



THE STAR



"Be brave, be kind, be the best you can be."

Message from Mrs How:

Mobile phones and safeguarding / cyberbullying

Over recent months we have heard (and seen) more and more children with their own mobile phones. While they can be useful for parents and children to keep in touch they also carry a huge risk to mental health and wellbeing.

The following is taken from Childline's website. Over the past two years we have dealt with the impact of every one of these issues as a result of children using mobile phones outside of school – and most of them on more than one occasion.

- being called names, teased or humiliated
- posting, commenting on or liking nasty photos, videos or posts about you online
- spreading rumours or starting group chats about you
- being ignored, left out or made to feel like you're not wanted
- being threatened, intimidated or sent nasty messages
- trolling you or commenting on your posts or pictures saying nasty things
- someone revealing personal details without your permission
- targeting you over and over again in an online game.

Some children are particularly vulnerable when using mobile devices. Those with impulsive behaviours can say and do things that they later regret – but it is too late to take comments back. Those children with communication difficulties such as autism can easily misinterpret comments and respond inappropriately. Those who find friendships difficult face to face, struggle to understand how they work online. The list goes on...

There is no "right age" to give your child a mobile phone, it is much more about their ability to make safe choices for themselves and for others. If, as a parent you do not feel comfortable with your child having a phone then stand your ground. No matter what your child says, "everyone else" does not have one and a check with your parent-friends should confirm this

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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"Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other."

Walter Elliot

School Meal Charges Summer 2023

 Daily:
 £2.40

 Weekly:
 £12.00

 1st half term
 £64.80

 2nd half term
 £72.00

 Whole term
 £136.80

Please make payment for school lunches via Pay360 (formerly SIMS PAY) in advance of meals taken.

We are now a 'cashless' school and will no longer accept either cash or cheques. If you need to set up a Pay360 account, please contact the office at office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Absence Reporting

If your child is absent please advise us on 01763 852474 (Option 1) and leave a message on the absence line or email office@steeplemorden.cam bs.sch.uk

Please don't message via Parentmail as we don't use this aspect of the system and so this won't be seen.



May

23rd Year 6 visit to Burwell House 29th - 2nd June Spring half term

June

5th INSET day (children not in school)8th Quad Kids sport event, Cambridge

20th Year 4 trip to Waterbeach recycling centre

July

w/c 3rd Bikeability

7th Year 3 trip to Bewilderwood & sleepover

8th PTA Summer Fete

17th & 18th Year 6s at Bassingbourn Village College

19th Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.30am)

19th Last day of Summer term

Class webpages

Each class page on the school website has now been updated with the Summer term topic webs and timetables. This is where you can find out more about what your child is learning in class and when. Please take a look!

Go to https://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk/ then select your child's class from the 'Classes and Pupils' drop down menu.

Notice Board

Illness in School

If your child is absent from school, you must notify school by 9.30am of the reason for absence. If we haven't heard from you, we are obliged to investigate your child's absence.

Condition	Absent for
Chickenpox	Five days from the onset of rash and all the lesions have crusted over
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
Measles	4 days from onset of rash and once# recovered
Scarlet Fever	Exclude until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed
*Sickness and/ or diarrhoea	Until 48 hours after last episode of sickness/diarrhoea
Conjunctivitis	None
**Headlice	None
Mumps	5 days after onset of swelling
Tonsillitis	None

Please see (left) a basic summary showing recommended times for children to be away from school when suffering from childhood diseases. A comprehensive list is available at https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/
Guidance_on_infection_control_in%
20schools_poster.pdf

* For sickness and/or diarrhea it is essential to keep your child away from school **until 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea/vomiting**. These sorts of bugs can be transmitted very easily, particularly in school settings. We do encourage lots of hand-washing in school and would ask you to follow this at home, as well. Please remember if your child is unwell they will be much more comfortable at home with a parent or carer who can look after them much more closely than we can in school.

**For advice on dealing with headlice please see https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/

Home Time Arrangements

Please ensure that you advise the office by email on office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk by **12 noon** if your child's home time arrangement will be different from usual.

