

## Message from Mrs How:

Being aware that some parents will already have received, or will soon be receiving information about upcoming Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship education (PSHCE) lessons I thought it would be a useful time to remind parents why this information is so important.

As part of our PSHCE curriculum, we provide age appropriate Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). This programme begins as soon as children arrive in school and continues until the end of secondary school. We are very aware that the RSE we deliver in school is only a small part of children's learning about their bodies, keeping safe, emotions, relationships and themselves. The majority of children's learning in this area takes place with you at home.

When your child is due to have some focussed learning around elements of RSE, you will receive a note from their class teacher giving some more information. This is to give you the chance to have conversations with your child beforehand or prepare yourself for any questions which may come afterwards. We know that children get so much more from these lessons when they are also discussed at home.

Our PSHE policy (including RSE) can be found on our website under the Information tab if you wish to see more detail, but as a brief explanation, our PSHE and Citizenship programme (which is covered through the taught curriculum and our wider provision) includes teaching and learning within the following strands and themes:

Myself and My Relationships: including My Emotions, Beginning and Belonging, Anti-bullying, Family and Friends and Managing Change.

Healthy and Safer Lifestyles: including Personal Safety, Digital Lifestyles, Drug Education, Relationships and Sex Education, Healthy Lifestyles and Managing Safety and Risk (including Road Safety).

Citizenship: including Diversity and Communities, Rights, Rules and Responsibilities and Working Together.

Economic Wellbeing: including Financial Capability.
As always, if you wish to discuss any of this further please make an appointment to speak with the class teacher or Headteacher via the school office.

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School
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Hertfordshire
SG8 0PD

Phone: 01763852474
E-mail: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Daily: $\quad £ 2.40$
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 Pay 360 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.


## March

| 27th | School Council Bake Sale (after school) |
| :--- | :--- |
| 28th | Easter Church Service (pupils only) |
| 29th | Year 3 coffee morning (9.10am) |
| 30th | Easter Bingo (5pm) |
| 29th - 31st | Year 5 residential trip to Grafham Water |
| 31st | Last day of Spring Term |

## April

17th INSET day (children not in school)
18th Children return to school

May
1st Early May Bank Holiday
3rd Reception class trip to Standalone Farm
8th Coronation Bank Holiday
9th—12th KS2 SATS week

## 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.

## 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 | 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 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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 |  |  |  |

* 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-andnits/


## School Pick-Up

Please note that the main and pedestrian gates to the school playground are opened at 3pm each day for parents/carers to go towards the playground to collect children. If you arrive earlier than this, please wait by the gates, rather than wandering around the car park and the parked cars. We would be grateful if you would pass this request onto others who may collect your child on your behalf.

Many thanks

## News from Starling Class (Reception)



Hello from Starling Class!
This week we continued our 'STEM’ (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) learning by learning about Space and the astronauts Neil Armstrong and Helen Sharman. In Maths, this week we have been exploring patterns. We have focussed on ' AB ' patterns and thought about size and shape and how we can continue patterns. In Phonics, we have been practising our sentence writing whilst using our Phase 3 Phonics sounds. The children have been very receptive to our 'Pantasaurus' campaign.
We have been teaching the children that their private parts belong only to them and if someone asks to see them, tell them "no". If you would like to reinforce this message at home, here is the link: https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/ schools/pants-teaching

Also this week, we hosted a special tea party for Mrs. Keech's Birthday. We decorated the classroom and wrapped up gifts for Mrs. Keech. The children enjoyed a cake and a drink of squash. Mrs. Keech had a wonderful day, thank you for helping
 us celebrate.


Next week we will turn our attention to the religious festivals of Easter and Ramadan. We will continue our learning on patterns and will be thinking about punctuation.

Please remember our farm trip date has changed to Wednesday 3rd May 2023.

The Purple Grapes did a fantastic job of Show and Tell. That's it for this half term. Show and Tell will return after the Easter holidays!

