

Friday 22nd April 2022
steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



THE STARLET

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



Message from Mrs How

Welcome back, I hope you all had a pleasant Easter and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends.

This week's Star is a shortened version. With the children only being back for three days teachers have been busy getting new topics underway and settling the children back into school. By next week they will have lots of news to share with you.

As I am sure you will be aware, the current position with Covid-19 is that people are advised to stay home and avoid contact with other people if they have either tested positive for Covid (with no requirement for regular testing this may only come from people taking "fit to fly" tests) or if they have symptoms of a respiratory infection. Please see the attached letter from the LA with additional information.

From a school point of view, we will continue with all the good practice already in place including ensuring occupied spaces are well ventilated to let fresh air in and that we encourage good hygiene practices such as hand washing and cleaning.

I would like to think that this will give us a more settled term with fewer staff and pupil absences. The winter cold and flu' session should be over by now and the children have been back together long enough to develop some resilience to the normal childhood germs so I think I can afford to be optimistic!

Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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"Some days there won't be a song in your heart. Sing anyway"

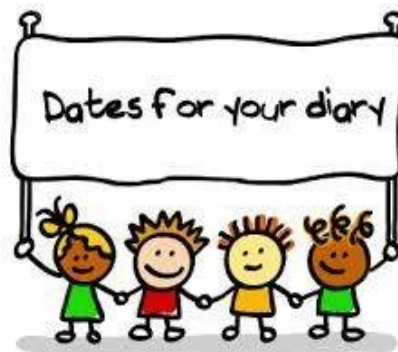
Emory Austin

School Meal Charges Summer 2021

Daily:	£2.35
Weekly:	£11.75
1st half term	£61.10
2nd half term	£79.90
Whole term	£141.00

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



May

- 2nd Early May Bank Holiday
- 3rd Class group photographs
- 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@steeplemorden.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@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.

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)

Welcome back from Starling Class!

We are looking forward to another wonderful half term full of fun, laughter and learning. This short week we have looked at the Muslim festival of Ramadan and read the texts 'Lailah's lunchbox' and 'Rameena's Ramadan' to support our learning. We have restarted our Literacy, Handwriting and Maths groups and enjoyed playing outside in the sunshine! Next week we will turn our attention to fantasy lands, creatures, stories and characters!



Please remember that due to the changeable weather, children will need to bring in water bottles, sun hats, coats/rain jackets, jumpers and cardigans EVERY DAY. All children will also be required to wear suncream as they spend most of their day outdoors! Please apply all-day sun cream to your child before they come to school each day as we are not able to apply it in school, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Reminder: PE kits need to be in school ready for Tuesday afternoon, Reading books are changed on Wednesdays, Library books are changed on Thursdays.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Meridew, Mrs Brown & Mrs Keech

Vacancies

We are currently seeking the following members of staff to join our school:

Class Teacher part time/0.6 - starting September 2022 or sooner

Class Teacher Year 1 part time/0.3 (Fridays plus PPA cover) - starting September 2022 or sooner

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

For more information please go to: <https://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk/vacancies>

News from Robin Class (Year 1)

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back into Robin class this week after the Easter holiday and listen to all the children talking about their holidays.

This term, we have moved on to our 'It's a Bug's Life' Topic, where we will be welcoming a range of different living creatures into the classroom. We will use these to help us learn about lifecycles, non-fiction texts and measuring as well our wellbeing and how we can connect with nature. Miss Waterer will continue to be with us .



Our Library day is going to change to a Monday for the time being, so we will begin by giving out new books next week. If you have any library books that were not returned at the end of last term, please send these in on Monday and we will return them to the library.

Thank you for those who have already sent in PE kits. To those still to send them back, please do this on Monday morning. We will be having our PE lessons on Monday and Tuesday this half term, but as always, it is best to leave PE kits in school all the time. Please do make sure the children still have a warm top and joggers as it is not always warm first thing in the mornings.

