

THE STAR



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

Message from Mrs How:

I have seen lots of smiling children this week clutching new books from our book fayre, and have heard an equal number of parents suggesting perhaps their children should read the books already at home before buying any more! Thank you to those who have been able to support this event. As a school we receive an amount of commission for all books sold and we make use of this to fill some gaps in our school library. Please remember if you do wish to purchase nay books for our school, we have an Amazon wish list at: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/MR5YPP3QSVM5

The children have been busy over the last couple of weeks practicing for their sports days. This year we will have two 'houses' of children out on the field at a time, competing against each other before the final scores are calculated and compared and an overall winning house is announced. Please see page 4 for more information from Mr Baker.

We are now only **two weeks away from our Summer fete** and the PTA committee have been very busy getting as much as they can in place. However, we **still need volunteers** who are able to turn up and cover a stall for half an hour or so. More information can be found on page 6

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."

Seneca

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.



June

28th Sports day: Yousafzai (Blue) & Packham (Green)

(9.30—approx. 11am)

29th Sports day: Rashford (Red) & Rosen (White)

(9.30—approx. 11am)

July

w/c 3rd Bikeability

4th Year 3 walk to Ashwell

7th Year 3 trip to Bewilderwood & sleepover

8th PTA Summer Fete

11th Year 6 performance (afternoon)
12th Year 3 coffee & cake morning
12th Year 6 performance (evening)

13th Year 5 parent morning (9.30—10.30am)

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

19th Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.30am)

19th Last day of Summer term

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.

Sports Day 2023

Could all children come in (on their appropriate day next week) wearing their PE kit and with a sun hat, a water bottle and sun cream (if necessary) applied. Thank you.

Weds 28th June Yousafzai (Blue) & Packham (Green)

(9.30—approx 11am)

Thurs 29th June Rashford (Red) & Rosen (White)

(9.30—approx 11am)

Assemblies & Collective Worship

The theme for this week's assemblies was Wisdom – the ability to use experience, knowledge and good judgement. On Monday, we used the story of King Solomon from 2 Kings 3 v16-28 to work out that what seemed a very cruel solution to a problem was actually incredibly clever. See if your child can remember the story ...



News from Starling Class (Reception)

This week the children have been thinking all about summer and sports day! The children have been impressive with their determination, grit and speed when practising the different activities ready for next week's Sports Days.



During Phonics we have continued our Phase 4 learning with a focus on CCVCC words and words ending in –ed that make the d sound e.g. ordered. In Maths this week we have been looking at sorting items into two groups or more. The children looked at the physical attributes such as size and colour and then to challenge themselves they practised sorting by type e.g. vehicles that work on land or water.

The children are rather tired in general at the moment, the heat isn't helping with their irritability or ability to tackle problems and disagreements calmly, but by ensuring they have a good sleep schedule, they will be in better stead to manage problems in a level headed manner.

Please can you ensure that your child has everything they need in school each day. We have had a significant number of children

without water bottles, hats or book bags this week. With the weather being as tumultuous as



it has been, please keep a cardigan/jumper and lightweight coat available in your child's book bag just in case the weather gets on the cooler/wetter side. Try to remember that the children have access to the outdoor area all day, so they need to have an

appropriate sun hat to minimise the risk of heat or sun stroke.

We have sent home PE kits this week to ensure that all children

have shorts, t-shirt and trainers ready for sports day. This is because lots of children do not have shorts in their PE kits nor do they have trainers. These will need to come back to school NO LATER than Tuesday, ready for our PE lesson and the Sports day on Wednesday.





At the time of writing, this week's newsletter, there was no baby Monks news, however Mrs Monks would like to thank you all for the warm wishes and kind gifts.

Have a restful weekend,

Mrs Meridew, Mrs Monks and the Reception Team



Sports Days

The PTA are supporting the school by offering tea and coffee at the sports day events. Please bring a lidded reusable cup with you to help us cut costs of buying cups and to be as sustainable as possible.

Fireworks

Please remember to let us know if you can volunteer for the Fireworks event using the form at the following link https://forms.office.com/e/DCYA0GCrEv We need any replies in by Friday 30th so we can make a decision. On Thursday 22nd we have had 4 replies on the form. Therefore, the event would not be possible as there are only 7 of us on the PTA committee in addition to the 4 replies, we have received.