Please also remember that if your child is being collected with another child to let us know; we've had a number of occasions when the office has had to make last-minute phone calls at the end of the day for this reason.

News from Starling Class (Reception)

Hello from Starling Class,

This week the children have had a busy week thinking all about patterns. They have been looking closely at numerical patterns in Maths and identifying doubles as two equal groups. The children have been very good at practising using stem sentences such as "4 and 4 is a double. Double 4 is 8" and "There are 2 groups of 2. 2 groups of 2 is 4. Double 2 is 4". The children also got dotty



as they were inspired by the work of Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein and used bingo daubers to



create artwork inspired by him, to round off things all spot-tastic the children enjoyed reading the book 'The Dot' by Peter H Reynolds.

Next week we will continue our numerical pattern work and begin to apply our doubling knowledge to sharing and halving. Unfortunately we were unable to complete all of the assessments this week, so the graphemes and

HTRS words which your child needs to

focus on at home will instead be sent home next week, please do continue to practise these at home with your child daily as very soon they will be adding more graphemes to their knowledge.



Have a wonderful weekend!

The Reception Team







Thinking about making a change

Have you ever thought about being a Foster Carer to children who can't live with their families? Ever thought to yourself 'I'd love to care for a child' but then wondered how this would fit with your work commitments? Are you held back by thoughts of doubt that you could be a Foster Carer? If so, you could be denying a child or young person the opportunity to have a wonderful home with you.

There are children and young people who need a loving home, and you could be just what they need. If you would like more information about becoming a Foster Carer or know someone who could offer a safe, secure and loving home then please get in touch on: 0800 052 0078 or email fosteringmarketing@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering

Assemblies and Collective Worship

Our assembly theme this week has been Thankfulness. On Monday, children listened to Psalm 100 – A Song of Thanks, which remind us to thank and praise God for all the gifts and love that he gives us. Children were able to connect the line "we are his people, the sheep of his pasture" with the *Parable of the Lost Sheep* which underpins our vision for the school. It was lovely to hear children making links between different pieces of their learning in such a thoughtful way.

We followed the advice to "come before him with joyful songs" and sang *Thank you Lord for this new day,* a song many of the staff remember singing in school when they were younger

News from Robin Class (Year 1)

It's been a rather quiet week in Robin Class this week, with many of our 'round' of Robins having chicken pox, but it has also been rather loud from Wednesday onwards, with a brood of chickens having hatched!

Remaining Robins have enjoyed listening for cheeping

for much of Tuesday, egg-

watching for a couple of later hatchers for much of Wednesday and chick-cuddles for Wednesday until Friday. We named and weighed each chick and have had photos galore taken for our Chick Diaries! There has been much enthusiasm for writing in

these this week, which has been so lovely to see.

With so many

children off at the start of the week, we have looked at the spellings we have been learning. We reviewed our Maths learning together - checking what we felt good about or might have found difficult recently. We have also completed some 'chick maths' using the weights of the chicks as key numbers to show how we could

represent them, using numbers, words, diagrams and number lines.

We hope you all have a super weekend, and look forward to having a full class again next week, if at all possible!



Mrs
Bowmer,
Mrs
Andrews
and the
Year 1 Team





News from Owl Class (Year 2)

It is hard to believe that we are already almost at half term. The children have worked incredibly hard this week completing all of our national SATs assessments as part of our morning classroom activities. They have completed two reading comprehension assessments and two Maths assessments. They have all concentrated really well and tackled some tricky questions with lots of enthusiasm! Well done Owl class for all your hard work and perseverance this week.

In our Science lesson this week, we used books and computers to research and find the answers to some questions we had generated at the start of this new topic.









Thank you all for sending in the shoeboxes for our 'underwater worlds'. The children have generated some super designs and they have now begun to make a start to creating the background, as well as a variety of sea creatures, vegetation, and coral from a range of art materials. They have even added some shells and little caves as well as finding a good hiding place for their pearl! We hope to be able to share some photos of our 'shoebox underwater worlds' with you very soon.

