



## NEWSLETTER - 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**VALUE: Trust**

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

### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

#### End of Autumn Term Newsletter

Well, here we are at the end of the Autumn term, and what a truly special term it has been for me at Spellbrook C of E Primary School. There have been so many wonderful moments throughout this term, far too many to mention individually, but each one has helped to make my first term here such a memorable and joyful experience.

One of my very first highlights was leading my first assembly on my very first day. It was during that assembly that I shared with the pupils how I had always dreamed of becoming a headteacher. Standing in front of them on that day felt very magical indeed and marked the beginning of a journey that I am incredibly grateful to be on. Since then, it has been a real pleasure to meet and get to know our whole school community: our fantastic pupils, our dedicated and caring staff, our supportive parents, our hardworking PTA and governors, our strong links with the church, and our new Reverend, Sara. I am extremely thankful to everyone for the warm welcome I have received, and I am very much looking forward to all that the new term will bring.



This week at Spellbrook School, the children have been busy finishing off their topics for this half term, reflecting on their learning and celebrating their achievements. Last Friday, it was particularly special to come together on the field to share carols and songs as a school community. Thank you so much to everyone who joined us and sang along. The festive atmosphere was enhanced by the delicious hot chocolate, and the cream and marshmallows made it an extra special treat! A huge thank you must go to our wonderful PTA for organising and arranging this event. We are so grateful for the time, effort, and care you give to supporting our school.

On Monday and Tuesday this week, the PTA also ran a gift shop for the children. This caused great excitement across the school, and it was lovely to see the pupils so carefully choosing gifts for their loved ones. Thank you to everyone involved in making this such a successful and enjoyable experience for the children.

Our Carol Service on Thursday was a true delight and a very special way to come together as a community to reflect on and share the meaning of Christmas. Thank you to our readers for their thoughtful contributions, and to Reverend Sara and the church for hosting and supporting this celebration. Throughout the half term, we have also enjoyed learning carols with Mrs McDonald during our singing assemblies (thank you!). The children have loved signing some of the words using Makaton, and as always, our singing assemblies have been a highlight of the week.

In Diamond Class this week, the children have been working exceptionally hard on their Design and Technology project, where they created a moving vehicle. They followed the full design process, planning and designing their ideas carefully before making and then evaluating their finished products. It has been a fantastic project that has encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork.



In Emerald and Sapphire Classes, the children have been extremely busy sewing decorations and puppets. The pupils are incredibly proud of their finished pieces, and rightly so! The teachers have shown great patience and skill too, as they have never threaded so many needles — ha ha!



In Ruby Class, the children have been creating beautiful Christmas cards and decorations while continuing their curious learning.

They have enjoyed making Santa houses and exploring shapes, producing some very impressive “houses with chimneys for Santa.”

Alongside this, they have been learning about volcanoes, watching a short video clip, exploring photographs, and talking about how volcanoes can produce clouds of ash. Their enthusiasm and curiosity have been wonderful to see.



I would like to say a huge personal thank you to all parents for taking the time to send us such kind messages, about the newsletter, about decoration day and here is one about the carol service that Diamond class participated in last week. Your comments and messages mean so much to us! Thank you!

*Dear Mrs Cousins and Mrs Hoy,*

*I just wanted to say as a governor thank you ever so much for the Stortford schools carol service last night. I felt extremely proud that school was there to sing and be part of a magical service. We may not have had as many pupils singing as other schools, but Spellbrook did extremely well and the pupils were a credit to the school. I may even be feeling a bit Christmassy now! It was a very proud moment as a mum and a governor.*

*Thank you for giving them this opportunity and for all the hard work that has gone into rehearsing the songs that Diamond sang so beautifully in front of so many people. The readers were so good as well. It is opportunities like this that they will take with them and remember when they move on to their next adventure.*

*Many thanks again*

*Becky Burton.*

Please see a message below from Shiksha Rath, the charity we support:

Warmest greetings to you from all of us at Shiksha Rath!

2025 has been the swiftest year so far; there are just 2 more weeks till the end of the year. We cannot say goodbye to 2025 without letting you know how much we appreciate and thank you for your help and support to Shiksha Rath. Your constant encouragement and kind gestures have motivated us to serve the children without worrying, which has had a huge impact on the children's study and ushered them into a brighter future.

Eight of our children have joined college this year, while two of our own girls have joined us at Shiksha Rath as part of our full-time team and are doing an excellent job in mentoring and teaching the students here at Shiksha Rath. We had many interactive sessions with different college student societies and hosted many skill-oriented workshops in 2025.

It is such great joy to see the children growing in leaps and bounds and achieving beyond their family and social narratives. You have made it possible for them to come so far. Thank you very much for journeying with them. We will continue to share more stories in the New Year.

Attached below a group picture of our advance Christmas party. Also eight of our children who have been with us since nursery, and have joined college from this year.

Have a lovely Christmas season and a happy New Year 2026.



**A few important reminders for the start of next term:**

- We have two INSET days on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.**
- Pupils return to school on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January.**
- Emerald Class will be going on their school trip to **St Albans Cathedral on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January.**

As we begin the Spring Term, may I kindly ask that if you usually walk around to the classrooms with your child, you begin to leave pupils at the playground gate.

As the children grow in confidence, we would like to further support and strengthen their independence. Thank you very much for your understanding and continued support.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and all your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your ongoing support this term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back and seeing you all again in **2026.**

Kind regards,

Carly Cousins

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK & OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK



Ruby  
Toby

Sapphire  
Riaan

Emerald  
Herbert

Diamond  
Louis

## STARS OF THE TERM

### Ruby

- ❖ Joey for fantastic progress and participation.
- ❖ Eva for kindness towards others and trying hard.

