



THE STAR



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

Message from Mrs How:

We have had a number of visitors into school over the last couple of weeks. We welcomed the Open The Book team into assembly this Monday, termly visits from our English, Maths and Early Years advisors have taken place and a number of governors have spent time in school meeting with teachers, children and office staff. Without exception, they gave some very positive feedback on everything going on in and around the school. Those who met with children commented on their manners and politeness and enjoyed listening to the children talk about their learning and other aspects of school life. They noticed children walking around the school holding doors open for others, children saying 'thank you' when this happened, children speaking kindly to their peers and conversations between adults and children that showed warmth and mutual respect. It is always lovely to receive this sort of feedback and it serves as a reminder that all the work in school and at home about how to treat each other with kindness and tolerance has such an impact on daily life.

Governor news - As you may remember, I explained that we had two very strong responses to our request for a parent governor. Following our Full Governing Body meeting this week, I can now confirm that Leanne Holt and Helen Ogilvie have been appointed as governors and will be adding their skills and expertise to the team.

I am really not sure where the time has gone this half term and so much has been squeezed into every week. When we return after the half term break there will be even more to cover with all the usual end of year activities alongside our ongoing teaching and learning. Teachers will be busy over half term making sure that everything is ready and they are beginning to work on the end of year reports which will be sent home in July.

Wishing you all a peaceful half term, whatever you are doing. I hope the weather is kind and we look forward to seeing the children back on $\bf Tuesday~6^{th}~June$.

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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"One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an adventure."-

William Feather

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.



May

29th - 2nd June Spring half term

June

5th INSET day (children not in school) 8th Quad Kids sport event, Cambridge

20th Year 4 trip to Waterbeach recycling centre

20th & 21st Book fair after school

28th } Sports days:

29th } Houses and times to be confirmed

July

w/c 3rd Bikeability

7th Year 3 trip to Bewilderwood & sleepover

8th PTA Summer Fete

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.

News from Starling Class (Reception)

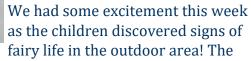
This week the children have been applying their Mathematical knowledge from last week on doubling to halving and sharing using the "one for you, one for me" method to ensure fair sharing. In Phonics we have been focusing on the tricky digraphs oo, or, oi, ear

and ur BRIGH any gr and Sp recogr of wee at hom their r

and ur. Your child will have brought home a BRIGHT YELLOW laminated card which has any graphemes (letters) and Harder To Read and Spell words which they were unable to recognise when assessed over the last couple of weeks. Please can you practise these daily



at home to ensure they are confident in using and applying them to their reading and writing. If your child has not got a yellow card in their wallet, then please continue as you have been.



children found a watering can, ladder, wheelbarrow and other small items surrounded by fairy dust! The children were so excited they decided to make signs, posters and notes for the fairy to welcome them to our garden. We wonder what will happen next?!



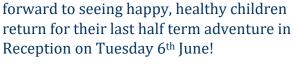


Next half term please ensure that your child is wearing sun cream every day, have a sun hat, cardigan/jumper, water bottle, light waterproof coat, suitable school shoes and book bag with plastic wallet containing all homework items inside it. We collected in

reading books on Friday, so you can focus on relearning and overlearning those phonemes and Harder To Read and Spell words in fun ways at home or on holiday.



We hope you have a harmonious Half Term holiday and look





The Reception Team



May Lottery Club winners are:

1st: 32 Elisabeth Haigh £15 2nd: 58 Kyle McClelland £10

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners!

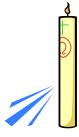
Thanks to Mrs Luebcke and Miss Blesic who made sure Mrs How did the draw fairly.

Thanks again for your support.

Assemblies and Collective Worship

This week's assembly theme has been Justice. The Open the Book team led Monday's assembly with *The parable of the Unforgiving Servant* (Matthew 18 v21-35) and asked the children to consider the idea of treating others as we would want to be treated.

The Bible verse on the screen as children entered the hall was "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed." (Isaiah 1v17) and I am very proud to say I have heard of a number of occasions this week where children have stood up for what they know is right, challenged others when they have been unkind and shown real compassion.



News from Robin Class (Year 1)

Well, it was certainly lovely to see all the Robins who weren't with us last week, back in the classroom. It was particularly lovely that they were all able to meet our beautiful chicks, have cuddles and watch them paint with their feet!!

