



Message from Mrs How:

I am sure many of you have heard the rhyme *March winds and April showers, Bring forth sweet May flowers*. That has certainly been in my mind for the last couple of days with the additional thought that "*I wasn't quite expecting the April showers to be snow....*" Hopefully this is the last of the wintery weather and everyone will be able to enjoy some sunshine over the Easter holiday.

By the time you read this, we will have had our first live event with parents physically in attendance for over two years. Next term we will be returning to whole school assemblies and getting used to mixing in larger groups so that we can enjoy all the performances and celebrations that we used to take for granted. Understandably, some people are still a little nervous so we will continue to do all we can to help everyone feel as safe as possible.

Looking back over the last term, again I am struck by the high number of staff and pupil absences. Covid remains a strong presence in our community but it feels that the usual colds and 'flu have hit harder this year. Perhaps the months of staying apart and avoiding the spread of germs means that we are hit harder when they do return. I am just crossing my fingers that next term will be much more settled.

From today, 1st April there are a number of new regulations and guidance documents around 'Living with Covid'. Some of the advice is different for adults and children so I will work on these over the Easter holiday and share the relevant pieces of information prior to the children returning to school.

All that leaves me to do now is to wish you, your families and loved ones a peaceful and healthy Easter holiday, whatever you do and wherever you go. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Wednesday 20th April**.

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

7 Hay Street
Steeple Morden
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 0PD

Phone: 01763 852474
E-mail: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk
Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

"Courage doesn't always roar....sometimes it's the quiet voice at the end of the day whispering, 'I will try again tomorrow'. "

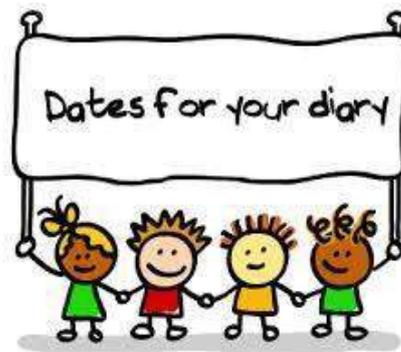
Mary Anne Radmacher

School Meal Charges Spring 2021

Daily:	£2.35
Weekly:	£11.75
1st half term	£65.80
2nd half term	£70.50
Whole term	£136.30

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@steplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



April

- 19th INSET day (children not in school)
- 20th Children return to school

May

- 2nd Early May Bank Holiday
- 9th Beginning of SATS week for Year 6 children
- 27th Additional bank holiday for the Queen's Jubilee
- 30th - 3rd Jun **Summer half term**

June

- 6th INSET day
- 7th Children return to School

July

- 22nd Last day of Summer term

Absence from School

If your child is absent on a day, please call the school office on 01763 852474, or email office@steplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Please avoid using Parentmail to report pupil absences.

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@steplemorden.cambs.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.

Notice Board

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.

It is really important to let us know as soon as you are able to so we can ensure messages get to the class in good time for the end of the day. We appreciate that there are times (ie when stuck in traffic) when it isn't possible to let us know earlier, but we would ask you to help us help you and your child(ren) by advising us with an email either on the morning of the change, or the evening before.

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.

Parking outside schools!

We are sure most of you are all aware of the continuing issues regarding parking outside schools during drop off and pick up times.

Unsafe, inconsiderate and dangerous parking is an offence and an increasing problem throughout our county, causing chaos for local residents and ultimately putting the safety of our children and others at risk.

Please STOP and THINK before parking!!

Consider, am I being respectful? Am I parking illegally? Is my parking dangerous? We can all do our bit to reduce the issues of parking during school drop offs & collection times. For the safety of your child, their friends and the local community we kindly request that you all park safety, legally and considerately.

Remember:

- **DO NOT** park on single or double yellow lines
- **DO NOT** double park
- **DO NOT** stop or park on the zig zag lines or pedestrian crossing
- **DO NOT** park on pavements, corners or junctions
- **DO NOT** obstruct footpaths or cycleway's
- Consider car sharing
- Walk or cycle to school where appropriate
- And finally...**DO NOT** block the driveways of local residents.



News from Starling Class (Reception)

Hello from Starling Class!

WE'VE MADE IT! Another term down and only one more to go! The children have made amazing progress this term with lots of "lightbulb moments" happening left, right and centre despite the last few weeks of inconsistent staffing in the classroom. Thank you as always for your continued kindness as we navigate our way through the ever-changing Covid/ other illness landscape!