School Fete - Saturday, 8th July

The Committee have met again this week to finalise the details of the fete. Please remember to return any raffle tickets to school as soon as possible. We are also looking forward to receiving donations of bottles on Friday 7th July and cakes for the cake stall. Please be aware, that despite our best efforts, the bar, BBQ, cake stall and other PTA run stalls will be cash only. If you can spare some time to volunteer on a stall please get in touch with either the year group PTA link or email us at

pta@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk if you could manage half an hour on a stall it would be a great help. All the preparation is in place so it is really just turn up and man the stall for a small stint.

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM: we will have a school uniform stall at the fete, please sort out any unwanted uniform and leave at the school office.



News from Robin Class (Year 1)

What a productive time we have had in Robin Class this week! All the children have really impressed us with their willingness and enthusiasm to write their own version of our 'Jim and the Beanstalk' story. Having written a section of the story before playtime on Wednesday, nearly all of the children chose (after a playtime, story and drink) to continue writing to try to get their ideas into their English books. We had some lovely, imaginative sentences and saw brilliant capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks.



The caterpillars have also all been busy, shedding their skin for the final time this week and pupating in their chrysalises. We are looking forward to hopefully seeing them emerge as beautiful butterflies next week.



Sadly, we have decided that the ladybird larvae we have been searching for daily since they arrived with us as eggs will not be seen. However, Mrs Bowmer luckily had lots of larvae on the beech tree in her garden, so we have been able to see what the larvae look like. We are also expecting these to pupate and emerge, hopefully next week, too! We have all had a good think about what we think newly-emerged ladybirds might looks like – we'll have to see if we were correct!

On Tuesday as the field was so wet, we

abandoned the idea of trying to practise our relay race for sports day. Instead, we got the Speed Stacks out and enjoyed improving our skills and coordination making 3-3-3 or 3-6-3 combinations. Some children even managed to work through the whole cycle – albeit very slowly!

The children are all looking forward to participating in Sports Days next week. They hope you are able to come and support them, but we do appreciate that sometimes this isn't possible. If you are unable to come, it can be a lovely thing to ask another parent (someone who is already coming for their child on the right day!) to specifically cheer them on,



too. If this is happening, do chat to your child about who this could be. Otherwise, there will



always be staff who will encourage them during the morning. Do check which day your child will be participating in the Diary Dates section!

Please continue to send in sunhats/water bottles daily and apply sun-cream before coming to school in the morning. Thank you.

We all hope you have a super weekend,

Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Andrews and the Year One Team

School Uniform Guide

Clothing

- Trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore (navy or grey)
- Blouse, shirt or polo shirt (white or royal blue)
- School sweatshirt or cardigan (royal blue)
- Blue and white check dress during the summer months
- It is a Year 6 privilege to wear black uniform (polo tops, jumpers and trousers/skirts/shorts)

PE Kit (to be kept in a bag, which is hung in the cloakroom):

- T-shirt (colour of assigned House) separate to that worn during the day
- Shorts (blue or black)

In addition (from Year 1 onwards):

- Tracksuit or jogging bottoms and sweatshirt without hood for the winter months
- Trainers for outdoors

Year 4 pupils will need:

- swim wear (swimming costumes should be one piece and swimming trunks should be above knee length)
- a towel
- swimming hat all children (available for purchase from the pool)

Shoes

- Children will travel to and from school in black school shoes
- The majority of children will remain in these shoes all day
- Children who wish to change into an older pair of trainers at playtime (much better for kicking a ball on a muddy field) can do so if they wish
- Children will need a change of footwear for PE lessons

Please ensure your child can fasten, without assistance, the shoes they wear for school.

Coat: It is very important that your child comes to school with a coat appropriate for the season. All children go outside to play at break time and lunch time and, as you know, the British weather can change during the school day! Reception Class also have an outside learning area.

Book Bag: Each child should have a book bag to keep reading books clean and safe on the journey to and from school.

Ordering School Uniform: http://www.totalclothingshop.com

School uniform can be ordered from the website detailed above. The link to the site can also be found on the school website in the Parents Section on the Welcome Page. Uniform can be ordered from this site and be delivered to your house (for a small postage charge) or to the school for free.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT IS CLEARLY NAMED

- We actively discourage the wearing of jewellery in school, including earrings, for Health and Safety reasons and in line with County policy.
- Earrings must not be worn for PE and swimming (if they have to be worn for the first six weeks after initial piercing, they must be taped over).
- Children may wear a cheap watch to school.
- Children are responsible for the safety of their own jewellery and watches.
- Please ensure that long hair is always tied back in school.