Recorders

Please could all children remember to bring in their recorders to school every Wednesday – thank you.

Reminders					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Reading book/ record book	Reading book/ record book	Reading book/ record book	Reading book/ record book	Reading book/ record book	
Water bottle	Water bottle	Water bottle	Water bottle	Water bottle	
Yellow Spelling folder					
		Recorders in school today			
P.E kit (hair up + ear- rings removed)	P.E kit	P.E kit (hair up + ear- rings removed)	P.E kit	P.E kit	

We hope you all have a happy and restful weekend and thank you for your support.

Mrs Luebcke, Miss Blesic, and the Year 2 Team.

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

In English, we have continued our diary written about a visit to the Tudor doctor, this week we have thought carefully about writing in the first person, using a chatty informal style. To help us



write in chronological order we have looked at adverbials for time. We also looked at ways of showing our feeling with emotive language and phrase.

'Today I could hardly move; I felt like I was glued to the floor. Today was the day I was going to the doctors! I had put it off for as long as I could, I hurried to the cart stop to catch the cart for the mile long journey into Burghley village.'

We will edit and finalise our diary writing next week.

In Maths, we have started our work on time, by revising telling the time on an analogue clock, to the hour, half and quarter past, before moving on to telling the time to 5 minutes. We also learnt to recognise Roman numerals to 12. When you get chance please can you ask the children to tell you the time using an analogue clock.

We will continue work on time next week.

In other work, we have been Tudor merchants preparing for a Tudor fayre, similar to those that

may have been held in Ashwell. We have made Tudor roses to show our allegiance to the King, created posy plates to serve sweet treats on; gloves were designed showing the latest fashions of flowers, birds and leaves; frogs were dried to hang in doorways and windows to scare away the evil spirits that brought the plague. We also learnt how to 'read' a portrait! 'How do you read a portrait,



they don't have words?' I hear you say, (as did a member of the class), but once you have learnt the code for the symbols used, a portrait can tell you many things.



As part of next week's geography, we will be looking at the Elizabethan explorers. This will involve the children finding out what foods were introduced to England. On Thursday, could your child please bring one piece of tropical fruit. Thank you.

Weekly home activities

- Reading, please aim for at least 4x weekly noting what has been read in the reading diary.
- Mathletics and Spelling Frame
- Tackling table practise.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend

From Mrs Seward and the Year Three team





What messages are in this portrait? Ask your child to decode it for you.





Summer Fete Information Community we need your help please!

Donations:

In the coming weeks we will be sending out more information about donations for Brown Bags and the Bottle Tombola. We would also ask that you contact us if you know of a company that would like to advertise or donate a raffle prize.

Volunteering:

To aid in organisation each class has been assigned a stall. We are asking you to come together as a class team of parents and families to sign up to run this stall. This includes set up, timed slots (suggested half an hour) and packing away. For most classes we have a link on the PTA so they are the person that will be coordinating the time slots but we have a few classes without this link. Perhaps you could join us for this event to help the organisation go as smoothly as possible!

Below are your PTA links for this event, they will be in touch via Parentmail, Class WhatsApp groups or in person to coordinate class teams. Don't worry if you are unsure what the stall is about, all will become clear as your link person contacts you.

Reception	Charlotte Lindsay and Theresa Clayton	Tattoos
Year 1	Louise Mevillot and Steph Barrett	Teas and Coffee
Year 2	Deb Leveroy	Bar
Year 3	TBC	Token Sweet Stall
Year 4	Candice McGrevy	Brown Bags
Year 5	Hayley Hill	Bottle Tombola
Year 6	TBC	Fete games

These are not the only stalls we have in mind. This year our aim of the fete is to bring the school community back together after so long. Therefore we are looking for external stall holders. Perhaps you run a small business making candles or a craft item. Or maybe your family run a plant or garden business and would like a stall. Any local photographers or artist looking to sell their work would be welcome as well. We are open to ideas so please make contact with one of us.