This week the children have been thinking about the Christian festival of Easter; thought about the symbols used at Easter; completed numerous Easter related crafts; made Easter nests; baskets and bunny ears; explored the wax resist process on their Easter cards; ate hot cross buns; participated in an egg hunt and we even had an exciting visit from one week old chicks! The children were delighted to have the opportunity to have an up-close cuddle, hold, stroke and observe of the chicks. The children discovered that the chicks poo a lot and were told some fascinating facts! Thank

you to Annabel and Phoebe P's mummies for organising and coming in to support our chick learning and thank you to Smarties for allowing us to steal your chicks for the morning!

In Balanceability the children all completed their course with flying colours and are the proud owners of a certificate to prove it. For their final week, the children had to put all of the skills they had learnt into practice. They children had to ride, stop, dismount, walk alongside their bike and ride around cones at the same time as someone else (think synchronised swimming). We are so proud of how well the children behaved during their sessions and how confident they have become on their bikes over time. We will add our own balance bikes to our outdoor provision from next half term and continue to build those skills.





You will have seen that your child's phonics assessment results have been sent home. The highlighted phonemes and tricky words are the ones your child needs to focus on. We have added the Phase 3 tricky words on to the Phase 2 words you already have. If you need any help with how to support your child with segmenting and blending, then please do not hesitate to write a note in the blue book and we will get back to you promptly. As always your support at home with this is gratefully received and has a HUGE impact on their confidence in using and applying those skills in the classroom.

Next half term we will be delving into the world of fantasy characters; learn about St George's Day; explore people who help us and think about superheroes as well as continuing our Phonics journey into Phase 4 and developing our Maths Mastery!

After the Easter holidays, we will resume our library visits and Show and Tell timetable. Please can you remember to check your child's school shoes and trainers for comfort and sizing over the holidays... children notoriously grow out of them around this time of year! PE kits will need to be returned to school ready for their first PE session on Tuesday 26th April and they will then remain in school for the rest of the half term, so please encourage your child to practise dressing and undressing independently in preparation for this.

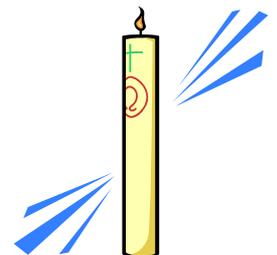
Have a fun filled, relaxing and enjoyable Easter break!

Mrs Meridew, Mrs Brown & Mrs Keech



Assemblies, Collective Worship and Reflection

We were treated to another visit from Canon Williams this week who talked about the Easter story and Palm Sunday in particular. As Good Friday and Easter Sunday fall at the end of the school holiday this year, we will begin the new term with reminders about why the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus are so important to Christians. This greatest of all miracles, along with the ascension of Jesus to heaven symbolising that death is not the end is often a tricky concept for children to understand. As always we will try to make this as accessible as possible so that the children are able to consider the relevance of this to their lives today.





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Tel: 01763 852474

Email: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Tracey How

Class Teacher Part Time /0.6 Starting September 2022 or sooner

We are looking for a suitable candidate who will job-share in one of our KS1 or KS2 classes from September 2022 (or sooner). We have an experienced teacher who currently works each Thursday and Friday and are looking for someone to share the role, ideally teaching each Monday to Wednesday. We are also seeking a 0.3 Year 1 teacher and could accommodate candidates applying for both roles.

As a one form entry Primary School, all teachers are expected to take responsibility for at least one subject area, either leading it themselves or working alongside a colleague. Regular attendance at our weekly staff meeting is also expected.

We are looking for someone who

- has high standards and expectations for all pupils
- values wellbeing and personal development alongside academic success and progress
- is able to work collaboratively and with initiative within our strong key stage and whole school teams
- is able to actively promote and support our distinct Christian ethos.

This is a MPS position and we welcome applications from ECTs, experienced teachers and those returning to the profession.

The school was last inspected in December 2016 and judged to be 'good'.

If you are interested in this position, please see school website for further information and an application form. Applications should show clearly how you fulfil the essential/desirable aspects of the person specification with recent, relevant examples. Applications should be sent to Mrs Alisa Lopez-Adcock e-mail ALopez-Adcock@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Visits to the school are encouraged; please contact the office to make an appointment office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk or telephone 01763 852474

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.

Closing date for applications	Thursday 28 th April 2022
Interviews	5 th or 6 th May 2022
Start date	1 st September 2022 (or sooner)



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Headteacher: Mrs Tracey How

***Class Teacher Year 1
Part Time /0.3 Fridays plus PPA cover
Starting September 2022 or sooner***

We are looking for a suitable candidate who will job-share in our Year 1 class from September (or sooner). We have an experienced teacher who works Monday to Thursday and also needs cover for PPA time, which can be negotiable. We are also seeking a 0.6 teacher and could accommodate candidates applying for both roles.

