



NEWSLETTER – 26th September 2025

VALUE: Respect

‘Do to others as you would have them do to you.’ Matthew 7:12

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

A Busy and Productive Week at Spellbrook

This week has been one of great energy, creativity, and learning at Spellbrook Primary School. As always, I am delighted to share some of the highlights from across our classes, as well as important notices for our school community.

Sawbridgeworth Travel Challenge Week

We began the week with our participation in the **Sawbridgeworth Travel Challenge**, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our pupils and their families for the effort and enthusiasm shown. It has been wonderful to see so many children choosing to walk to school and to hear how much enjoyment this has brought them. Walking to school not only supports healthy lifestyles but also builds a sense of community, and we are grateful to parents for encouraging and supporting this initiative.



Ruby Class – The Three Billy Goats Gruff



In Ruby Class, the children have been fully engaged in their work on the traditional tale *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. They discovered a problem in the story when the goats' bridge was broken, prompting the class to consider how the goats might cross the river safely. The pupils suggested that a raft or boat would be needed, which led to a series of exciting investigations.

Working in groups, the children tested which goats would float or sink, finding that the largest goat would not float without assistance. Recalling last week's experiments, when they discovered that lollipop sticks float, the class designed and built their own rafts using lollipop sticks and masking tape. Each raft was tested on water with goats of increasing size. While the largest goat managed to sink the individual rafts, the children collaborated to combine their designs into one large raft. To their delight, this structure proved strong enough to hold the biggest goat successfully. This project not only developed their understanding of materials and buoyancy but also demonstrated the value of teamwork, resilience, and problem-solving.

Sapphire Class – Little Red Riding Hood



Sapphire Class have been focusing on the story of *Little Red Riding Hood*. The children have been developing their writing skills by retelling and adapting the tale, paying particular attention to the use of descriptive language. In addition, the pupils took their learning outside, where they explored the story through movement and role play. They

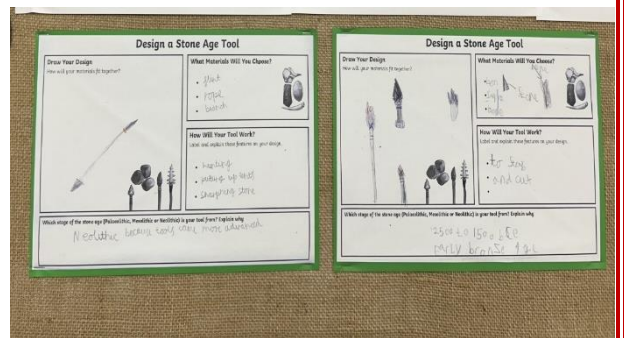


carefully considered how each character might move, speak, and react in

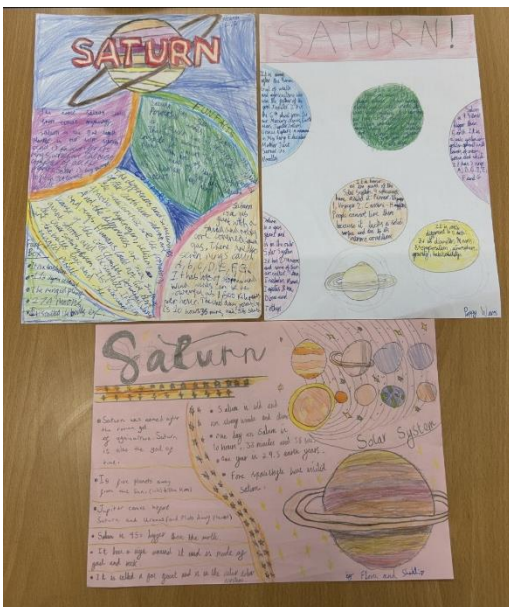
different situations, and then created role plays that brought the story vividly to life. This has helped the children to deepen their understanding of character and narrative, while also building confidence in self-expression.

Emerald Class – The Stone Age

Emerald Class have continued their studies of the **Stone Age**, and their enthusiasm for this topic has been a real highlight of the week. The children have been particularly excited about designing and creating their own Stone Age tools. Drawing upon their knowledge of how early humans lived, they imagined which tools might have been most useful and then produced designs that reflected both function and creativity. This project has encouraged the children to think critically about life in the past, to apply their historical knowledge, and to use their design and technology skills in imaginative ways.



Diamond Class – Exploring the Planets



Diamond Class have been captivated this week by their study of the **planets** in our solar system. The children have carried out research into the unique features of each planet, from the heat of Mercury to the icy atmosphere of Neptune. They have also explored questions such as what makes Earth habitable and how planets differ in size, composition, and orbit.