News from Owl Class (Year 2)

Hello from Owl Class!



We've all had a good week this week and have enjoyed reading and sharing a range of information books and stories linked to our topic 'A Voyage to the Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea'. We read the story of 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley', which was written by the author Sarah Roberts, an animal behaviourist. In the story, other sea creatures think Stanley is a jellyfish when he's actually a plastic bag! He finds himself being chewed up and swallowed by lots of other sea creatures until a boy rescues and re-uses him to make a kite. The children have been very interested in learning about plastic pollution and the effects of single use plastics on our ocean creatures. This story has inspired us to read and learn more about plastic pollution this week.





In Maths this week, we have been working on division and multiplication. We have been dividing by sharing and grouping; and we have used cubes and base ten to help us solve division calculations e.g.

$60 \div 6 =$	$60 \div 5 =$	$60 \div 10 =$
60 ÷ 3 =	$60 \div 2 =$	$60 \div 4 =$

The children have also looked at how we can use our times tables to help us check division calculations too. In next week's Maths lessons, we will be revisiting the topic of fractions.

Just as a reminder, please can all children bring a clearly labelled water bottle to school every day, have sun cream applied before school and have a sunhat.

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 we look forward to seeing many of you next week at one of our Sports Days. Thank you for your support.

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

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

On Tuesday, Mrs Ewing, a 1940s house wife, (aka dance teacher, actress and friend of Mrs Seward's) came to talk to us about life in the 1940s. We each asked a question, such as 'What was it like in a black out?', 'How did you manage on rationing?' and 'Have you got any children that were evacuated?' Once we had asked our question we needed to note down what had been said.



We then thought hard about the answers that were given, so that we could write extended explanations of their response.

One of our favourite stories was about the evacuation of the children. Mrs Ewing has two daughters and one son, which were all evacuated to Wales. She said she found it very hard and missed them terribly, but that they write often so she knows they are safe and happy. However, Mrs Jones, down the road has kept her son at home as she doesn't want him going to 'some place she doesn't

know, where he is not wanted'. She has heard that the evacuees get treated terribly and are just used to do work on the farms! The rest of the neighbours think she is very silly, but she won't budge on her decision. George, her son can't even go to school as all the school are shut, because there are no children around to go to them.

In Maths, we have continued working on properties of shape. This week we have looked at perimeter, and designed 'dig for victory' gardens, working out the perimeter of each vegetable patch. We also learnt the terms parallel, perpendicular, horizontal and vertical. We had a number of tasks to complete to help us identify these in shapes and remember what each meant.

In other work we have thought about the changes in shopping between the 1940s and now. We

were quite surprised at all the different types of shops and some of the funny names they had, 'ironmongers' and 'drapers' seemed the most amusing!







We also thought about rationing and decided some of us would have been very hungry as we didn't fancy many of the governments suggested meals that could be made from the limited food supplies, would you fancy curried carrots or trench stew? (We checked this didn't have rat meat!, basically it was anything you could find to put in to one pot and then give it that name. To be honest that sums up most of my cooking anyway!)

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.

Dates for the diary

28th (am) Sports days (am) Yousafzai and Packham

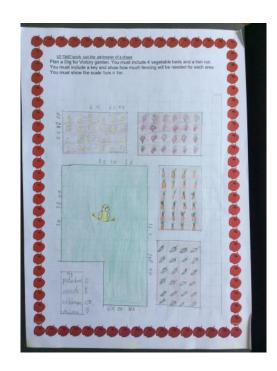
29th (am) } Sports days (am) Rashford and Rosen
4th July Walk to Ashwell - details to follow
7th July Bewilderwood and sleep over

7th July Bewilderwood and sleep over 12th July Coffee and cake in year three











Calling All Bakers!



In preparation for the School Fete on 8 July, we would be very grateful for donations of cakes, cupcakes, brownies, flapjacks and any other baked goods for the cake stall.

Store bought items are also welcome.

Home made goods should be labelled please so that we may identify their contents. Please identify where containing nuts.

Donated cakes can be either dropped off to the school office at pick up the day before the Fete (Friday 7 July) or brought to the stall on the morning of the Fete (Saturday 8 July).

Please ensure that any containers are labelled with your child's name and class year if you require them to be returned.