As a one form entry Primary School, all teachers are expected to take responsibility for at least one subject area, either leading it themselves or working alongside a colleague. Regular attendance at our weekly staff meeting is also expected.

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Start date	1 st September 2022 (or sooner)

News from Robin Class (Year 1)

This week, we began with thinking about Easter and making some delightful Easter cards – we hope you like them! The children thought about the Easter story (which as you know they have been looking at in RE lessons) as well as some of the other symbols of Easter and new life.

In Maths, the children should have come home with some gold stickers on their tops to show that they had been using amazing mathematical vocabulary while they were exploring different size and shape containers. They were learning about capacity – really using their language to explain why one pot may contain more/less water than another – using narrower, wider, taller, shorter in their sentences. We moved on to thinking how much bigger one container might be than another – estimating ‘how many’ of one container may fit into another. Some of the children began looking at the amount something may hold in millilitres, which was challenging.

In PE it was good to get outside again and use the dribbling, bouncing and controlling skills the children have been practising over the last couple of weeks to complete a winding course, ensuring they kept the ball close to them, and worked as a team to gather all the balls together at the end. Great teamwork was displayed and all kept active – even while waiting for team-mates to finish. Indoor PE this week was our last lesson using the large apparatus. The children have continued to demonstrate resilience and perseverance to improve their confidence and skills. This week, we added the skill of using the springboard, which many enjoyed. We have been encouraging everyone to give words of encouragement, praise or even advice as they watch their friends during PE – it was so exciting to hear the ‘You have done so well getting more confident’ and ‘I like the way you use a tuck jump’ or you remembered to hold your finishing position for the count of 3’ from many children.

In Phonics, your children have worked SO hard learning new graphemes and different ways these can be pronounced in the English language. We have taken the decision to pause learning any new sounds and focus on recognising these within words to ensure proper blending is taking place. Next term we will therefore be working with children to further develop their segmenting and blending skills to ensure they are becoming confidently fluent readers. Those already confident will be able to stretch their comprehension and retrieval skills.

We have had a lovely couple of days towards the end of the week, creating Easter items and thinking of the coming season in fun ways. The children should have brought home their stained glass eggs on Wednesday, as well as other bits and pieces they made during our Easter craft morning. On Thursday they had fun finding eggs in the Easter egg hunt and should have brought home their basket with their home-made Easter nest cake and eggs. We also had some very special fluffy visitors on Thursday afternoon. A huge thank you to the Newman-Hutchison family for bringing in some beautiful baby bunnies for us to see and cuddle!



We all hope you enjoy a lovely break with your children. We are looking forward to our new topic of ‘It’s a Bug’s Life’ next term.

Happy Easter!

Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Carter and the Year 1 Team

Help and support for Ukraine

We know that lots of our children and families want to help the people of Ukraine in some way. We know of a number of different appeals locally, as well as the national appeals. Those listed on this page are a few of those we are aware of and may help you decide the best way for you and your family to help in your preferred way.

The Disasters Emergency Committee

The DEC brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of crisis overseas. <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>



Ukraine Lifeline.com

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Infants/ Children

Baby Food(formular milk)
Nappies (all sizes)
Disposable sheets
Childs medication(Calpol, Nurofen)
Baby Bottles
Puree in pots, jars for babies

General

Torches
Batteries
Powerbanks

Hygiene

Soap bars
Talc powder
Flannels
Wash sponges
Wash bag kits
Roll On Deodorant
Hand gel
Cotton swabs
Razor blades
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
Sanitary products

Clothing

Socks(new)
Underwear(new)
warm hats/gloves/scarves
warm winterwear
thermal underlayers

Medicine/First aid

Anti diarrhoea tablets
Nurofen
Activated Charcoal
Bandages
Gauze
Eye Ointment
Antiseptic spray & wipes
Savlon gel
Sudocrem
Antihistamines
small scissors
Candles
First aid bags

Food/Hydration

Non perishable food i.e tins
pre packed longlife meals
Tea/Coffee/Sweets
Granola bars
Oat bars
Dried fruit
Mixed nuts
Small juice boxes
Small squash boxes

Collection Point: Steeple Morden Post Office.
or contact: ukraine.lifeline.com

ROYSTON AID FOR UKRAINE

We are running a large project to deliver aid to the Polish border to help UKRAINE.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS –

- Nappies and baby wipes
- Power banks and batteries
- Torches
- Sanitary products
- Insulated flasks
- Pet food and coats
- Non-perishable food items (tinned foods, dried foods, soups, tea, coffee etc.)
- Toilet rolls and juices
- Baby food
- Wound dressings (bandages etc)
- Toiletries such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shower gels etc.
- Sleeping bags, blankets and towels

**FOR ALL DONATIONS, PLEASE DELIVER THEM TO
Cam Store, Enterprise Park, Jarman Way,
Royston SG8 5HW**

We will be open to receive donations Monday to Friday 7am-5pm
and on weekends from 7am-12pm.