To present their findings, the pupils created detailed and colourful posters that highlight the fascinating facts they discovered. Many of these posters included drawings of the planets, labelled diagrams, and interesting statistics. The results were both informative and imaginative, and the children should feel very proud of the effort they put into their work. Their curiosity about space has made for a truly inspiring week of learning.

Notices and Announcements

- **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We are currently seeking a new Parent Governor to join the governing body at Spellbrook Primary School. This is a valuable role which provides parents with the opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the school and to support the ongoing success of our pupils. Further details will be shared shortly, but if you are interested in learning more, please do not hesitate to speak with me directly. I would be very happy to discuss the role further.

- **Harvest Festival**

Our Harvest Festival preparations are underway, and we are very grateful for the donations we have already received. Your generosity plays an important part in helping us to support those in need within our wider community, and we thank you sincerely for your contributions.

- **Reading at Home**

We would also like to extend our appreciation for the support families are providing with reading at home. It is clear to see the positive impact that regular reading practice has on the children's progress, both in terms of fluency and comprehension. Encouraging a love of reading is one of the most valuable gifts we can give our pupils, and we thank you for your continued partnership in this area.

Closing Thoughts

It has been an exceptionally full and rewarding week here at Spellbrook Primary School. From problem-solving in Ruby Class to role play in Sapphire, creative design in Emerald, and scientific research in Diamond, our pupils have demonstrated curiosity, resilience, and a love of learning.

I would once again like to thank you for your ongoing support of the school, and I wish you all a pleasant and restful weekend.

Kind regards,

Carly Cousins

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Ruby
Grace



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ❖ Rocco for making great choices.
- ❖ Arthur for fantastic learning and concentration.

Sapphire

- ❖ Sidney for super listening and ideas.
- ❖ Rowan, wishing him well in his new school.

Emerald

- ❖ Jadon for fantastic reasoning in Maths.
- ❖ Lucas for always giving his best in everything.

Diamond

- ❖ Donnie for his increased focus in lessons and an amazing score in his maths end of topic quiz.
- ❖ Dylan for always focusing and for pushing his learning every day.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School
Attendance – 91.46%**

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 on time.



NOTICES

- ❖ Gourmet Burger Day is on **Thursday 2nd October**. Children who do not normally have a school lunch are invited to join in with the rest of the school.
- ❖ **Harvest Service** is on **Monday 7th October** from **2.15 – 3.00 pm** at **Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth**. The children will be travelling to church by coach after lunch. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. **Children should be collected from the church at 3pm. There will be NO afterschool clubs on the day.** A separate letter has been sent to parents of nursery children.

MENU w/c 29th September 2025

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Bean & Cheese Slice (V) (Red) ❖ Macaroni Cheese (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chicken Pie with Gravy (Red) ❖ Mild Mexican Bean Chilli (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Roast Beef (Red) ❖ Veggie Sausages with Gravy (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Thursday	<p>GOURMET BURGER DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Burger in a Bun (Red) ❖ Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake (Red) ❖ Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (Blue)



**SCHOOL
DINNERS**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
02/10/25	Gourmet Burger Day
07/10/25	Harvest Service
13/10/25	Year 6 Online Health Questionnaire
15/10/25	Year 6 Height/Weights (Sch. Nurse)
20/10/25	Individual Photos
23/10/25	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
24/10/25	Inset 2 (School Closed)
27/10/25 – 31/10/25	Autumn Half Term 2025
26/11/25	Emerald Class Last Swimming Lesson
27/11/25	Panto
28/11/25	Occasional Day (School Closed)
18/12/25	Christmas Service
19/12/25	Last Day of Term
05/01/26	Inset 3 (School Closed)
06/01/26	Inset 4 (School Closed)
07/01/26	First Day Back
16/02/26 – 20/02/26	Spring Half Term 2026
23/02/26	First Day Back
27/03/26	Last Day of Term
30/03/26 – 10/04/26	Easter Break
13/04/26	First Day Back
04/05/26	Early May Bank Holiday 2026
22/05/26	Inset 5 (School Closed)
25/05/26 – 29/05/26	Summer Half Term 2026
01/06/26	First Day Back
23/07/26	Last Day of Term



GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2025



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

Let's Go!

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

£50.40 per club for 7 weeks

Starting week commencing 8th September

Keep fit, make friends and have fun!

Book online at: gjwsports.co.uk

www.gjwsports.co.uk

GJW SPORTS

Little Lounger™

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

fit INITIATIVE

SAWBO DESIGN CO.



Spellbrook after school mindfulness club

Wednesdays 3.20-4.30

Mindful crafts, group games, yoga, breathwork and simple meditation- working on mindfulness, self esteem and emotional regulation.

Year 1-6

£7 per session, paid each half term

To book please email the address below!



hannah.rainbowrelaxation@gmail.com
[@rainbowrelaxation](https://www.instagram.com/rainbowrelaxation)



Spellbrook lunchtime mindful crafting club

Thursdays 12.15-12.45
in the library

Mindful crafts such as weaving, colouring, collages, drawing and much more- all working on mindfulness, self esteem and emotional regulation.

