



Message from Mrs How:

Thank you to everyone who attended our Year Ahead meetings last week. I hope you found them useful, giving you an overview of the coming year along with some suggestions of how you can help your child's learning at home. If you were unable to attend, you should have received a paper copy of the Year Ahead booklet. If you have not yet seen one then check your child's book bag or remind them to bring one home from school.

From my office window, I can see our new Reception (Starling class) children learning in the outside area. I am sure they think they are "just playing" but listening to them talk about what they are doing and hearing how they share ideas and suggestions I can assure you it is definitely learning!

Most children across the school have now settled into their new classes and are making good use of all the learning on offer. Some children are taking a little longer to adjust and class teachers, where appropriate, will contact parents to discuss this. We try not to wait until the upcoming parents evenings before talking about concerns so please, if you are contacted for a chat do try to find a time to talk with the teacher/s. Equally, if you have any burning questions, please do not let them stew for another month. All teachers can be contacted via the office on office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk. They may not be able to reply immediately as they will be teaching or preparing lessons, but they will get back to you as soon as possible.

The weather continues to be chilly, despite the occasional sunshine. **PLEASE make sure all children have jumpers in school every day and they are clearly marked with the current owner's name.** We have a number of jumpers in lost property piles where the only visible name is that of a child who has left the school in recent years. We do try hard to reunite children and jumpers where we can but this makes it almost impossible to do so.

Regular articles

Diary Dates	2
Noticeboard.....	3
Starlings (Reception)	6
Robins (Year 1).....	8
Owls (Year 2).....	10
Peacocks (Year 3).....	12
Swifts (Year 4).....	15
Hérons (Year 5).....	16
Puffins (Year 6).....	17
Community News.....	19

Special features

Fireworks Night.....	11
----------------------	----

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

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons."

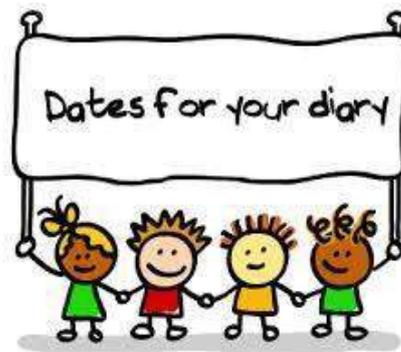
Jim Bishop

School Meal Charges Autumn 2022

Daily:	£2.40
Weekly:	£12.00
1st half term	£84.00
2nd half term	£91.20
Whole term	£175.20

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



September

- 26th School photos (individual & sibling)
- 28th Phonics workshop for Reception class parents: 9.30am

October

- 18th Parent consultation meetings (tbc)
- 20th Parent consultation meetings (tbc)
- 24-28th Autumn half term

December

- 21st Last day of Autumn term

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.

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

Transfer to Secondary School— applications now open!

This is a reminder to parents/carers of all Year 6 pupils that you will need to apply for a place at Secondary school for your child.

Applications are now open for September 2023 and will **close on 31st October 2022**. To apply for your child's place you will need to apply through the Local Authority to which you pay council tax (for most of you that will be Cambridgeshire County Council, in which case go to <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school>). Please note that Cambridgeshire County Council are not sending out letters as they have in previous years to remind you to apply.

Parents who make applications before the closing date of 31st October will receive their offer for a secondary place for their child on 1st March 2022. Any late applications received after 31st October will be dealt with as 'late applications'. We encourage you to apply in good time to ensure the best chance of obtaining one of your 3 school preferences.

If you do not wish to apply online, then paper application forms are available on request if you call 0345 045 1370.

If you have any questions about the application or online processes please refer to the Cambridgeshire County Council website or contact the Admissions Team.

Playground

Parents are asked to ensure that their children, whether those who attend school or younger siblings, do not play in the gazebo or on the play structure at school pick up time. This is to ensure everyone's safety and prevent any damage to these valuable structures. Please ensure that once on the school premises, bikes and scooters are walked, not ridden.

Emails to the school office

When emailing the school office, please ensure you use your child's first name, surname and their class/year group. This means that office staff, particular those who aren't necessarily familiar with all the children's names, can quickly action your message as appropriate.