Contact Alex on 07432 110767 or Chris on 07702 598006 for more information.

THANK YOU

PTA News



Thank you!

Many thanks to parents for supporting the pre-loved uniform sale last week and to Emily Wilkinson for organising the sale.

Thank you all for your support.

Your PTA

Covid Test Results Email Address

We have an email address set up specifically for parents to alert us to any positive Covid test results from within your household. The email address is:

Covidtestresult@steplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

This email address will be checked each morning, evening and during the day (including weekends) and we ask that you use this address to advise us of Covid -19 positive test results for any member of your household. Although there is unlikely to be any action required it does mean that we can alert members of the school community to be extra vigilant. Please do not use this email address for any other issues, all other emails should still be sent to office@steplemorden.cambs.uk as usual



* Café Church is back!

This friendly café runs every Friday morning 9-11 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



From the Governors

This term appears to have flown by although we're very aware that the staff will be ready for a well deserved break this Easter due to the amount of covering and additional hours they have all had to do, due to Covid absences and the lack of available supply teachers - thank you to all of you.

Whilst Covid does still appear to be quite prevalent the school continues to run as normally as possible for the children and it was good to read in last week's Star, that the Year 6 residential still went ahead. A big thank you to Mr Baker, Mrs Barbour and Mrs Weddepohl for spending time away from their families to organise and go on this trip. It's always good to hear about the activities, learning and friendships that the children encounter on these trips and it was also very pleasing to hear that on their lunch break on the journey home a few people came over to the teachers to compliment the good behaviour shown by all the children - well done year 6!

The school's curriculum and progress data are regular topics of conversation at our Full Governing Body meetings and in this week's Star we'd like to introduce you to two governors from our Curriculum committee.

My name is Debbie Littlefair and I am one of the newest members of the Governing Body, having been elected as a co-opted Governor in February 2021. I have lived in Steeple Morden for over 18 years, moving here from Richmond upon Thames so that our children could enjoy the beautiful countryside and friendly community that our village is so well known for. Our move gave me the opportunity to change my career and I retrained as an Early Years Teacher, and some of you may recall that I was the leader at Robin/Smarties Pre School for 10 years. Following this, I have worked at Cambridge Regional College, teaching Early Years, Playwork and Teaching Assistant qualifications to learners aged 16+. I believe that this experience supports me in my role as a Governor and especially in the area of Safeguarding, which is one of my key areas of responsibility. Recently, I have also become a twice-weekly volunteer at the school, working with the Year 1 teacher, supporting Reading skills. This also supports my second Governor role of monitoring the school's Reading curriculum, and reviewing progress across the school.

I'm Gill McGuire and I am one of the Foundation Governors. We've lived in Steeple Morden for over 6 years and I've been a Governor at the school for 4 years now. I have three daughters, two of whom are at the school and the youngest will join Reception in September. My background is in chemistry and I have worked as a patent attorney in private practice since graduating although I'm currently taking a career break to spend more time with my young family and to recover from cancer treatment. I am involved with the Curriculum Committee, which I currently chair. My skills are well aligned with this part of the Governing Body's role in which we look at how the Curriculum is delivered and the data analysis which comes with it appeals to my inner science geek!

News from Owl Class (Year 2)

We've all had a busy week this week in Owl Class. In our spelling work this week, we have been looking at words that end in the -less suffix. We have now collected in the spelling and homework folders and will send these out again at the beginning of next term. The children are bringing two books to read and share with you over the Easter holidays. If you would have time to practise reading and spelling any of the Year One and Two Common Exception words over the Easter holiday, then that would also be fantastic! Thank you.

This week we have also been completing some Reading Comprehension, and Maths - Number and Reasoning assessments with the children. These have helped us identify the areas that the children are confident with, and those that we can focus on more, in our work next term. It was also an opportunity to practise how we approach these 'special' assessment booklets ready for the SATs assessments that will take place in May. We will be sending you out more information about these assessments after the Easter holidays.

The children have taken part in all sorts of Easter crafts and activities this week and even



an Easter egg hunt! We have really enjoyed making our Easter cards and baskets and here are a few examples of them...



We hope you all have a very Happy Easter holiday and we will look forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday 20th April. Happy Easter and thank you for all your support.

**Mrs Luebcke, Mrs Daniels
and the Year 2 team**





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Cleaner Vacancy
10 hours per week, £9.50 per hour term time
Starting April/May 2022

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 or after school, negotiable 3-5 days per week.

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.