We have sent home 'Wow Slips' this week. These are for you to help us celebrate your child's achievements so if your child has done something amazing for the first time, eg: made their bed, finished all of their dinner, learnt to tie up shoe laces or learnt to ride a bike. Let us know by filling in a 'Wow Slip' and we can celebrate these successes in school.


We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Meridew, Mrs. Monks, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Keech


# EASTERBINGO 

## EASTERBINGO IS BACK!

## Thursday 30th March $5.00 p m$ School hall



EASTERBINGO
All families welcome (children must be supervised) Bingo Cards si a galne Easter egg prizes for a LINE and FULL HOUSE :

## News from Robin Class (Year 1)

We have had a great week, creating our Egg Box Dragons and helping them come to life with our imaginations - the children have been very thoughtful when deciding who might have lost something, where it might have been and adding extra snippets of information to make their ideas more engaging.

We have been concentrating on using our phonics in our writing during our phonics lessons this week. Some of the children are starting to try writing down different ways a word might be spelled e.g. when trying to write the word 'cake', the children might write cayk, cake or caik. The more they read, the better their ability to recognise a word they will become. We have also
 started this technique when deciding how to spell some of the harder to read and spell words we should know.

On Wednesday afternoon, the children worked with Mrs Andrews to create some Easter Art for the Steeple Morden Art Trail, They had great fun, so we hope you ask about what they have made and are able to join in the fun over the holiday and see their creations.

For PE this week, we tried some team-building and partner work games - picking up a hoop with a friend (but no hands) and travelling to another part of the hall with it; playing 'hop to it' getting the correct number of children in a hoop
 before the time ran out - and another round of the popular 'cups and domes' game the children so enjoyed a couple of weeks ago. They were all active for the whole session and it was lovely to see how they consider each other in the team games.

In Maths we have spent some time trying out different ways of working out an answer to a 'word problem'. Each child has their own 'favourite' way of working out a 'missing number' calculation (we were using both addition and subtraction) but we have been thinking carefully about which might be the most efficient method. We have also be revisiting using the part-whole model to help with our number sentences, which has proven very useful to those children who are confident with their number bonds.

Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Andrews

and the Year One Team


## Assemblies, Collective Worship and Reflection

Our assembly theme this week has been Hope, which ties in well with the Easter story being covered in many assemblies and class teaching sessions. Although the notion of Jesus' crucifixion and death can appear a time for sadness and despair, His resurrection brings a time of hope, of new life and of new beginnings. In Matthew 12 v 21 the prophet Isaiah is quoted as saying "and in him all peoples will put their hope".

"

## News from Owl Class (Year 2)

We've had another busy week in Owl class and the children have continued to use their English lessons to read instructions and to learn about how to write instructions.

We started the week by making some popcorn in a saucepan and we also made and decorated our own popcorn boxes. The children enjoyed decorating the net of a box first, before they went on to cut it out and assemble it. They then took their boxes with them as they went off to make popcorn in groups. We used this experience to practise how to write instructions later in the week. The children had to remember the key features of the instructions we had read and talked about last week in our Guided Reading sessions. We knew that we needed a title (e.g. How to make popcorn) and subheadings (e.g. You will need...) and that they needed to use 'bossy' or imperative verbs in their instructional sentences e.g. Heat the oil in the pan. Weigh 100 grammes of corn. We're also reminding the children of the importance of checking that they have remembered to include capital letters and full stops in their writing.

Here are some photos of our popcorn making experience and the children enjoying eating the popcorn afterwards!


In Maths this week, we've been continuing with our work on fractions. The children learned the difference between a unit fraction (where the numerator is always 1 e.g. $1 / 2,1 / 4,1 / 3$ etc.) and a non unit fraction (where the numerator is always greater than 1 e.g. $2 / 3,3 / 5,3 / 4$ etc.) Later in the week, they went on to look at how $2 / 4$ and $1 / 2$ are equivalent and also how to recognise and find $3 / 4$.