### Sapphire

- ❖ Grace for her wonderful effort and superb behaviour in all her lessons.
- ❖ Sidney for being an amazing role model and working really hard in all that he does.

### Emerald

- ❖ Scarlett for always giving her best not matter what.
- ❖ Lucas for always giving his best no matter what.

### Diamond

- ❖ Shakti for an all-round improvement and improved effort in every subject.
- ❖ Nicolas for working hard at home and school and for huge progress in Maths.

## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Whole School  
Attendance – 90.21%**

**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

- ❖ School resumes on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. Breakfast and afterschool clubs resume as normal.
- ❖ **Emerald Class trip to St Alban's Cathedral** in on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January**. The deadline for payment is **today – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Payment can be made via Arbor by clicking on **Trip < Emerald Trip to St Albans Cathedral** and follow the prompts.
- ❖ **Donations** – a huge thank you to everyone who donated to these worthy causes. We raised the following:

**Children in Need - £102.32**  
**Christmas Jumper Day - £63.50**  
**World Diabetes Day - £77.75**

## MENU w/c 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Day	Menu
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Roast Chicken (Red)</li> <li>❖ Plant-Based Shepherd's Pie (Ve) (Green)</li> <li>❖ Jacket Potato with Grated Cheese (V) (Yellow)</li> <li>❖ Ham Roll (Blue)</li> </ul>
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Quorn Dipper Taco with Sweet Chilli Sauce (Ve) (Red)</li> <li>❖ Mac 'n' Cheese (V) (Green)</li> <li>❖ Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve) (Yellow)</li> <li>❖ Cheese Roll (V) (Blue)</li> </ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Fish Fillet Fingers (Red)</li> <li>❖ Margherita Pizza (V) Green</li> <li>❖ Jacket Potato with Cheese &amp; Beans (V) (Yellow)</li> <li>❖ Egg Mayo Roll (V) (Blue)</li> </ul>



**SCHOOL  
DINNERS**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
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
14/01/26	Diamond Class Swimming Starts
16/02/26 – 20/02/26	Spring Half Term 2026
23/02/26	First Day Back
25/03/26	Diamond Class - Last Swimming Lesson
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



# 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

Promoting a healthy and active lifestyle

# 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.

£ 43.20 per club for 6 weeks

Starting 8th Jan

(Tuesday Football 5 weeks £36)

Keep fit, make friends and have fun!

Book online at:  
[gjwsports.co.uk](http://gjwsports.co.uk)

[www.gjwsports.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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



WORLD KARATE Championships  
DUNDEE July 2023

SELF DEFENCE      CONFIDENCE      FLEXIBILITY  
DISCIPLINE      FITNESS

# FIRST LESSON FREE

RESGISTER NOW      07713 866964      [shaunacarrolyka@hotmail.com](mailto:shaunacarrolyka@hotmail.com)



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



Club Fee £8  
a week

## THE SECRET ART CLUB

With Artist Caroline Clark

### Activities:

- Painting
- Printing
- Drawing
- 3D
- Collage
- And more!

### Date:

Weekly, starting on Friday 16<sup>th</sup>  
January 2026, 3.20 - 4.30 pm


### TO BOOK

[www.carolineclarkartist.com](http://www.carolineclarkartist.com) or  
via the QR code. Any queries,  
contact Caroline Clark (Caz)  
07847269734

### Address

Spellbrook C of E  
Primary School,  
Spellbrook

 [carolineclarkartist](https://www.instagram.com/carolineclarkartist) or  
[theseclarthouse](https://www.instagram.com/theseclarthouse)

 Caroline Clark Artist



For school  
years 2-6

**BBC  
CHILDREN  
IN NEED**

# THANK YOU

**SPELLBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

for raising a fantastic  
**£102.32**

**TO HELP MAKE LIFE LIGHTER FOR CHILDREN  
AND YOUNG PEOPLE FACING A VARIETY  
OF CHALLENGES IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UK.**

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH  
YOUR PHONE FOR AN  
EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU  
FROM PUDSEY AS YOU'VE  
NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE!



[pudseythanks.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk](http://pudseythanks.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk)



## Spellbrook PTA

# tuck shop Fridays after school





Save the Children

SAVE THE CHILDREN'S

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



CONGRATULATIONS



SPELLBROOK PRIMARY

Thank you for pulling on your most Christmassy jumper and making it the best. Day. EVER!



£ 63.50



Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (213890), Scotland (SC039570) and Isle of Man (199). Registered office: 1 St John's Lane, London, EC1M 4AR.

Coach Christmas Jumper HQ, Save the Children

Beezee by maximus



You don't need a new year to start new habits

Start small, start now!

Sign up to one of our free healthy lifestyle services today to kickstart your health goals for 2026 and beyond.

Beezee FAMILIES

- Free, fun, family-focused support
- Learn about healthy eating
- Get moving more
- Connect with other families
- One-to-one support also available!

Beezee YOUTH

- 13-17 year olds can talk about topics that matter to them
- Learn about physical, mental and social wellbeing
- Get free health resources
- Join a safe space.



- Free support for families with children aged 0-5 years
- Explore parenting and healthy lifestyle tips
- Chance to make new friends
- Free toolkit provided.

hrt.maximusuk.co.uk

BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648

Start making healthy habits TODAY

Click me to find out more

