 St Albans Music School

 £49 per day or £200 for the week
(£40/day with discount).



Scan me for more

 01438 843987

 www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/HMS-StAlbans



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 Department for Education
 ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



STORTFORD VIKINGS BASKETBALL CLINIC



- **WHEN:** Friday, February 21st
- **TIME:** 9.00am - 2.00pm
- **WHERE:** Herts and Essex Sports Centre
- **WHO:** 8 - 18yr olds

Interested? Email:
Headcoach@stortfordvikings.co.uk



Bookings Are Open for Half-Term Music-Making Days!

We're excited to open bookings for our **Half-Term Music-Making Days**, an exciting program designed for children aged 6–11! It's a wonderful opportunity to explore music in a fun and creative way.

Spots are limited.
 Be sure to secure your place today!

 Monday 17 February -
Friday 21 February 2025

 9.30am - 3.30pm

 St Albans Music School

 £49 per day or £200 for the week
(£40/day with discount).



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Confidence Building Fun

Try a **FREE** class

Drama, dance and singing for 4-12s

Visit perform.org.uk/try to book

Perform Sheering

Fridays at 4pm - Sheering Village Hall, The Street, Sheering, Bishops Stortford, CM22 7LX

Perform Bishops Stortford

Mondays at 4pm - Summercroft Primary School, Plaw Hatch Lane, Off Parsonage Lane, Bishops Stortford, CM23 5BJ

Perform Stansted

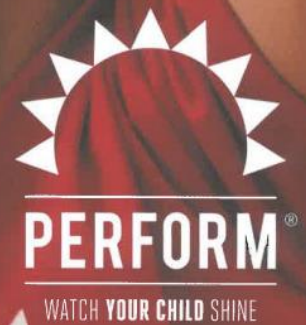
Thursdays at 4pm - Stansted Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill, Stansted, Essex, CM24 8AE

Perform Epping

Mondays at 4pm - Epping Hall, St John's Rd, Epping, Essex, CM16 5JU

Perform Broxbourne

Thursdays at 4pm - Broxbourne Sports Club, Mill Lane Close, Broxbourne, Herts, EN10 7BA



BARRACUDAS

ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN **2025!**
EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE **SCHOOL10** FOR AN EXTRA £10 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

SAVE UP TO £110!

*Minimum 2 days. *Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes

- ⦿ 4½ to 14 year olds!
- ⦿ 80+ Activities!
- ⦿ Choice each session!
- ⦿ Specialist Courses!
- ⦿ Flexible bookings!

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✓ OFTSED REGISTERED

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