

Friday 8th September 2023
steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



THE STAR

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



Message from Mrs How:

Welcome back to a new school year here at Steeple. The children all looked very smart (and taller) as they returned on Tuesday and are settling into the new routines and expectations in their new classes.

Our new start time of 8.45 does not seem to have caused too many difficulties, although as the week has gone on some families have found the earlier morning a bit of a struggle. Hopefully as everyone gets used to routines again we will have fewer children arriving late. As a reminder, **school starts at 8.45am and gates will be opened and supervised from 8.40am.** If you bring your children to school, please wait with them until a member of staff arrives at the gate and do not allow them to follow other staff or visitors into the building.

As always, there are various small changes and new pieces of information to share with parents at the start of the new year. Please come along to your class' Year Ahead meetings at the following times to find out key pieces of information and how you can support your child over the coming months.

Mon 18th Sept **Year 4** 3.30-4.00

Wed 20th Sept **Reception** (including phonics workshop) 3.30-5.00

Year 6 4.00-4.30

Thu 21st Sept **Year 5** 3.30-4.00

Year 1 4.00-4.30

Fri 22nd Sept **Year 3** 3.30-4.00

Year 2 4.00-4.30

In assembly on Tuesday, we sang *This little light of mine* and thought about its possible meanings. To Christians it carries a powerful message tied to Jesus' words "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12). For everyone it is a reminder to share all that is good inside us, help and encourage others, whether that be thoughtful words, kind actions or something as simple as a smile. Children have been challenged to think about how they can shine their light so that others can see and benefit.

Next Friday we will have our usual Star newsletter so look out for lots of information about what your children have been learning so far and suggestions for how you can add to their learning at home.

Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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Steeple Morden
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SG8 0PD

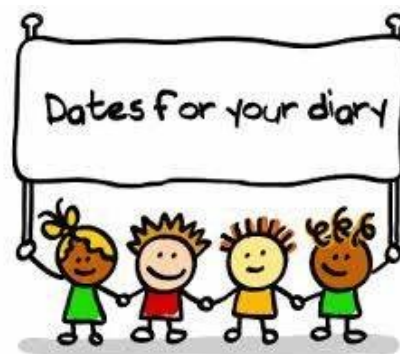
Phone: 01763 852474
E-mail: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk
Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

School Meal Charges Autumn 2023

Daily:	£2.40
Weekly:	£12.00
1st half term	£81.60
2nd half term	£91.20
Whole term	£172.80

Please make payment for school lunches via Parentmail **in advance of meals taken.**

We are now a 'cashless' school and will no longer accept either cash or cheques.



September

11th	Reception children half day
15th	Pre-loved school uniform sale
18th	Year 4 Year ahead meeting (3.30 - 4.00)
20th	Reception Year Ahead meeting (including phonics workshop (3.30 - 5.00))
	Year 6 Year Ahead meeting (4.00 - 4.30)
21st	Year 5 Year Ahead meeting (3.30 - 4.00) Year 1 Year Ahead meeting (4.00 - 4.30)
22nd	Year 3 Year Ahead meeting (3.30 - 4.00) Year 2 Year Ahead meeting (4.00 - 4.30)

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

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.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.

Autumn term begins	Tuesday 5th September 2023
Autumn half term	Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023
Autumn term ends	Wednesday 20th December 2023
<i>INSET Days</i> (pupils not in school)	<i>Friday 1st September</i> <i>Monday 4th September</i>
Spring term begins	Thursday 4th January 2024
Spring half term	Monday 19th – Friday 23rd February 2024
Spring term ends	Thursday 28th March 2024
Summer term begins	Tuesday 16th April 2024
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Summer half term	Monday 27th - Friday 31st May 2024
Summer term ends	Friday 19th July 2024
<i>INSET Days</i> (pupils not in school)	<i>Monday 15th April</i> <i>Monday 3rd June</i> <i>Monday 22nd July</i>

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.