We have also reopened the PTA email account so we are contactable on that as well, please use pta@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk to get in touch with us.

We are really looking forward to getting the whole school community together for this event and hope you are as excited as we are!

News from Swift Class (Year 4)

In our art lessons we have continued progressing our skills in weaving. If you have any old magazines you could give us that would really help with the paper-weaving element. Children are choosing colour schemes that have been inspired by the natural environment. We are learning to be selective in our use of colour by creating strands ('wefts') from specific colours rather than using all the colours we have. This piece was created by Olivia she was inspired by a sunrise.

In our PSHE lessons, we have been thinking about how we manage risk and keep ourselves safe in different places. Next term, alongside our work in science, we will be studying relationships and sex education – please keep an eye out for a letter that will contain more detail and show what we aim to cover and how you can support your children's learning.



In maths lessons we continue to build our vocabulary around shape and looked at

types of quadrilaterals. Some of the language is quite technical and is not something we would use every day so we thought carefully about how we could remember terms such as parallel, vertex and vertices. After half term we will be taking part in the Government's statutory multiplication check. Over the last few weeks, we have been focusing on the times tables children have found the most challenging: 11x12, 7x9, 7x8, 6x7, 11x11, 6x9, 7x7, 8x9, 6x8, 4x8

If your child does not yet know all their times tables up to 12x12 they know what times table they are currently working on and have flash cards and a little red book with these on also – any work you can do at home to embed these would be helpful.

You can practise trying to get the answer in 6 seconds on these two websites: https://www.themathsfactor.com/times-tables-check/pinpoint/#/



https://www.timestables.co.uk/

Information for parents from the government about the Multiplication Check is included in this link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents

Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team

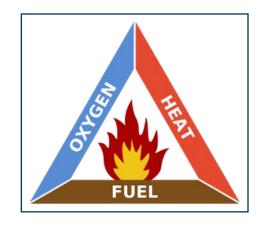
News from Heron Class (Year 5)

This week in English, we have started some work on our next genre - discussion texts (sometimes called balanced arguments). Following our usual pattern, we have looked at an example of a well-written discussion text and tried to identify the features that indicate to us which type of text this is. We then aim to replicate these features in our own writing. We have also spent some time recapping how to use pairs of brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parentheses. With a little more practice we are sure we will all be able to do this accurately soon.

In Maths this week, we have started some work on decimals. We have explored representing tenths as fractions and decimals in a variety of ways including on a place value chart and a number line. We have also thought about what happens to a one-digit number when we divide it by ten and made sense of this concept on a place value chart. This is the start of a unit of work which covers many different aspects of decimals and then links this

to percentages alongside fractions. Any work on Mathletics at home will help to reinforce some of this key learning.

In Science this week, we have been investigating the effects of burning on a variety of materials – not as frightening as it sounds we promise! We agreed that combustion is an irreversible or chemical change and considered the 'Fire Triangle' of oxygen, heat and fuel and how firefighters use this knowledge to combat different types of fires.



Our geographical work continued with a detailed look at the U.S.A and how it is separated into different states, each with their own identity and different features. 'National Geographic Kids' have produced a series of short raps with 'Barry the Bald Eagle' and 'DJ Pigeon' which we enjoyed watching. We began with California... https://www.youtube.com/watch?

v=s9ahcadguRw





In P.E. this week we had fun testing out our sprinting, long distance running, throwing and

jumping in preparation for Sports Day and also a team competition which we are hoping to take part in after half term. We are only permitted to take 4 children from Year 5 and so we will be sending home details of the competition to the parents of those children who we hope can take part. The children all demonstrated great resilience, determination and sportsmanship and encouraged everyone to complete all of the events including the 12 lap race!

We said goodbye to the tadpoles and froglets, and 'hello' to the chicks in year 1!

With thanks for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team.



