In our Topic work this week we've been reading and learning some facts about historical figures such as Samuel Pepys and perhaps you could ask your child to tell you why he is famous, what they remember learning about him this week, and how we know so much about him.

Just a little reminder that our P.E days are Mondays and Wednesdays, so your child will need a full P.E kit in school (for both outdoor P.E and indoor P.E) on these days. If your child has long hair please could it be tied back on P.E days too - thank you.

| Reminders |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| Labelled water bottle | In school every day please |
| Reading books and reading <br> record Book | In school every day please |
| Yellow Spelling folders | In school on Mondays please, ready for the new <br> spelling sheet to be put in it. Thank you. |
| Spelling Frame | set every Monday |
| Mathletics | set every Friday |
| P.E kits in school | In school every day please including outdoor PE kit <br> for use on Wednesdays - spare socks and warm <br> clothing required. |

Thank you for your support and we hope you all have a lovely weekend.

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

## We Need Your Help!

Have you got 'junk' at your house that you do not need any more?
Then let Starling Class use it for their Junk Modelling.
We need: cardboard boxes, kitchen roll tubes, buttons, plastic bottles, egg boxes, foil trays, yoghurt pots, lolly sticks, fruit punnets, cupcake cases, cotton reels, plus anything else that we could repurpose!

All items need to be clean and safe. Please don't send in any item that has previously contained nuts, ie Crunchy Nut Cornflake box.

Please feel free to hand to Starling Class staff at the blue door as and when you have the items.

Thank you in advance!


# Bake Sale next Monday straight after school in the playground! MONDAY $27^{\text {th }}$ March. 

Please bring some money and an adult with you. If you are getting the bus you will be able to come before school finishes, from 2:30.
If you would like to make something and bring it into school on Monday morning that would be super!
We are looking for individual items such as brownies, flap jacks, cookies, and cupcakes because we may have difficulty cutting things. Please clearly label allergens and avoid including any nuts.


All money raised will be split between the school and our charity, Water Aid.

Thank you
School Council


## News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

In this week's Maths, we have started to think about the measurements involved in mass and capacity. So far, we have learnt to read scales using g, kg, ml and l, compare and order amounts, and convert measurements between g and kg , and ml and l . Next week we will solve problems involving the two types of measure and begin to add and find the difference.

In English we put all of our work about myths together in order to write the actual myth itself, we are focusing on telling the part of the story that involves Isis' search for Osiris' body parts. We have needed to think about including prepositions, adjectives, similes, adverbs, conjunctions, sequential language and dialogue between characters. It has been a lot of hard work but we are very pleased with our progress so far. Next week we will edit our work and write our myths in to a special booklet.


In other work, we have been thinking about the Ancient Egyptian story of creation. We retold the story and made small watercolour books, we made comparisons between the Ancient Mayan creation story and the story told by Christians for how the world came into being.

We have also finished our sculpture work, our creations will make part of the Morden art trail, they can be seen from the end of the month in the school front garden.

In preparation for our French Zoom call, we have practised French phrases and learnt how to ask about hobbies and pastimes. We have also found out about French Easter traditions and designed Easter cards around them to send over to Geneva.

We are looking forward to inviting you in to the classroom next Wednesday from 9.10 am to share topic books over a cup of tea and cake. Donations of cake would be most welcome, if they could come in on Tuesday with the children. I'm afraid my skills do not stretch to cake baking!


Thank you for all payments and admin for the visit to Burghley, I am pleased to say that the trip can go ahead.

Thinking to after Easter, our first dress up day will be Friday 21 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ April when the children are invited to dress as Celts for the day. Please see the photographs from last year on the class web page for ideas.

## Weekly home activities

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



## Dates for the diary

Wednesday 29th March - Spring coffee morning in year Three
Friday 21 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ April - Celtic dress up day
Wednesday $10^{\text {th }}$ May - Burghley House visit.