School uniform

Please, please ensure that your child's belongings (uniform, bags, water bottle etc) are all labelled with your child's name. We have a number of jumpers and other items which have been misplaced by their owners which we can't return as they don't have the child's name inside, or have the name of a 'previous owner'.

PARISH PANTRY

Local Food Bank



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

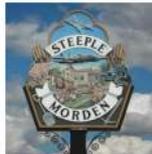
There will be Plastic boxes left in the porch of the church for people to leave their donations in or take required items.

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
07494 588663
sdcarroll849@gmail.com

GIVE WHEN YOU CAN, TAKE WHEN YOU NEED

Recycling Batteries

Did you know we have a battery recycling collection point in school? It is in the main reception area, by the front desk.

We can collect AAA, AA, C, D and 9v batteries (please tape over the terminals on 9v batteries to prevent short-circuiting).

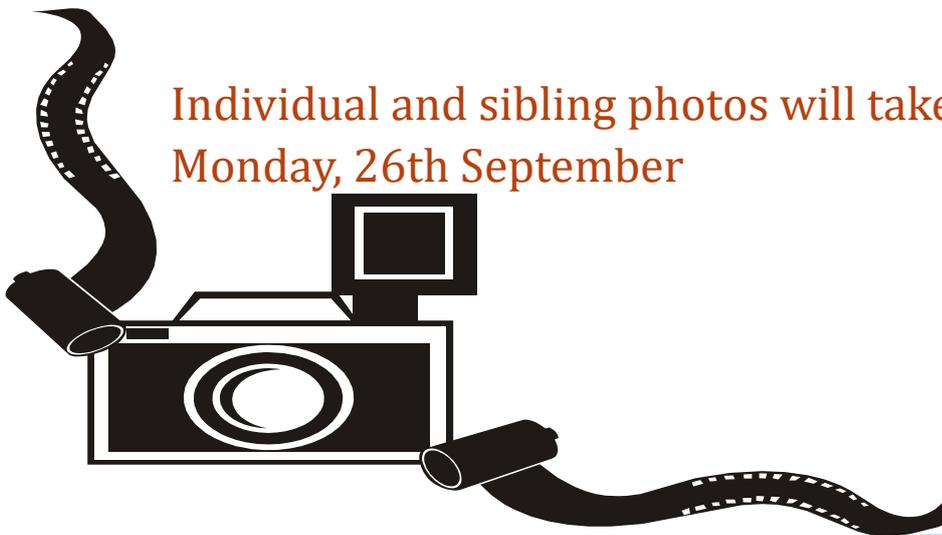


Data Sheets

You will have received a data sheet for your child this week so we can check we hold up-to-date information. Please return these to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Reminder

Individual and sibling photos will take place on Monday, 26th September



Pupil Premium Grant

Do you receive any of the following:-

- Income support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided your annual income does not exceed £16,190
- Universal credit

If so, you could be eligible for 'Free School Meals' and other support such as

- Reduced costs for trips and visits**
- Help with instrument lessons or clubs**
- Help with funding for school holiday play-schemes**
- Help with buying school uniform**

The Government gives schools extra money for each child registered for free school meals – even if they don't actually have school dinners! With budgets being cut this could really help us to keep providing a high quality and fun education for all our pupils. This also means we can use the money to support you and your child.

You probably know that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes receive free school meals through the Government scheme. BUT, did you know that families in receipt of certain benefits and allowances can access the above help just by REGISTERING the fact that their children would be entitled anyway? This means that the school gets extra money to spend on the pupils. Register now to ensure that you, your child, and school don't miss out.

You can apply online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk (use the site's search option for "free school meals")

Reminder - we aim to be a Nut Free School

Please remember that we aim to be a 'nut free' school. We have both staff and children in school who suffer from potentially life-threatening allergies to nuts and it is important that we all take necessary precautions. Please check carefully the ingredients of any items your child has for packed lunch or snack, particularly cereal/snack bars. If your child has a medical need for handcream, please check that this doesn't contain any nut oils.



Many thanks for your help in keeping all our school healthy.