Year 1-6

£3.50 per session, paid each half term

To book please email the address below!



hannah.rainbowrelaxation@gmail.com
[@rainbowrelaxation](https://www.instagram.com/rainbowrelaxation)



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

Join our Wednesday After-School
Gardening Club
3.20pm-4.30pm



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £31.25 for five sessions Sept 24 - Oct 22
- 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
 - Collecting and sowing seeds
 - Continuing to develop the Sensory garden

If you would like your child to attend, please return the slip below to the school office before Wednesday Sept 24 and make a payment of £31.25 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

Gourmet Burger & Hot Dog Fun Day Menu

Thursday 2nd October 2025

Menu

Beef Burger in a Bun (Red)

Or

Quorn Hot Dog (V) (Green)

Or

Jacket Potato (V) (Yellow)

Cheese Roll (V) (Blue)

Sides

Potato Wedges

Pasta

Sweetcorn

Baked Beans

Dessert

Cookies, Jelly or Fruit



www.rhso.co.uk/300years/

RIVERS HERITAGE SITE & ORCHARD

Children's Art Competition

'Celebrating 300 years of the Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard in Art'

This Rivers 300 event is for children aged 18 and under who have an interest in the natural world and orchards who want to celebrate Rivers orchard and its history in art.

We welcome entries from individual children and teachers submitting their classes' work

Drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, digital art, craft and textile works will all be considered

Please visit our website to check:



- the terms and conditions of the competition and how to submit your work by email by 5th November, 2025
- the time of the optional visit to the Rivers Apple Day on Saturday, 4th October
- how to book for the Prize Giving event at Sawbridgeworth Town Chamber on Eventbrite on Thursday, 20th November, 2025

Rivers Orchard Apple Day

Saturday 5th October 2024
10 am to 3 pm

Pick apples for us to juice and for yourselves to take home

Refreshments, Site History, Fruit Identification (5 fruit required), Local Honey

For more information, see www.rhso.co.uk or scan the QR code on the right

Limited parking available in Rivers Staff Car Park



Access

For Orchard access, see www.rhso.co.uk/access.php or scan the QR code on the left

rhso1725@gmail.com



Apple Day

Air-Mazing Saturday

When - Saturday 27th September.

Time - Between 11am to 2pm

Where - Sawbridgeworth Cricket Club Field
(access is via Bell Street Car parks or London Road or Fayre Green)

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

On Air-Mazing Saturday the Coop and The Mobile Cycle Doctor will be joining us. In addition to providing the children with delicious fruit kebabs they will be offering free bicycle safety checks and minor repairs. So please feel free to bring along your family bicycles.

Hertfordshire Police are also offering free bicycle marking too.

Central
COOP
Membership

MOBILE
CYCLE
DOCTOR



fab science HOLIDAY CAMPS

Join us for 5 hours of Fab Science fun in the holidays! Camps run 10am to 3pm and are open to all children aged 5-11 years.

For more information visit the Fab Science website.



£38
per child

Sibling
discount
available

HORRIBLE SCIENCE

Fake blood, snot, goo, poo and all sorts of general ickiness...all in the name of science! Perfect for Halloween week.

Monday 27th October
Cambridge (Queen Edith)

Tuesday 28th October
Hertford (Hertford St Andrew)

Wednesday 29th October
Bishop's Stortford (Thorn Grove)

Thursday 30th October
Saffron Walden (RAB)

Friday 31st October
St Albans (Garden Fields)

BOOK NOW AT: WWW.FABSCIENCE.CO.UK

...AND WE DO
FAB SCIENCE
PARTIES TOO!

Parent & Carer Support Autumn Term 2025



FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire

TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:



- The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.

Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
16th Sep - 21st Oct
Online Course: ID 778

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
6th Nov - 11th Dec
Online Course: ID 777

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:



- Understand why children & adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.

Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm
4th Nov - 9th Dec
Online Course: ID 775

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.



- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.

Wednesdays 7pm - 9pm
5th Nov - 10th Dec
Course ID 771
Reddings Family Centre,
Bushey, WD23 3PE

Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am
17th Sep - 22nd Oct
Course ID 770

TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm
17th Sep - 22nd Oct
Online Course ID 774

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am
4th Nov - 9th Dec
Online Course ID 772

Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm
4th Nov - 9th Dec
Online Course ID 773

TALKING ANXIETY in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm
16th Sep - 21st Oct
Online Course ID 776

TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
17th Sep - 22nd Oct
Online Course: ID 779

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
5th Nov - 10th Dec
Online Course: ID 780

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on: **07512 709556** or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund. Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request.