News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

This week we have been continuing to focus on our writing. The children have planned, drafted and written a set of instructions based on food – real or otherwise! Our next two

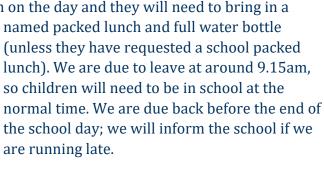
topics will be an autobiography and an adventure story.





A reminder that the Burwell House trip will take place next week on Tuesday 23rd May. The class have been busy, working in groups, preparing a script for our visit to the television studio there – there will be some interesting reports to broadcast! As well as making a television news broadcast, they will be looking at the technical side of TV production too. Each child has been given a role here too, ranging

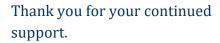
from director to camera operator to sound mixer to floor manager to effects mixer, to name but a few. A reminder that the children will need to be in school uniform on the day and they will need to bring in a





Have a look at some of the photos of the children hard at work researching, preparing, writing and editing their scripts ready for next week.





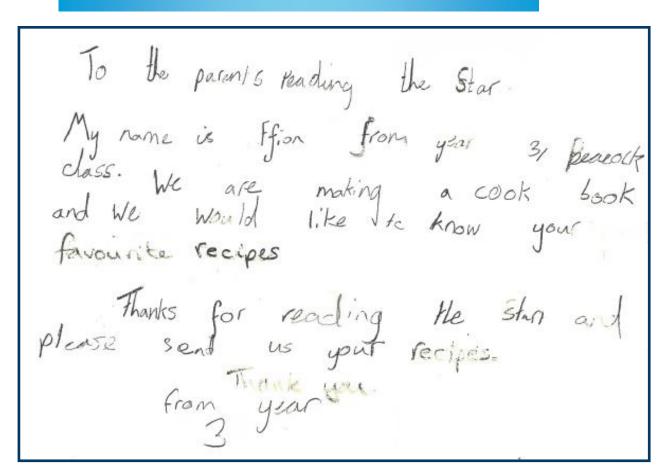




Wednesday 19th July at 9.30am







Can you help Year 3 create a recipe book? See note from Ffion on behalf of the class asking for your favourite recipes.









PARISH PANTRY

Local Food Bank



We will be opening a village foodbank in St Peter & St Paul Church from Monday 18th

There will be Plastic boxes left in the porch of the church for people to leave their donations in or take required items.

This is open and available to all that need it, whether you don't want to waste petrol to go and buy a bag of sugar, you need a full meal to feed your self, your children, or you have no transport to get to the shops.

Tinned Meat, Pies, Veg, Potatoes & Fruit

UHT Milk

Sugar Flour

Pasta

Pasta sauces

Mug shots Pot noodles

Individual wrapped cakes

Location St Peter & St Paul Church Steeple Morden SG8 ONJ



For more info: 07494 588663 sdcarroll849@gmail.com

GIVE WHEN YOU CAN, TAKE WHEN YOU NEED

Supporting children and young people's mental health

Free online workshops for Cambridgeshire/Peterborough Parents/Carers



Thursday 27th April

<u>Anxiety</u>

10.00 - 11.30 am

Wednesday

1.00 - 2:30 pm

3rd May

Self Harm https://procfu.co

Wednesday 9th May

Emotionally Based School Avoidance

10:30 - 12 pm

Monday 15th May

Gender Questioning

10.00 - 11.30 am

Tuesday 16th May

Peer support group

9:30 - 11.30 am

Monday 22nd May

Bereavement and Loss

1.00 - 2.30 pm

nessieined.com













Community News

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website Community Page

Smarties Preschool

Litlington Preschool

Helen O-Grady Drama Classes

MF Tennis Coaching

St Ives Town Football Club Tots Programme

Stage Right Centre for Performing Arts classes

Bonfitness Pilates

Modern Foreign Languages Tuition

Royston Hockey Club Juniors Section

Biggleswade Swimming Club

Perse Summer School 2023

Theatretrain Royston

Steeple Morden Tennis Club

Oxford & Cambridge Singing School—July 2023

Children's Mental Health Workshop

To find out more please go to the Community page on the Website: https://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk/community

"Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough."

Og Mandino

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