Closing date: 4th May 2022

Interviews will be held: Week commencing 9th May

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

We have made it through another enjoyable and hardworking term.

In maths, we have continued our fraction work thinking about unit and non-unit fractions by placing them on a number line. We also thought about fractions of amounts using unit and non-unit fractions. A unit fraction has a numerator of one, whereas a non-unit fraction numerator is more than one. After Easter, we will continue to think about fractions in our maths work.

In English, we have finished editing and improving our Isis and Osiris' myths and completed our final copies to go into our topic books. We had opportunity to read our myths for our friends to enjoy.

At the beginning of our Egyptian topic, we sorted statements into what we believe to be true, could be true or false. We revisited these to see how much we had learnt, re-sorting them as necessary. We were surprised at how much we had learnt and what other related facts we could add. For most of us this has been our favourite topic so far, some of us wish we could continue with this after Easter.



If your child is particularly interested and would like to continue with Egyptian learning, Channel 5 have started an Egyptian series of programmes. The first was last Friday at 9 pm, all about Tutankhamen and how modern science is helping to reveal secrets of his past. (I am sure this can be watched through 'catch up'). This was not a programme aimed at children, I believe due to the language used for explanation rather than content. I found it fascinating and easy to follow. For the children I think they would need to watch it with an adult, so that the adult could explain some of the vocabulary and concepts. Well worth it, if you have the time.

In topic work, we have had to finish all things Egyptian! For most of us, this was focussed on research about the gods and completing our flap books. Some finished the Egyptian's creation story by making small watercolour booklets telling the story.



Our construction group finished their pyramid; they explained their aim, process and evaluation of what they had produced. All they need now is a freshly mummified pharaoh to inhabit it!

In dance, we performed our Nile dance to Year Five. They were very impressed with how we had used movements to describe the power, uses and significance the Nile had for the Ancient Egyptians. They thanked us for letting them be our audience.

I have deliberately not set Spelling Frame or Mathletics home work, but **please, please** keep up with home reading. If the children finish their school book, just read one from your home selection and record it in the reading diaries in the same way. It would also be helpful if you could keep up with 'Tackling Tables' and learn some of the year 3/4 statutory spellings that can be found in the centre pages of the reading diaries.

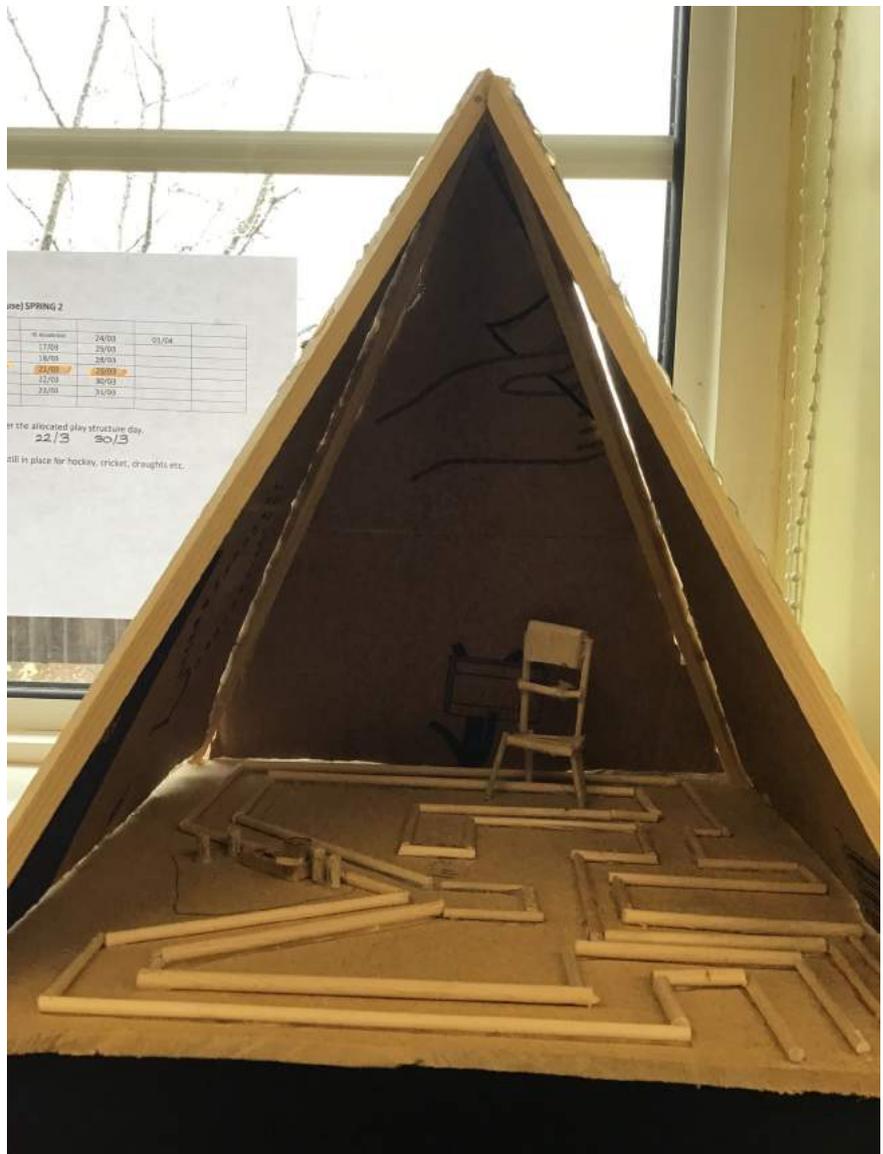
Thank you for your continued support during this term, we hope you have enjoyed learning about the Egyptians alongside us. After Easter, we will be embarking on our journey along 'pathways through the past'. This will involve a number of dress up days, the first will be Celtic followed by Tudor. Dates will be confirmed nearer the time and I will give you as much notice as I can, this is just the heads up in case you fancy being creative over the Easter holiday. For the Celts, trousers in long socks with an oversize t-shirt and belt would be quite sufficient, Mayan costumes could probably be adapted.