As always, your support is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks

Debbie (Year 6) and Ginny (Year 4)



News from Swift Class (Year 4)

One of the highlights of the week was our visit to the local recycling centre. We had the opportunity to witness how to reduce, reuse, and recycle to protect our environment. The children were amazed by the large factory bustling with activity and filled with conveyor belts carrying all sorts of items. They learned about the advanced technology that can detect and sort different types of



recyclables, ensuring that they are properly processed. This experience has provided them with a valuable understanding of the importance of recycling and the positive impact it can have on our planet. Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to accompany us.

In our history lessons this week, we continued our work on the Vikings and have been thinking about some of the language relating to Viking activities. Some of the words they have learned include:



- 1. Colonise: The Vikings were known for their exploration and establishment of settlements in various parts of the world.
- 2. Pillage: As part of their seafaring adventures, the Vikings engaged in pillaging, which involved raiding and plundering coastal towns and villages.
- 3. Settle: Alongside their pillaging activities, the Vikings also established settlements in the regions they explored.

Next week we will be developing our sewing skills by adding to acrylic landscape and seascape work we have prepared on material.





from home as in a class of children this invariably causes upset and we are unable to look after these.



Mr Beavan and the Year 4 team.

News from Heron Class (Year 5)

In English this week, we have continued our work on explanation texts. We have researched the four genres of African American music that we are studying (blues, jazz, rock 'n' roll and hip-hop) and started to compare what we have discovered. We have specifically looked at the instruments used to create each style of music, the mood of the music, the subjects/ topics that are usually sung about and finally any famous songs or singers associated with each genre. We have split into groups and different groups are responsible for writing about different genre and these pieces of writing will then come together to create a Team Text.

In Maths, we have started to work on percentages. We have considered percentages as fractions, percentages as decimals and equivalent percentages, fractions and decimals. We are delighted with the way that everyone is approaching this new learning in Maths. Activities on Mathletics over the next couple of weeks will link together our learning about fractions, decimals and percentages and how understanding equivalence is a key factor here.



In D.T., we have had an excellent time this week working on creating structures, building on our work last week about the American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Thank you so much to all those parents/carers who were able to send in a branch or two earlier in the week that we could use for this project. These branches were combined with plant pots, modroc, stones, ballast and a wide variety of other materials to create these fantastic sculptures...





Please look out for a Parentmail in the coming days about how we are going to send the sculptures home as some of them are quite large and heavy so we appreciate that you may need a little warning about which day they are carried out of school! It will not be possible to send them home on the bus.



We hope you enjoy a lovely

relaxing weekend in the sunshine.

With thanks for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team.





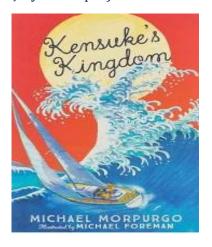




News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

This week we have been continuing to focus on our writing. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading Michael Morpurgo's 'Kensuke's Kingdom' and have discussed the book and the themes in it. Using the book as a focus, we then drafted, wrote and edited an adventure story. We looked at different aspects of the story, from developing our story mountain in our planning through to working on our dialogue and the different ways that we can show what a character's personality is like. The children loved reading Kensuke's Kingdom and were all very much engaged when doing so. Many of the class gave the book a 9 or 10 out of 10. A resounding thumbs up from Puffins!

We have started to rehearse our production, this week, and over the next couple weeks we will be designing, singing, acting, dancing, making, building, drawing, painting and writing in preparation for the two performances in the last full week of term (11^{th} July – 1.45 pm and 12^{th} July – 6.00pm).





Homework will be linked to the production – please learn the song words and the spoken words for their character. Thank you.



A reminder that next week will be Sports Days. Please could the children come in (on their appropriate day) wearing their PE kit and with a sun hat, a water bottle and sun cream (if necessary) applied.

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

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

Cereals **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: Sam Carroll 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

Anxiety

10.00 - 11.30 am

Wednesday

1.00 - 2:30 pm

3rd May

Self Harm

Wednesday

https://procfu.c **Emotionally Based**

9th May

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

Mindfulness Relaxation Session - 27th June

Beat Your Bills Course - starting 30th June

Steeple Morden Tennis Club Summer Holiday Coaching

An Evening with Author Sarah Harrison—30th June

Castle Coaching—Football & Rugby Coaching sessions

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

"Boredom is a choice. Like tardiness. Or interrupting."

Mike Rowe

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