News from Starling Class (Reception)



Hello from Starling Class!

This week we thought about the change in temperature as we head into Autumn and we thought about the signs we can look out for in the world around us. The children have learnt their next four graphemes: i, n, m, d. They have used these sounds to read words and captions. If this is sounding confusing then please do come to our phonics workshop in the school hall at 9:30am on Wednesday 28th September, it would be really handy if you could let us know if you are planning on joining us by emailing the school office . The harder to read and spell words the children have learnt this week are 'I, the, no, a'.

	Pronunciation	Mnemonic	Rhyme
i	i for inventor NOT I	inventor	down her body, spot her idea
n	nnnnnnnnn NOT NUH or EN	nest	down the bird and over her nest
m	mmmmmmmmm NOT MUH or EM	meerkat	meerkat, mound, mound
d	d, d, d not DUH or DEE	duck	over his back and around his tail, up his neck and down to his feet

In Maths this week we have been counting to 4. We have looked at carefully counting 1:1, subitising and noting that we count all of the objects regardless of their colour or size. We looked at Numberblocks episodes to consolidate our learning about 4 and our previous learning about 1, 2 and 3.

This week we looked at the Nigerian artist Njideka Akunyili, we looked at how she creates her pieces using multimedia and had a go at creating our own inspired art using photographs of ourselves, paint, pencil crayons, wax crayon and felt tips. We then learnt about Nigeria and learnt how to say Hello in Igbo, ask your child at home.

In PE this week, we had another go at getting changed. This took quite a long time and so our PE sessions were very short as the adults in the room needed to support most if not all of the children in dressing themselves. Please can you practice at home, we are sure that you can appreciate how long it will take us to aid 21 children getting dressed. Our lessons were building on the straight shape and turning it into a star shape.





Next week we are going to be learning four new graphemes, some new Harder To Read and Spell words, we will be focusing on the number 5 and we will be thinking about woodland animals and further explore Autumn.

Next Friday 30th September will be the first group's turn for Show and Tell. This will be the Yellow Bananas turn. Please can they bring in a family photo (which we will add into our family album) and in a small bag or shoe box, please bring in items that represent them i.e. favourite foods, colours, toys, pictures of their house/

bedroom, special symbols e.g. religious/ cultural, anything that makes them them.

You will find a sheet with a house on it in your child's book bag. This is an All About Me House. Please could you complete this with your child and bring back next week so we can put them in the children's Learning Journeys. Thank You.

Don't forget school photographs next Monday 26th September!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Meridew, Mrs Monks, Mrs Brown and Mrs Keech



News from Robin Class (Year 1)



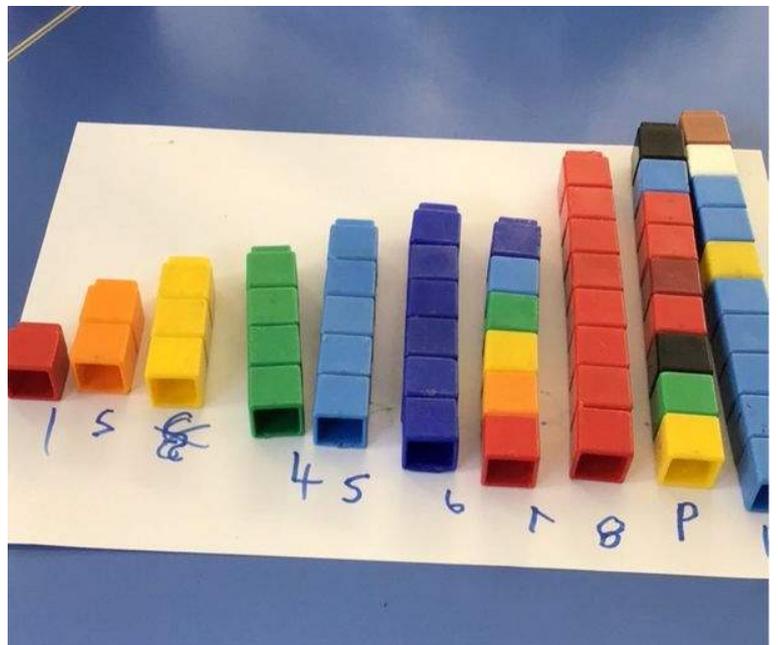
This week in Robin Class has been another busy one! We have been trying to answer some Topic questions – How do we hear? How do our bones go together? What can we feel? and How do we move? We have watched a couple of educational videos about our skeletons and how we hear and the children have responded really well to the challenges of trying to put a skeleton

together (although some might need a little more practise!) and thinking of many different adjectives for the things we can feel!