Many thanks.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

From Mrs Seward and the Year Three team


## News from Swift Class (Year 4)

In our English lessons we have revisited 'expanded noun phrases' as part of our work around describing inventions. This skill is coming more naturally to children as their vocabulary is growing. Our work in Maths continues to focus around the concepts of division. In our Geography lessons we have been learning about Scandinavian countries and their location in the context of Europe in preparation for our work on the Vikings next term.


Here are some of our chairs we made as part of our Design and Technology lessons. Children produced a range of designs using 'art straws'. It was a good test of resilience, as joins and structures did not always work straight away and were improved with each design.

The school is holding a bake sale on Monday after school. In computing lessons we used excel to write formulae to calculate total profit based on the cost of each item and the number of items sold. If you would like to make something for the bake sale and bring it into school on Monday morning that would be appreciated. We are looking for individual items such as brownies, flapjacks, cookies, and cupcakes, with allergens clearly labelled. This is to help raise money for the school and Water Aid.

Next week will be our last swimming lesson - it has been great to see the improvement made by children and we would like to thank our swimming teachers for this.


Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team



## News from Heron Class (Year 5)

This week in English, we have been carrying out research to enable us to write our own nonchronological reports. We have decided to produce these reports about an aspect of Italy or Italian life including Italian architecture, famous Italian landmarks, Italian fashion, Italian food and drink, Italian luxury and sports cars and Italian football. As you can imagine, some of us have enjoyed adding to our own existing knowledge and finding out more about a topic that already interests us. As a result of this, we have been able to gather together a wide range of information that should hopefully make our reports really interesting to read.

In Maths, we have continued our work on multiplication and division and spent some time considering which might be the most efficient method to use to answer particular questions. We have also tried some problem solving and then all taken part in an end of unit assessment to help gauge our levels of progress with this topic across the last few weeks.

In Science, we have looked at seed dispersal to draw our learning about plant reproduction to a close. We have also spent time learning the scientific names for internal and external male and female body parts involved with human reproduction as part of our PSHE work on 'Growing and Changing'.

Finally, a few quick reminders about our trip to Grafham next week.

- Please remember to send in a packed lunch and a reusable water bottle (full) for Wednesday. No need for snacks, the centre will provide these.
- Please send your child to school on Wednesday in their outdoor clothes rather than school uniform ready to take part in an activity as soon as they arrive at the residential centre.
- Children may bring one bag/suitcase with them that they can carry themselves and it must not contain electrical items of any kind or any food. Please leave these by the wall to the left of the staff car park when you arrive at school.
- Lots of old clothes please and a black bin liner to put them into as your child takes them off they may be wet or dirty or both! No jewellery please , and include hair bands to tie long hair back and keep it away from safety ropes and harnesses.
- A favourite ted/comforter - a must!
- If your child is catching the bus to school on Wednesday an adult will be there to help them get their bag off the bus.
- Children will register as usual and then we will leave on the coach, you are welcome to stay to wave us off if you wish but we understand that this may not work for everyone.
- Early night on Tuesday please!

Remember, if there are any problems we absolutely will contact you - so no news is good news.

With thanks for your continued support,

## The Year 5 Team.



## News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

Firstly, a big well done to all the children who went to Castleton, in the Peak District, Derbyshire, for surviving and making the week an enjoyable, fun and educational one. All had fun, and the resilience shown by the children in the treks across the hills in all weathers - snow, sleet, hail, winds, rain, drizzle, fog, thunder and lightning, and the odd sunny spell - was remarkable. Well done all. Take a look at some of the photos of our residential trip.

In English, we have started our new topic on fables, based on Aesop. We looked at and compared different versions of 'The Hare and the Tortoise', and discussed the layout and moral of this fable.