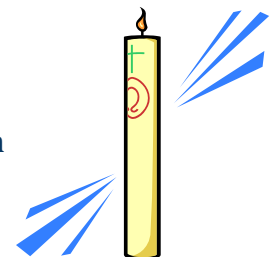
Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Bowmer and the Year 1 Team

Assemblies, Collective Worship and Reflection

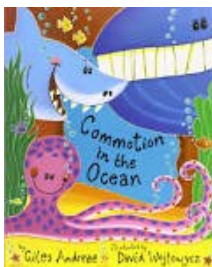
This week all classes enjoyed an Easter assembly video produced by GenR8 focusing on the themes of Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

From next week, we will be returning to holding whole school assemblies and collective worship together in the hall. I am really looking forward to having everyone back together in one space and sharing moments of reflection without the lag of technology and computer screens. In preparation, Mrs Daniels and Mr Beavan led their Key Stage assemblies in the hall this week, reminding our older children of the expectations and teaching them to all those children in Reception and Year 1 who have never been part of a whole school gathering.



News from Owl Class (Year 2)

The children have settled back into school well after the Easter holidays and have enjoyed sharing all their action packed adventures! We have also welcomed Una to our class and have enjoyed getting to know her.



It is going to be a very busy half term ahead as we take a 'Voyage to the Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea...' and learn geographical and scientific facts about how we can care for and protect our oceans.

You will remember that we mentioned the National SATs tests which we will work through with the children later this half term. These will very much be part of our day to day learning and we will outline more detail in next week's Star.

All Homework activities will resume next week ('Topic' Homework Books and Spellings). Reading books and Mathletics activities have been organised and set for this week.

Have an enjoyable weekend!

Mrs Luebcke, Mrs Daniels and the Year 2 team



Living with COVID-19: advice for those aged 18 and under

Has your child or young person aged 18 or under tested positive, or do they feel unwell with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms? If so, there are a few simple steps they can take to protect their family and community – especially those at highest risk of severe illness.



If they feel unwell and have a high temperature, with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, they should:



Try to stay at home, avoid contact with others and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return



Carry on attending as normal if they only have mild symptoms like a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough and otherwise feel well



If they have had a positive test for COVID-19, they should:



Try to stay at home, avoid contact with others for 3 days and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare during this time, where they can



Go back after 3 days, but only if they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to do so

Find out more on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

Hello, we hope you enjoyed your Easter break, it has been lovely to have the children back fully rested and ready to work.

We have just embarked on our journey that will take us through the key points of Ashwell's past.

Let the adventure begin.....,

The first key date for you is the Celtic dress up day on 26th April. When I have other key dates, they will be publicised in The Star.

Thanks you for your continued support

Mrs Seward and Miss Smith



News from Year 4

I hope you have all had a relaxing break.

We've enjoyed starting our geography focused topic titled, 'Fragile Planet'. We have begun by looking at climate zones around the world - this will lead on to our study of aspects of global warming and climate change.



We are look forward to making a splash by going swimming on Monday; please refer to Thursday's parent mail for more information.

Mr Beavan & the Year Four Team

Reminder for Year 4s to remember their swimming kits on Mondays this term, please see Parentmail for further information

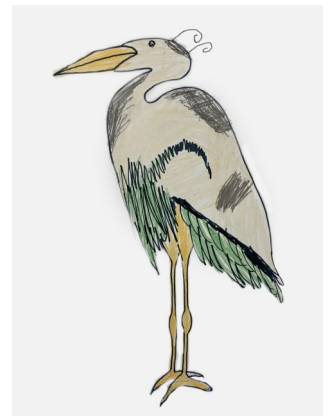
News from Heron Class (Year 5)

It was lovely to welcome year 5 back to school this week, everyone is looking very relaxed and as though they have thoroughly enjoyed some of the lovely Easter sunshine which we were lucky enough to have over the last few weeks. Amongst other things, we spent some time this week learning how to multiply fractions and the features of an explanation text.

Mathletics homework has been set for this week and we have completed our first Tackling Tables test of the summer term. Spellings and Learning Logs will be sent home next week. Please make sure that your child has their reading book and reading record in school each day as they will need them to support their reading on a daily basis from now on. A few children are also without their water bottles, please remind them to bring in a freshly filled bottle each day.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team



News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

Firstly, a big thank you to all the children, with help from their parents, who completed the homework over the Easter break in preparation for the SATs exams next month. I hope it was worthwhile. In class we will be working towards the exams with a focus on Maths, SPAG and reading over the next few weeks.

Homework will continue to be set in the lead up to the exams. As well as the usual spellings, SPAG and Maths tasks, please could your child work through any areas that they feel they need to revise from the Mathletics website. Thank you.

Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team