Weekly home activities

- **Reading**, please aim for at least 4x weekly noting what has been read in reading diary.
- Books and diary **must be** in school daily please.
- **Mathletics and Spelling Frame** are up and ready with set work for the children, logins for both are in reading diaries
- **Tackling Tables** practise.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and restful Easter.

Mrs Seward and Miss Smith



Easter Art

Thank you for supporting your children with the Easter art activity. The artwork sent back into school is now on display in the church for all to enjoy. Reception class had the highest percentage of returns so received their Easter treat from our very own Easter bunny. (Mrs How, complete with rabbit ears).



News from Swift Class (Year 4)

This week in our maths work we have been finding the fraction of a quantity and building 'bar models' to help do this. Bar modelling helps to solve word problems; if you can model the structure of a problem, you can more easily work out what maths needs to be done.

<https://www.fleet.camden.sch.uk/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Home-Learning/Year-4/Finding-fractions-of-amounts-using-bar-models-233.pdf>

Over the holidays please keep maintaining reading and practising of times tables. Children should be reading daily, I know some children do this independently but others may need either a reminder or some help and encouragement. In addition to Tackling Tables, this website helps to practise times tables that you are less familiar with (select the times table in green) and allows you to practise it in different ways, which will help deepen recall:

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

<https://www.themathsfactor.com/times-tables-check/pinpoint/#/>

Part of this website (link below) will help your child in preparation for June, when children will be taking the government's multiplication check (MTC). They will have 25 multiplication questions, up to 12×12 , and are allowed 6 seconds to answer each question. You can have a practice and find out more about it here:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

We have also used this program above in class which allows you to select the times tables to some degree. The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are more likely to be asked in the MTC than the 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 or 11 multiplication tables. The Department for Education state that there is a focus on these as these are the 'most difficult' multiplication tables.

In our science lessons we have concluded our measurements of our spring onions and found they grew four times faster when the weather was sunnier. Some children became quite attached to their spring onions but we have composted them and this will then be used for gardening next term, so they will not go to waste!

You will have received a sunflower (hopefully still intact!) that your child has grown over the last two weeks for part of STEM week's theme of 'growth'. If your child would like to plant this in your garden, they will need to keep it in a frost free place, watering it as necessary until it is strong enough to be planted outside. It would be great to see

photographs of the outcome at the end of the academic year. If the sunflower has not yet germinated I have given your child another seed to grow over the holidays.

We hope you all have an enjoyable Easter break.

Mr Beavan & the Year Four Team



News from Heron Class (Year 5)

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to the Easter holidays from everyone in Year 5! We hope you all have some exciting things planned for the next few weeks, whether that looks like going away or relaxing at home with one another and recharging your batteries, we hope you thoroughly enjoy it.

We have continued our work on fractions this week, now multiplying fractions by whole numbers that we all seemed surprised to find was not as difficult as we had imagined! Your children continue to put in a huge amount of effort with this tricky maths topic and we are so proud of the way they have brought themselves to the learning each day, ready to give it another go.