In Maths we thought about ‘one more than’. All the children are very good at saying what is ‘1 taller’ or ‘1 bigger’ but we have really focussed on the language ‘one more’. They have also tried to use sentences such as ‘One more than 6 is _’ which many thought was fairly easy, but also tried thinking about ‘8 is one more than _’ which proved a little more tricky. I have challenged the children to say sentences in many different ways.

Last week in Art, Mrs Andrews was teaching about drawing portraits. She was so pleased with the children’s efforts – please see the photo!

In Phonics this week, we have been revisiting the sound oo (as in look, book, and took) as well as practising reading sentences with the harder to read and spell words in them as well as sounding out words with all the sounds they have revised so far.



You should have received today all the sounds up to these and we will add in more as we revisit them in the next few weeks. The reading book that came home today has this sound in for your child to practise. If they get stuck on a word, find the card with the sound on and tell them what it is, then ask them to show you their robot arms and blending hands to see if they can de-code the word themselves rather than just telling them! PLEASE remember to have the reading wallet in school every day – reading books will be changed on a Friday.



I am still working on getting all the children a library book! Please also practise reading the 'harder to read and spell' words from the other packet – aim for 6-8 a day! Thank you!

Have a super weekend!

Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Andrews and Mrs Carter



News from Owl Class (Year 2)

Hola from year 2!

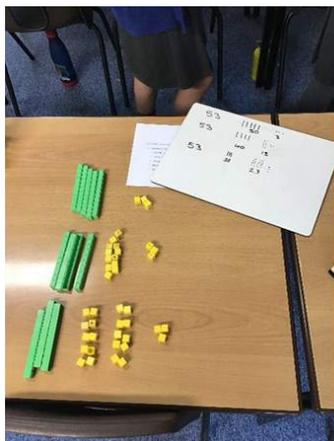
This week the children have had their first Spanish lesson and enjoyed learning about where Spain is, different foods traditionally eaten as well as saying some basic greetings.

In English, the children have been reading a series of riddles from the text 'Rumble in the Jungle' by Giles Andreae. The two types of words we have been highlighting this week are *'nouns'* and *'adjectives'* The children came up with their own riddle for the class. Can you solve it?

I flutter and flap through the night.
I hunt for grasshoppers, mice and shrews.
I lay eggs in hole and screech to be heard.

'naming words' to describe objects, places or people, eg, elephant, Africa, Mrs How
'describing words' used to describe nouns, eg, huge, colourful, tiny, large, scaly

Our topic work this week has had a scientific focus, learning about what animals (including humans) need in order to survive before we move on to looking at sorting a range of animals into different categories, eg, mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians etc.



In Maths the children have continued to look at place value and have started to partition numbers into tens and ones and more flexibly. The children have also been practising to write numbers up to 100 in words.

In addition to the above, we have been enjoying lots of time outside thinking about how we use space when attacking and defending in a team game.

Dodging the rat catchers has quickly become a favourite game!

Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs Luebcke, Miss Blesic and the Year 2 teaching team.

**STEEPLE
MORDEN
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



**FIRE
WORKS**

We will need volunteers to support setting up, marshalling, and clearing up: please speak to a member of the PTA or email the school office at office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Save the Date!

**Saturday, 5th
November**

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

Another busy, fun and productive week in Year Three!

In English, we have changed our notes about Roald Dahl into text, we have thought about using extended sentences, sequential language, writing in chronological order, the use of pronouns and paragraphing! We are very pleased with what we have managed to write so far.

