



NEWSLETTER - 5th December 2025

VALUE: Trust

'My God is my strength in whom I trust.' Psalm 18: 2



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What an incredibly busy, creative and joy-filled week we have had at Spellbrook Primary School! As we move further into the festive season, it has been wonderful to see the whole school community come together in so many special ways.

Decoration Day – Monday 1st December



Our annual **Decoration Day** was a huge success and a real highlight of the week. From the moment families arrived, there was a buzz of excitement in the classrooms. Together with parents, carers, grandparents and staff, the children spent the day crafting a wide range of beautiful Christmas decorations.

Glitter shimmered across tables, colourful tissue paper brightened every corner, and the children's creativity shone through in everything they made. Among the many creations were **glittery baubles, snow globes, paper chains, sparkly pipe-cleaner decorations**, and stunning painted and printed artwork.



It was lovely to see pupils working so proudly on their designs, sharing ideas and helping one another. With festive music playing in the background, plenty of chatting and laughter, and a real sense of togetherness, the whole day felt magical.

A heartfelt **thank you** goes to everyone who was able to join us, we understand that some of you couldn't though. Your support means so much to us and made the day extra special for the children.

Whole-School Pantomime Trip – Snow White



On Thursday last week, the entire school set off on a very exciting adventure—our **whole-school trip to the theatre** to watch the pantomime *Snow White*. For many of our pupils, this was their first experience of live theatre, and it was wonderful to see their faces light up as the show began.

From the lively songs to the traditional pantomime jokes, the cheering, the booing, and of course the classic *"He's behind you!"*, the children were completely captivated. The atmosphere in the theatre was full of joy, and we are so pleased that the pupils were able to share this memorable experience together.

Lantern Festival and Christmas Tree Decorating

Last week, our beautiful lanterns were taken down to the church as part of the **Lantern Festival celebrations**. This week, we are looking forward to the Christmas Tree festival at the church. Spellbrook Christmas tree is up at the church with some of the children's, own handmade **angel decorations**.

The church looked stunning, and we are proud to see their work displayed. We are deeply grateful to the Milan's for gifting us the gorgeous trees—they have brought such warmth and festive charm to our school community. In our school hall and in the church.





Nativity Performances – Coming Soon!

We are incredibly proud of our Ruby and Sapphire classes who have been working so hard on their Nativity performance. Their dress rehearsal on Thursday was a joy to watch they sang beautifully, danced with confidence, and performed their roles with enthusiasm and care.

A big thank you to all the staff for their hard work behind the scenes, and to all the parents who have been helping the children practise their lines and songs at home.

We cannot wait to share the final performances with you on **8th and 9th December at 2.30 pm**. We are sure you will be just as proud as we are.

Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Next Wednesday, **10th December**, we will be celebrating **Christmas Jumper Day**, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone dressed in their brightest and most festive jumpers. It is always a cheerful day around the school! We are also delighted that some of our governors will be joining us for **Christmas lunch**, adding to the sense of community celebration.

Carols on the Field – Friday 12th December

To end the week on a high note, we will be **opening the gates slightly earlier** on **Friday 12th December** to welcome families for **Carols on the Field** (weather permitting).

This is always a lovely opportunity to gather together and enjoy some festive singing as a school community. Our fantastic PTA will be there serving **hot chocolate**, making the event even more cosy and enjoyable.

We hope you will join us in spreading Christmas joy!

We wish you all a **wonderful weekend** and look forward to welcoming you back next week for even more festive fun. **We cannot wait!**

Kind regards,

Carly Cousins

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



Diamond
Harvey



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ruby

- ❖ Wilfred for fantastic progress in writing.

Sapphire

- ❖ The whole of Sapphire class for doing so well in their Nativity practice.

Emerald

- ❖ Niveth for excellent independent writing.
- ❖ Jessie for fantastic effort in DT.

Diamond

- ❖ Lyra for respectful listening and focus in English.
- ❖ Harry B for improved focus and effort in every lesson.

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Whole School
Attendance – 94.69%

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.

Attendance Ladder



NOTICES

- ❖ **Knock, Knock! The Nativity** – the children in Ruby and Sapphire will be performing their Nativity on **Monday 8th** and **Tuesday 9th December** at **2.30 pm**. Ruby and Sapphire parents are warmly invited to attend.
- ❖ **Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day** is on **Wednesday 10th December**. Children are invited to come to school in their Christmas jumpers if they have one in support of Save the Children with a donation of £1 or more. Donations can be made via Arbor by clicking on **School Shop < Christmas Jumper Day 2025** or by cash on the day. **Christmas jumpers can be worn instead of school jumpers/cardigans with normal school uniform.**
- ❖ **PTA Christmas Carols – Friday 12th December**. The children will be singing Christmas Carols, and the PTA will be selling hot chocolate as well as the usual Tuck Shop items. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend from **2.45 – 3.15 pm** on the field.
- ❖ **Christmas Church Service** is on **Thursday 18th December** from **2.15 – 3.00 pm** at **Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth**. The children will be travelling by coach to the church and will need to be collected **from the church at 3.00 pm**. Parents

and carers are warmly invited to attend.
Dodgeball afterschool club will commence at 3.20 pm as usual.