Our Chick Diaries have been enthusiastically added to this week, with photos of emerging wing feathers, more cuddles, chick footprints and children's favourite chicks for labelling

body parts, as well as using this photo for the front cover.

We were very impressed with the children's enthusiasm when doing more 'Chick Maths' this week – grouping; sharing; writing number sentences using repeated addition; making arrays and some children even working out how much heavier the chicks were on Thursday compared to when they hatched last week!

We have concluded our work on the Big Question in RE this half term, 'Why do Jewish People say so many prayers and blessings?' with various answers, but generally all agreeing that the Jewish people say prayers and blessings because they are thankful to God for what he has provided for them. They say 'so many' because there is so much for them to be thankful for.

In PE this week, the children worked in groups to create their own little fitness circuit. They were very impressive, cooperating together, encouraging each other and having lots

of fun doing it. Next half term we will be focussing on athletics skills and getting ready for our Sports Day activities.





Please check your child's PE kit over the break. The grass on the field can still be wet with dew first thing in the morning, so a pair of spare socks (which your child is able to identify) really is essential to prevent them having wet socks all day. Please also double check for names which might have washed out or come loose and that trainers still fit.

We have noticed an increase in children arriving to school considerably later than the time the doors open. Please try to get children in to school as close to 8:45 as possible. We have activities set up for them to do throughout the week and from next half term will be packing these away at 9:00 in order to start the day promptly.

Water bottles are needed daily and sun hats become a greater necessity again as we move into June and July. Please also make sure these are both <u>named!</u>

We have collected in Reading Books, but do keep looking at books from home – or visit the library (don't forget it is free to join). With regard to the reading record you could keep for books you read at home from the homework activities, please see the photo – simply writing the title and author of a book and deciding together if it is a fiction, non-fiction, poetry, biography, etc. There is no need to write book reviews, or even for the children to write their own book titles if this is

going to put them off reading the book in the first place. A discussion about what sort of book it is, discovering the author's name and deciding what colour this could be written in is enough. Children are then able to talk about the sorts of books they read at home with greater understanding.

We hope you have a lovely Half Term break with your children, and hope that the weather is kind!

Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Andrews and the Year 1 Team

Chocolate cake-Michael Rosen
King Charles - Little People, Big
Oi Frog!
That rabbit belongs to Enily Brow
The tiger who came to tea
Race day - National geogra

. fiction book
. non-fiction
. peetry

News from Owl Class (Year 2)

This week has been another packed week. We've been reviewing place value in Maths, learning about subordinating conjunctions in English, and touring the Seven Wonders of the World with a compass in Geography. The children will be ready for a well-earned break next week.

In our English lessons, the children have been learning how to choose and use the correct subordinating conjunction e.g.

that if when because

The children have enjoyed purposefully using the wrong conjunction in order to test their partners correcting skills. Which of the following 2 sentences do you think is correct?

I can only have cake **if** I eat all my dinner.

I can only have cake **because** I eat all my dinner.

In our Maths lessons this week, we have reviewed place value. We've reminded ourselves what partitioning is, how to partition numbers flexibly and how to record them in the expanded form. We have used 'part, part whole' models and place value charts to support our learning. Great fun

was had by all, when we needed to unbundle 90 straws to flexibly partition

95! Did you know that 49 can be partitioned into 4 tens and 9 ones or 30 and 19? To write this in expanded form you would need to show 49 = 30 + 19.

In our Topic lessons, we have toured the Seven Wonders of the World learning how to guide each other with a compass. In Science, we read a story all about sea

pollution and considered what we could do to help prevent endangering

the sea and the animals that live there.

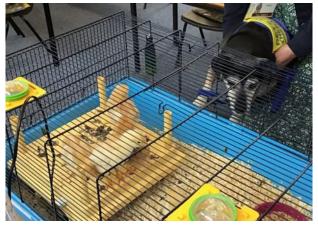














Finally, to end our week we got a special visit from the Year 1 chicks. Even Monty got in on the action!

We hope you all have a restful half term and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6^{th} June. Thank you all for your support.

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

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

In English, we have finished our diary writing about a visit to the Tudor doctor, this week we have thought carefully about the introduction to the entry and how to write a close. For both of these we needed to think about the use of adjectives and using more emotive language. Before producing our final draft, we edited carefully with a friend, making sure we had used all the features of a diary entry and that we had used the best words and phrases, in the best order, so that our diaries could be the best they could. We all worked very hard and are proud of what we have written.