We were lucky enough to have a visit from Kidscape Zap on Thursday morning. This national charity comes into schools to provide workshops to build resilience and assertiveness in our children so they are better equipped to handle a potential bullying situation themselves and also support or assist others who find themselves in this situation. The charity also works directly with children and their families when they have been affected by bullying. We all agreed that the workshop was fun and helpful. If you would like some more information, please visit their webpage here <https://www.kidscape.org.uk/programmes/zap-in-schools-assertiveness-resilience-workshops/>

This week has seen us say goodbye to Mrs Watt. Staff and children alike will miss her and we wish her every happiness and success in her new school.

Thanks for your continued support.

Have a restful Easter.

The Year 5 Team



SMARTIES PRE SCHOOL & OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

"Easter Holiday Club - 3-11 year olds"



WEEK ONE

Monday 4th April

Bird Feeders and Woodland Activities
Mini Campfire Toasting Marshmallows
Chocolate Cake Baking
Arts Crafts

Homemade Sausage Roll, potato wedges and beans
Fairy Cake & Custard

Tuesday 5th April

Spy Mission
Challenge Yourself to Solve Mysteries & Problems
Spaghetti Bolognese & Garlic Bread
Yoghurts



Wednesday 6th April

Capture the Flag - Nerf Challenge
Fish & Chips with Peas
Angel Delight

Thursday 7th April

Outer Space Day
Rocket, Solar System & Alien Activities
Homemade Chicken Pie, Mash & Veg
Melon

Friday 8th April

Scent Factory - Bath Bombs, Candles, Perfume
Glitter Tattoos & Nail Painting
Homemade Pizza
Chocolate Chip Cookies

WEEK TWO

Monday 11th April

Chocolate Nets
Easter Arts and Crafts
Cottage Pie & Veg
Melon

Tuesday 12th April

Smarties Science Lab
Slime, Volcanos, Stress Heads
Homemade Sausage Rolls, Potato Wedges & Beans
Fairy Cake & Custard

Wednesday 13th April

Messy Craft
Clay Creations & Glass Painting
Homemade Pizza
Ice Cream



Thursday 14th April

Hot Cross Bun Making
Easter Craft & Egg Hunt
Cheese & Bacon Potato Wedges & Beans
Yoghurts

Friday 15th April

Closed - Good Friday

**COME AND
SEE OUR OWN
EASTER
CHICKS**

COME AND JOIN IN OUR EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA HOLIDAY CLUB

FEES*:

9AM - 130AM SESSION - £16

(HALF DAY LUNCH INCLUDED)

130PM - 6PM - £14 (HALF DAY NO LUNCH)

9AM - 3PM SESSION - £20 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

9AM - 6PM SESSION - £30 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

*CANCELLATION FEES APPLY PLEASE SEE BOOKING FORM
PLEASE NOTE A PRICE INCREASE AS OF APRIL 2022

EMAIL: SMARTIESOOSCLUB@GMAIL.COM TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST ASAP

**WE ACCEPT
RAF
VOUCHERS**



CHILDREN CAN BRING BIKES AND SCOOTERS HOWEVER SAFETY HELMETS MUST BE WORN.
ELECTRICAL DEVICES CAN BE BROUGHT ALONG BUT THEY WILL BE TIME LIMITED AND GAMES MUST BE 'AGE APPROPRIATE' FOR YOUR CHILD.
PLEASE PROVIDE A REFILLABLE BOTTLE OF WATER WITH YOUR CHILDS NAME
Registered Charity Number: 133478

News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

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. We will be continuing with this genre after the Easter holiday.

This week, in Maths, we have continued to look at our work on geometry. We have focussed on looking at nets from 3D shapes and which nets match which shape. We also looked at irregular and regular shapes, the names and properties of various 2D shapes and touched on parallel and perpendicular lines. Ask your child at home about these. After the Easter break we will finish off the curriculum, focussing on ratio and proportion, data and statistics; as well as rounding off our work on geometry. Our focus will also be on revision in preparation for the SATs exams which start on 9th May.

A big part of this week has been on exams – we have finished our last

block of mock SATs exams. We have also started to analyse our answers and discussed how we could answer the various questions. Leading on from this, and from what I mentioned last week, I will be setting homework over the Easter break. Your child should have come home with a 'Ten for Ten' Easter practice booklet and answer sheet. As I explained to the class, please could you set aside ten days of the 18 days of the holiday to work through the questions (and answers) from the booklet. It is important that the children keep on reminding themselves of the areas of the Maths curriculum and not to come back after the break forgetting how to solve different mathematical operations. The 'drip, drip, drip' of learning is crucial. I have also set some SPAG and reading homework for the children to complete as well. Please could your child bring the homework back to school on the first day back. Thank you in your cooperation for all of this.