- ❖ School finishes at the earlier time of **1.30 pm** on **Friday 19th December** for the Christmas break. School resumes on **Wednesday 7th January 2026**. Breakfast and afterschool clubs resume as normal.

MENU w/c 8th December 2025

Day	Menu
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Beef Bolognese (Red) ❖ Plant-Based Grill (Ve) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato with Grated Cheese (V) (Yellow) ❖ Tuna Mayo Roll (Blue)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Breaded Chicken Katsu Curry (Red) ❖ Cheese Pinwheel (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (V) (Blue)
Wednesday	<p>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Sliced Turkey Breast (Red) ❖ Roast Quorn Fillet (Ve) (Green) ❖ Plant Sausage & Gravy (Free From) (Ve) (Yellow) ❖ Choice of Christmas Dessert
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Quorn Burger (V) (Red) ❖ Vegetarian Lasagne (V) (Green) ❖ Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans (V) (Yellow) ❖ Cheese Roll (V) (Blue)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Battered Fish Fillet (Red) ❖ Margherita Pizza (V) Green ❖ Jacket Potato with Grated Cheese (V) (Yellow) ❖ Egg Mayo Roll (V) (Blue)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
08/12/25	Nativity – Ruby & Sapphire – 2.30 pm
08/12/25	St Michael's Carol Concert - Diamond
09/12/25	Nativity – Ruby & Sapphire – 2.30 pm
10/12/25	Christmas Lunch
10/12/25	Christmas Jumper Day
18/12/25	Christmas Service at Great St Mary's
19/12/25	Last Day of Term. Finish at 1.30 pm
05/01/26	Inset 3 (School Closed)
06/01/26	Inset 4 (School Closed)
07/01/26	First Day Back
08/01/26	Emerald Trip to St Alban's Cathedral
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



**SCHOOL
DINNERS**

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 3rd November

Keep fit, make friends and have fun!

Book online at:
gjwsports.co.uk

www.gjwsports.co.uk



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)



LEARN KARATE

WITH

SENSEI SHAUNA CARROLL 4th DAN

SPELLBROOK C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

MONDAY 3:20pm - 4:20pm



SELF DEFENCE

CONFIDENCE

FLEXIBILITY

DISCIPLINE

FITNESS

FIRST LESSON FREE

REGISTER NOW



07713 866964



shaunacarrolluka@hotmail.com



Well Bean Gardening

Learning through growing
Growing through learning

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



- Spellbrook's Gardening Club meets on Wednesdays and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Limited spaces available
- £25.00 for four sessions Nov 5 - Nov 26
- All equipment supplied but pupils must bring appropriate clothing as we will be outside in all weathers
- This half-term we'll be:
 - o Working to improve the school gardens
 - o Collecting and sowing seeds
 - o 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 Nov 5 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



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)



CHRISTMAS LUNCH DEC 10th

MAIN MENU

Sliced Turkey Breast
with Chipolata Sausage
& Sage & Onion Stuffing
& Gravy

or

Roast Quorn Fillet
with Plant Sausage
& Sage & Onion Stuffing
& Gravy (Ve)

or

Plant Sausage & Gravy (Free From*) (Ve)

SERVED WITH

Roast Potatoes
with a Choice of Seasonal Vegetables

DESSERT

Choice of Christmas Dessert



[f](https://www.facebook.com/hclcatering) [in](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hclcatering) [X](https://www.x.com/hclcatering) [o](https://www.instagram.com/hclcatering) @hclcatering www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. * Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan

Quorn Fillet

Spellbrook PTA tuck shop Fridays after school



The 12 Safety Tips for Christmas Presented by 'The 2 Johns'

"I Know them"

The Johns would like to invite you to join a complimentary online event. This will provide you with an introduction to a world that we, as adults, did not grow up in but your children are fully embracing.

They will give you tips on: -

The Internet Express	Gaming	The Exploiters
WhatsApp & Snap Chat	Screenime	Cliff Top Parenting
What to do if it goes Wrong	Sexploitation	Where can I Get Help
Indecent Images of Children	Stranger Danger	The Power of Influence

The two Johns, yes, they are both named John and have spent many years working in the police in various overt and covert roles tackling online and offline child exploitation. They are regarded as experts in their field and annually work in hundreds of primary and secondary schools interacting with thousands of children, teachers and parents. They also regularly deliver lunch and learn sessions to parenting networks in the private sector.

Over the past fifteen years, the two Johns have been key speakers at numerous major events throughout the country. In Essex they are regularly commissioned by the Safeguarding Children's Board, Community Safety Partnerships and schools to deliver both staff training and bespoke sessions for large numbers of children. This includes their highly successful 'Walk Online Roadshow' which is delivered to many thousands of children annually.



