



# SPELLBROOK NEWSLETTER

**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**



## 'GREAT EXPECTATIONS' – STAR OF THE WEEK

'Stars of the week' based on the 'Great Expectation' Maths are;

Nursery – Flora  
Reception – Percy  
Year 1 – Sienna  
Year 2 – Sam  
Year 3 – Archie B  
Year 4 – Alfie C  
Year 5 – Leon  
Year 6 – Ruby

Head Boy / Head Girl – Skye  
Golden Book Award – Saira

The 'Great Expectation' for the next week will be **Going the extra mile.**

## SPOTTED @ SPELLBROOK

This week's 'Spotted @ Spellbrook' relates to Ruby Class that had a First Aid Workshop on Thursday. The children had a basic lesson in the different types of emergencies, the number to call (999) and who to ask for if someone is badly hurt. They then learnt how to check a patient for breathing and put them into a recovery position. Finally we learnt how to put a bandage on. Thank you to the PTA who donated the money for the course!

## NUMBER DAY TODAY

Today is 'Number Day'. The children have been doing some number activities in class today. We have included a 'Maths at Home' sheet which gives information from the charity Maths on Toast. It gives advice on how to get your family doing maths at home for fun.

## GYMNASTICS COMPETITION WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

Well done to those Emerald class children that took part in the gymnastics competition at Stortford Gymnastics. They competed against 13 other local schools. They all performed really well and we are awaiting our overall position.

## SCHOOL OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS

Please note that the school 'office' & 'admin' email accounts are generally manned up to 1:15pm each day with the exception of Thursday which is all day. If you have an urgent message please always call the school office on (01279) 723204. Could we also remind parents to call the school office by 9am to report illness, lateness or any absence. If you are going to be late and your child has a school meal we will need their selection to order it.

## OUTSIDE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Callum in Emerald class has his picture in this week's Bishop's Stortford Independent newspaper for his part as goalie for the Thorley Manor under-nine team win against Hitchin Panthers.... Well done Callum!

We welcome outside achievements to be emailed in so we can share either in assembly or via the school newsletter.

## ATTENDANCE FOR THIS WEEK

R – 88.6%, Y1 – 93.1%, Y2 – 97.1%, Y3 – 100.0%, Y4 – 95.0%, Y5 – 95.7%, Y6 – 98.6%  
Whole school attendance – 95.6%      Whole school target set - 96%

## UPCOMING DIARY DATES

04.02.19 – Open Class 3:20-3:45pm  
07.02.19 – Sapphire Year 1 Swimming (4 of 5)  
08.02.19 – 10 Diamond class Football competition at Leventhorpe 1:10-4:10pm  
12.02.19 – Ruby class 'Stay and read'  
14.02.19 – Sapphire Year 1 Swimming (5 of 5)  
15.02.19 – Non Pupil Day  
18-22.02.19 – Half Term

Please remember to refer to the Events Calendar on the school website for the most up-to-date list of events in the diary. You can subscribe to this calendar to sync with your smart phone.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming you all back at school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

**Spellbrook School Staff**

# MATHS AT HOME



## How to get your family doing maths for fun

Improve your family's maths skills and have fun while you're at it. The charity Maths on Toast, who're all about helping families with this, have come up with some brilliant advice and ideas:

### Five Golden Rules

#### Maths is everywhere

You use numbers when cooking, shopping, and telling the time. Try spotting the different shapes in the buildings around you. The more you look, the more you will see.

#### Being wrong is OK

Don't feel bad about mistakes – they are part of learning. If you get the wrong answer, then talk about it. How did you get there? Can you now come up with a better way to work it out?

#### Believe in your own ability

Everyone has the potential to understand and enjoy maths. If you don't feel confident, this is more likely to have come from your life experience than your genes. Avoid suggesting that people in your family aren't good at maths. Your children will believe it, and make it come true.

#### Struggling is normal and healthy

If you can't figure something out straight away, then you're not alone. In fact, you are sharing an experience with professional mathematicians. It's their job to get stuck on hard problems – sometimes for years! One way to come unstuck is to keep trying different methods.

#### Talking about 'how' is interesting

Different people bring different talents to maths, and they solve problems in different ways. If you ask someone else how they worked something out, you'll probably learn something new.

### Activity ideas

#### I Spy... numbers and shapes!

While you've played I Spy with letters, have you played it with numbers and shapes? The first player says 'I spy with my little eye something that's...' and adds a shape, or a number. The other players then guess what the first player has spotted. Six legs on a fly? Five fingers on a hand? The triangle of a STOP sign? Whoever guesses right, goes next.

#### Supermarket Challenge

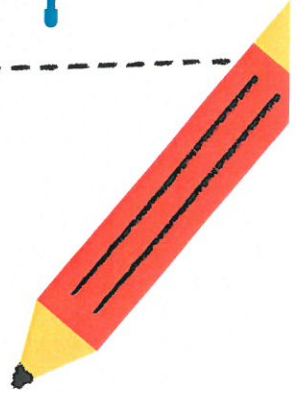
When you get to the checkout, ask everyone to estimate how much you've spent. See who's closest – and ask them how they worked it out. Can you do better next time?

#### Guess the Number

You can make this game as easy or hard as you like. Start by only allowing whole numbers from zero to twenty. When you've got the hang of it, stretch yourselves by including bigger numbers, or fractions – and even numbers below zero.

1. One player leaves the room (or covers their eyes and ears). The others choose a number.
2. The player comes back in. They have to work out what the number is, using only yes or no questions. For example, is it an odd number, or is it more than twenty? The aim is to work it out in as few questions as possible. When they've got it, it's someone else's turn.

For even more ideas visit [mathsontost.org.uk](https://mathsontost.org.uk)



**NSPCC**

\*Supported by



maths on toast

\*Number Day is supported by Man AHL and Maths on Toast, led by NSPCC.