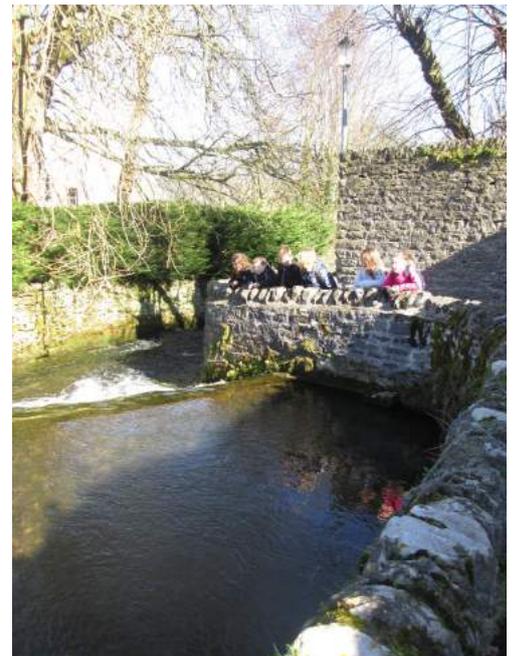
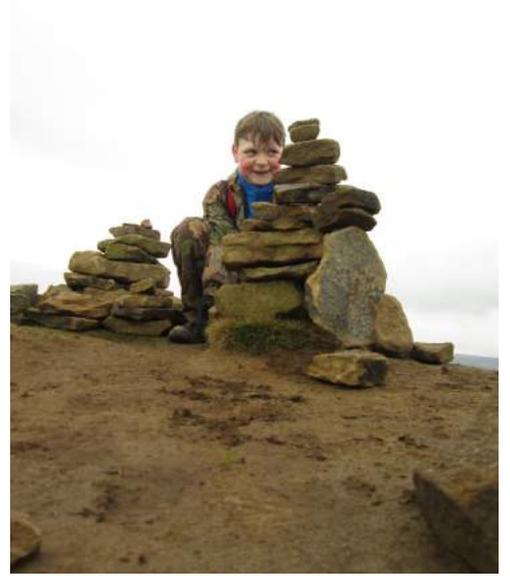


Attached are some more photos from our residential trip.

I hope you all have a great Easter break.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team



Musical Moments: Music from around the World

Each half term, we will be introducing, here in the Star, information about composers from around the world as well as a link to a piece of their music.

We start our journey with Chinese American composer, Tan Dun. Tan Dun was born in 1957.



"Tan Dun is a world-renowned composer, well known for his work on film scores and conducting. He is a UNESCO Global Goodwill Ambassador and the dean of Bard College Conservatory of Music in New York. He won a Grammy for his score for Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon and has also conducted world-famous ensembles that include the Met, the London Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra."

Listen to **Concerto for String Orchestra and Zheng**. If you watch the video clip you can see what the traditional Chinese instrument the Zheng looks and sounds like.

Bearing in mind this is an orchestral piece, what more unusual sounds are made as part of this piece of music?

How does the music make you feel? What movements does it inspire you to make?
We hope you enjoy listening!

<https://tinyurl.com/yt6p66hp>



[Tan Dun: Konzert für Streichorchester und Zheng · hr-Sinfonieorchester · Yuan Li · Julian Kuerti](#)

Tan Dun: Konzert für Streichorchester und Zheng · (Auftritt) 00:00 · I. Andante molto – Melancholia – Tempo I 00:40 · II. Allegretto 04:31 · III. Adagio 11:...
tinyurl.com

Art is for All

Welcome to your next 'Art is for All'.

This half term's art looks at the work of Marc Treanor a Welsh artist who created his works in the sand. Treanor produced his sand murals by sketching designs on paper before using a rake to recreate the design on a beach. The work would then remain on the beach until washed away by the tide. Marc Treanor, started creating the sand patterns as a way to keep his children entertained on holiday but then went on to make a career out of it. He made his artwork at beaches across the UK for the joy of it and as a gift to anyone who came across it on the beaches.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJxdlBzc1Zs>



Your Task:

Have a go at home, create sand patterns in a sand tray, try using dry moist or wet sand, alternatively use a tray of flour, or if you are having shepherd's pie for tea create a pattern in the mash potato before browning. Remember to photograph your creating and send them in to the Star's gallery.

Happy creating.

Community News

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website Community Page

Smarties Preschool
Litlington Preschool
Helen O-Grady Drama Classes
MF Tennis Coaching
Norwich City Football Club community clubs
St Ives Town Football Club Tots Programme
Stage Right Centre for Performing Arts classes
Bonfitness Pilates
Hertfordshire Performing Arts Easter Stage School
Multi Active Holiday Childcare
Easter Holiday Athletics Camps
Easter Holiday Netball Camps
Oxford & Cambridge Singing School Easter Courses 2022

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

"We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining—they just shine."

Dwight L Moody

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