The 2 Johns
EST
"Keeping Children Safe"

**Thursday 11th December
at 20:00hrs**

(Scan the QR code to register)

www.esafetytraining.org



 **EST E Safety Training**

 **@JohnsThe2**

The Barringtons Jingle Bell Sleigh

BISHOP'S STORTFORD ROUTE 2025

Friday 12th December 2025 - From 5.00pm

BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH EAST

5.00pm Conewood Manor Care Home
Turn left onto Dunmow Road, down towards Barringtons Funeral Directors
Turn right at Hockerill Lights on Stansted Road

5.05pm
Turn left onto Kings Court leading onto Kingsbridge Road
Turn right onto Cherry Gardens
Turn left onto Stansted Road
Turn right onto Parsonage Lane
Turn left onto Heath Row towards Snowley Parade

5.15pm At Snowley Parade turn right onto Manston Drive
Continue along Manston Drive, turn right onto Heath Row
Turn right onto Parsonage Lane (passing All Saints School)
Turn left at the lights onto Stansted Road

5.40pm Turn right at Hockerill Lights, to Barringtons Funeral Directors

CENTRAL BISHOP'S STORTFORD

5.45pm Go down to mini roundabout at Price Bailey, turn left
Follow Dane Street toward Station Road
Bear right past the Train Station, going over the bridge
Passing the bottom of South Street towards Newtown Road via Thirst
(Santa will be returning a little later to dash along the entire High Street!!)
Go straight ahead at traffic lights onto Newtown Road

BISHOP'S STORTFORD WEST / SOUTH WEST

5.55pm Turn left onto Apton Road, towards the Cemetery Roundabout
At the cemetery roundabout turn right onto Scott Road
Passing Scott Road Park, bear left onto Piggotts Way
Continue on Piggotts Way, turning left onto Elizabeth Road

6.05pm Arrive at the top of Havers Lane and Havers Parade Shops
Before heading to the bottom of Havers Lane

6.15pm Turn left onto South Road by the Southmill Arts Centre

CENTRAL BISHOP'S STORTFORD / MAIN HIGH STREET

6.20pm Reach Thirst (again) | South Street Pantry | Coffee House
Continue along High Street

6.25pm Arrive at Market Square (Dogs Head | Pirchio)
Continue onto North Street via Roni's | Cote | Stock Florist
Turn left at Robert Goddard onto Hadham Road

6.45pm Passing Zara Indian Restaurant
Head towards The Bishop's Stortford College

BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH WEST

6.50pm Turn left at the Bishop's Stortford College onto Maze Green Road
Continue along Maze Green Road, turning right at Dane Park

7.00pm Arrive at Bishop's Stortford Rugby Football Club BSRFC

COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR Isabel Hospice
Please have £££ ready for Santa's helpers or click QR Code below

Thank You

PLEASE
Do not approach Santa's horse & carriage (reindeers)

CHRISTMAS FUN
At BSRFC From 6PM
Father Christmas arriving at 7.00pm

BSRFC (RUGBY CLUB)
Lots of fun to be had ahead of Santa's arrival!

Merry Christmas
From Nikki, Lisa & all at Barringtons Funeral Directors, Bishop's Stortford

TO DONATE VIA QR CODE






FREE EVENT

FESTIVE FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT BSRFC FROM 6PM - PLEASE WRAP UP WARM AND ENJOY



Full updates can be found on Facebook @barringtonsfuneraldirectors
Email: info@barringtonsfuneraldirectors.co.uk | Telephone: 01279 860055

YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOS

make great Christmas Gifts

Please be sure to place your order before our **Christmas Order Deadlines.**

Framed Prints, Canvases & Acrylics
Last order date Saturday 6th December

Christmas Pack
Print in table top frame, Christmas Tree Bauble, Metal Key Ring
Last order date Tuesday 16th December

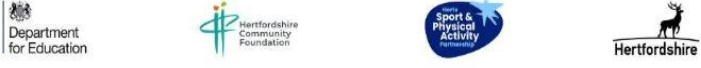
Unframed Prints
Last order date Tuesday 16th December

Digital Downloads
Custom retouch - Friday 19th December (Available by 24th December)
Fast Track Digital Download - Anytime (Available within the hour)





Bookings are now open!



HAPpy Activity Camps

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.



Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

8th Jan to 12th Feb

Online Course ID 799

Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 798

Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course ID 800

TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-12**, 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.



Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.30am

4th Feb to 18th Mar

Online Course ID 801

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

7th Jan to 11th Feb

Online Course: ID 806

Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

2nd Feb to 16th Mar

Online Course: ID 807

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.

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.



Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Jan to 9th Feb

Online Course: ID 804

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

4th Feb to 18th Mar

F2F Course: ID 802

St Albans, AL1 2LE

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5th Feb to 19th Mar

Online Course: ID 803

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

6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course: ID 805

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.



Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

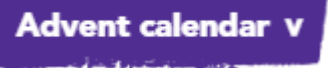
6th Jan to 10th Feb

Online Course ID 797

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am

3rd Feb to 17th Mar

Online Course ID 796



Advent Calendar - Free Healthy Lifestyle Services | Hertfordshire