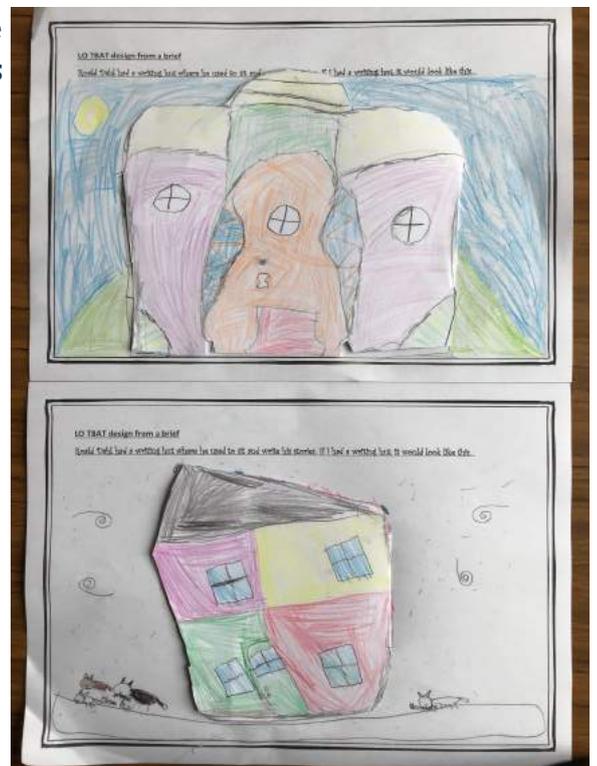
We are all in agreement that Roald Dahl was a very clever writer, he used so many of his own life experiences to give him ideas for his stories and characters. Next week we will edit our work and produce our final pieces of work.



In Maths, we have further developed our understanding of place value, by working out what is 100, 10 or 1 more or less than a given number. This understanding has then been applied to solving problems and writing statements using $<$ or $>$. Place value work will continue again next week.

In other lessons, we have designed our own writing huts. In order to do this we had to think carefully about what we would need around us and why, where the hut would be and why as well as the atmosphere we would want to create in order to feel comfortable and inspired to write.

On Tuesday we had our first French lesson, with Mrs Mevillot, she helped us to learn how to say hello, as well as ask and answer if someone is ok. We also started to learning the French vocabulary for some harvest vegetables.



With Miss Smith, in our music lessons, we thought about the pulse of a piece of music and had a go at learning our first song. Eventually we are hoping to be able to perform our song to a lucky select audience.

Weekly home activities

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

Reminder

- Please name all clothing
- Send books and diary into school each day.
- Street papers, (see below)

Dates

Individual photographs 26th September

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

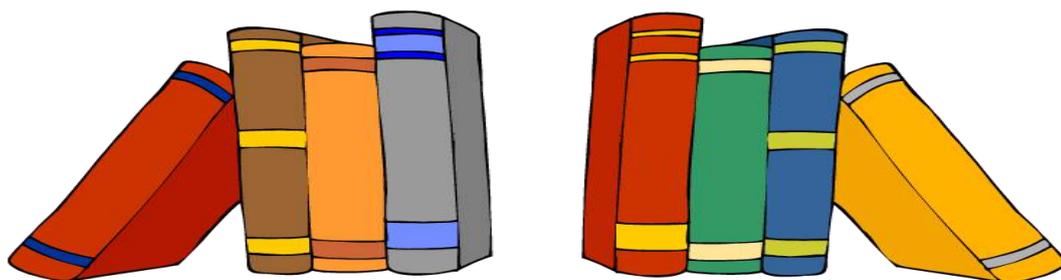
From Mrs Seward and Miss Smith

PS in a few weeks, we will be looking at the work of Kurt Schwitters, a collage artist who used 'street paper' for his creations. Street paper, bits of paper that might be found on the streets, see picture for examples.