This week in Maths lessons, we are continuing to study decimals and percentages, and how they relate to fractions. We looked at multiplying and dividing decimals (up to three decimal places) and discussed how it is simply the same as multiplying and dividing larger numbers but adding in a decimal point in the appropriate place or multiplying and dividing the number by $10,100,1000$. This is another example of where learning your times tables are crucial, so please continue to do so with your child/children.

We are now in the middle of our last block of mock SATs exams. We will continue with these into next week. I intend to set some SATs based homework during the Easter holiday - more about this next week.

The next homework will be due in on $30^{\text {th }}$ March

Thank you for your continued support.

## Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team





## PARISH PANTRY

Local Food Bank


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

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.

If you are in a position to donate items required are:
Tinned Meat, Pies, Veg, Potatoes \& Fruit
Cereals
UHT Milk
Sugar
Flour
Pasta
Pasta sauces
Mug shots
Pot noodles
Individual wrapped cakes

Location: St Peter \& St Paul Church Steeple Morden SG8 0NJ


For more info:
Sam Carroll
07494588663
sdcarroll849@gmail.com

GIVE WHEN YOU CAN, TAKE WHEN YOU NEED

Steeple Morden C of E Primary School
7 Hay Street, Steeple Morden, Royston, SG8 OPD Tel: 01763852474
Email: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Tracey How

## Cleaner Vacancy <br> 10 hours per week, $£ 10.50$ per hour term time Starting ASAP 2023

We are seeking to recruit an enthusiastic and motivated part time Cleaner.

There is some flexibility when the hours could be worked and can be either directly before and after school, 5 days per week.
Option 1-7.30-8.30 am and 1 hour between 3.30pm and 5.30pm
Option2-3.30-5.30pm

This post may be suitable for someone wanting to work around their studies.

The post holder will join our cleaning team and be responsible for ensuring the building is cleaned to a safe, high standard at all times.

If you are interested in this position, please see school website for further information and an application form. Applications should be sent to Mrs Alisa Lopez-Adcock e-mail ALopez-Adcock@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

We are committed to stringent safeguarding procedures and applicants will be subject to a full enhanced DBS check. Please note, references will be requested prior to interview. As an equal opportunities employer, we welcome applications from all members of the community.

# SMARTISDRESCHOAL cout of schook clus <br>  <br> <br> SMARTIES PRE SCHOOL \& OUT <br> <br> SMARTIES PRE SCHOOL \& OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB 

 OF SCHOOL CLUB}

## "Growing and Having Fun Together"



The Community Building. 7 Hay Street, Steeple Morden, Cambridgeshire SG8 OPD
www.smartiessteeplemorden.co.uk.
Registered Charity Number: 1031476



## SMARTIES PRE SCHOOL \& OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB <br> "Easter Holiday Club - 3-11 year olds"



Smarties are trialling a new way for parents/carers to book on the holiday club.
Go to https://forms.office.com/e/eyaYY3QRV9


- ${ }^{*}$ Café Church is back! * * ${ }^{*}$, This friendly café runs every Friday morning 9-111 during term time in Steeple Morden Church

Tea, coffee, home-made cake Toys and lots of space for little ones

Do join us after school drop-off



## 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
French Saturday Club
Modern Foreign Languages Tuition
Royston Hockey Club Juniors Section
Biggleswade Swimming Club
Oxford \& Cambridge Singing School - Easter course
Easter Singing Course-St Catharine's College, Cambridge
Hertfordshire Performing Arts Easter Stage School
Anglesey Abbey—Spring/Summer 2023
Perse Summer School 2023
Therfield Heath Easter Egg Hunt - 2nd April 2023
Theatretrain Royston
Easter Holiday Athletics and Sports Camps
Cambridge Literary Festival - 19th - 23rd April 2023
Steeple Morden Tennis Club
To find out more please go to the Community page on the Website: https://
"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view; until you climb inside his skin and walk around in it."

## Harper Lee