Please collect 'street paper' ready for our work

22nd ASHWELL BOOK WEEKEND



St Mary's Church Ashwell

**Saturday 1st October
10.00 till 5.00**

**Sunday 2nd October
1.30 till 4.30**

**Entrance £1 - Under 16s free
Tea, Coffee and Homemade cakes availa-
ble**

**For further details contact Karen Rogers 01462 743338 or
Teresa King 07964 287562**

Proceeds to St Mary's Restoration Fund

News from Swift Class (Year 4)

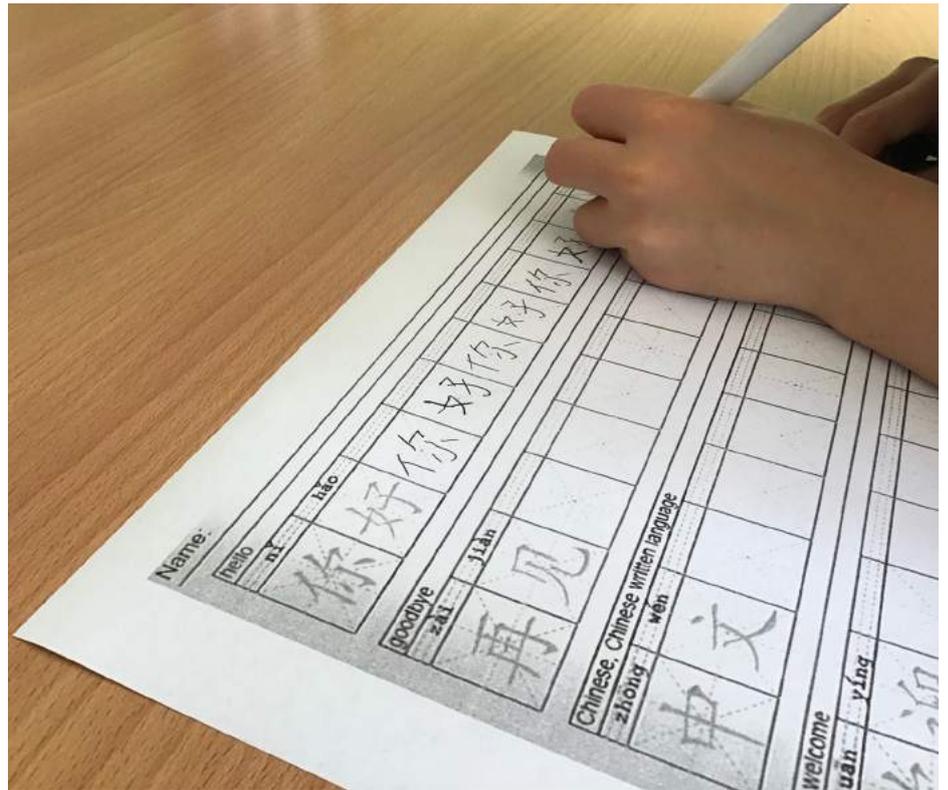
This week we have been learning about the epic poem from Anglo Saxon times, Beowulf. One focus was on how monstrous creatures move; “*crashing*” “*crawling*” “*creeping*” and “*stomping*” were some of the imaginative suggestions the children came up with.

We have begun to learn about how Chinese mandarin is written, using characters such as 你好. This is a greeting translated most directly as ‘you good’?

In our maths lessons alongside place value work, we are identifying which times tables we need to work on overall and which ones we can give ourselves a pat on the back and can instantly recall.

We have been learning to pass in tag rugby, arranging ourselves to go forwards whilst passing backwards has proved a spatial challenge but one we are tackling with enthusiasm!

A massive well done for everyone remembering their swimming kit for Wednesday, from next week swimming will resume the standard schedule of every Monday.



Mr Beavan & the Year 4 Team



News from Heron Class (Year 5)

In English this week, we have continued with our work on 'Street Child', focusing this week on reading, speaking and listening skills. We have discussed the importance of expression and intonation when reading aloud. We have also experimented with discussing our opinions of the text and, most importantly, justifying our opinions with evidence. As your children continue to progress through the school there will be more and more weight given across the curriculum to their ability to justify their views rather than the views themselves.



In Maths, we have continued our work on place value by looking at powers of 10 in numbers and adding or subtracting 10/100/1,000/10,000 more than a given number. We have also made an excellent start with our Tackling Tables this year, the class having collected a very impressive seven certificates already! Please keep practising at home whenever you can as it really does make a huge difference.

In Science, we have continued to think about the changes that occur in human beings as they develop to old age. We spent some time this week discussing how these changes take place at different times and at different rates for different people. We began to collect data about everyone's height in the class to see if we could find any evidence to support this idea.

In Art this week we focussed on the artist L S Lowry, looking at the colour and techniques used in his artwork. We found out what inspired him to paint industrial backdrops and his very well known matchstick figures. We created our own figures in our sketch books and next week will create our own Lowry inspired scenes of London in Victorian times.

In PE we have been developing our fitness skills with a series of circuits whilst also improving our throwing, catching and shooting skills which will help us in future games of both netball and basketball.



In PSHE we have been thinking about how we can all take responsibility for building happy and healthy relationships in our school. We decided that showing an interest in other people and really listening to what they had to say (rather than just thinking about how to respond to what we hear) would be a good start.

With thanks for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team.

News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

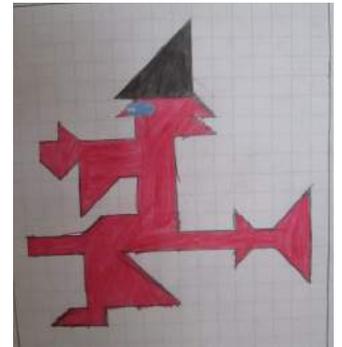
This week, we have been continuing to look at place value in Maths and numbers up to 10,000,000 before we moved on to rounding numbers up to a million (and beyond in some cases). Next week we will examine negative numbers. The Mathematics homework that is set weekly tries to reflect and consolidate on our learning in class so please make sure that the homework is completed.



In English, we are continuing with our topic on newspaper reports, focussing on the outbreak of the Great War and the causes and consequences of this. We are now looking at various newspaper reports and the features that would be expected to be found within them.



We have now completed our first attempt at working through some old SATs papers. The children worked through four papers overall – maths arithmetic, two maths reasoning papers and a reading comprehension. This is for the children to get a feel of what the SATs papers are like in terms of the type of questions asked, the timings, the font used etc.



The work shown is some of the activities that the class worked on right at the start of term, when we looked at coordinates, shapes and compass directions.

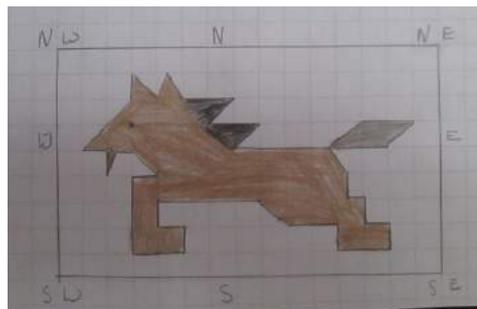
The children that completed the play leader course whilst in Year 5 have now begun to put their training into use as they started to deliver their weekly rota of activities this week.

Homework will continue to be set on a Friday and should be completed by the following Thursday.



Thank you.

Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team



**MORDEN
MAGPIES
YOUTH F.C.**

JOIN US!

CALLING FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION &
YEAR 1! THE MAGPIES' SOCCER SCHOOL

STARTS AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER 2022!

FITNESS **FUN** COMPETITION

Open to all children in Reception & Year 1 (Sept 22)

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AT hello@mordenmagpies.co.uk

www.mordenmagpies.co.uk

Litlington Pre-school

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER

JOIN NOW!

**SPACES AVAILABLE
FOR CHILDREN
AGED 2+**

Contact the team today to arrange
a visit!

Call: 07984935193
or email:
admin@litlingtonpreschool.net



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



CALLING THE NEW YEAR 3s!!

Our team for the new U9 Season is moving to the 7 a side format and is short on players! Please come and join this great little squad!

JOIN US

MORDEN MAGPIES FC

Get in touch at hello@mordenmagpies.co.uk

POSITIVE. EXCITING. FUN!

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
Multi Active Holiday Childcare
Steeple Morden tennis coaching
French Saturday Club

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

*"It's the first day of autumn! A time of hot chocolatey mornings,
and toasty marshmallow evenings,
and, best of all, leaping into leaves!"*

AA Milne

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