In guided reading this week we needed to read diary entries and follow the clues to find where the Catholic priest was hiding, this followed looking at priest holes in Elizabethan houses. The closest house to us with one that you can visit is Oxburgh Hall, if you fancy a day out over half term. https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/norfolk/oxburgh-estate

In Maths, we have continued our work on time by looking at digital time, as well as am and pm.

We have found digital time a little easier than analogue. Please keep practising analogue time at home, particularly anything that is *to* the hour. We will continue work on time next after half term.

Other work this week has been mainly geographical. Elizabeth's rainbow portrait has been on tour around the country, (as was the practise in Elizabethan England), we used atlases to locate cities of the UK on a map to show where the portrait had been.



On a world map, we located places in the 'New World' and what produce came from them, being introduced to England by the Elizabethan explorers. Before this time we did not have potatoes in England. They were discovered in Bolivia by Walter Raleigh and brought back to England

maybe as a gift for the queen. Just think if he had not brought these back, we would not

be able to have chips by the sea or sausage and mash on a winter's evening.







As part of this work we made fruit kebabs with the donated tropical fruits (thank you). Before we developed our cooking skills we found out where the fruits had come from and which were known by the Elizabethans.

We also had a day all about the Spanish Armada, by the end of it we knew what and why things had happened and composed a piece of music to tell the story.

After half term, we will be time travelling again to discover what life was like in the 1940s. As part of this work we will have a 'holidays at home' day (a government initiative during the war) the children will be invited to dress in a 1940s outfit. Again, please do not feel you need to buy expensive costumes; you probably already have things at home that would be suitable.

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

1940s dress up day wb 12.6.23

Wishing you all an enjoyable half term

From Mrs Seward and the Year Three team



News from Swift Class (Year 4)

We have been making the most of the outdoors this week in our PE lessons and enjoying the sunnier weather. The children have been further increasing their accuracy by bowling with proper technique and resisting the urge to throw the ball! I was reminded of the saying, "You need to take a step back to take a leap forward" as some found it frustrating that they could not just throw like they normally do but, as they persevered with their bowling technique, they found they were becoming more accurate. This will help games flow more easily in the future.

In our maths lessons, our focus this week has been on adding and subtracting mixed numbers. A mixed number is a combination of a whole number and a fraction. For example, $2\frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{3}{4} = 4\frac{1}{4}$. We have practiced solving problems involving mixed numbers, with like denominators. Your support in providing real-life examples or allowing your child to help

with fractional measurements when cooking or measuring can greatly enhance their learning experience.

Children have also been exploring the properties of various polygons, including triangles, quadrilaterals, and pentagons. They have learned to identify and classify polygons based on their sides and angles. Please encourage your child to point out different polygons they come across in everyday life, such as street signs or buildings, to reinforce their understanding.

For children who are not yet fluent with their times tables up to 12x12, we continue to focus on reinforcing their knowledge of the times table they are currently learning. It is essential for children to have a strong foundation in multiplication, as it serves as a

can provide at home, such as practicing times tables together or using online resources mentioned last week and on the class web page, will help your child with their future

maths work. The government's multiplication tables check will take place shortly after half term.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you all a restful and enjoyable break!

Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team

fundamental building block for future mathematical concepts. Again, any assistance you





News from Heron Class (Year 5)

This week in English, we have continued our work on discussion texts. We have taken part in some debates and managed to listen and contribute respectfully so that we were all able to vote on the motion at the end of each discussion. The children seemed to really enjoy this opportunity and some proved very articulate and able to think and react well under pressure. We have also undertaken the spelling test that we mentioned recently to assess progress with the spelling of words from the statutory spelling lists across all year groups. The results will be sent home to you shortly.

In Italian, we have been learning the names of a selection of animals in Italian. We have added to our understanding of masculine and feminine words and explored the seven different words that Italians use for 'the'.

In Maths this week, we have continued our work on decimals. We have explored the idea of hundredths and seen how they are represented on a place value

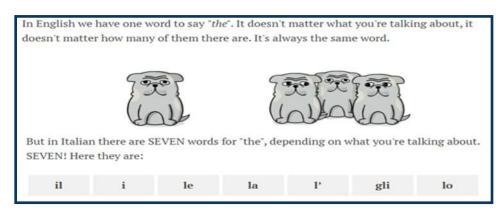


chart. We have also used bar models and part whole models to find complementary sets of decimal numbers that make a whole. Giving your children access to a wide range of mathematical models like this has been shown to improve understanding and confidence in maths.

Our travels in our topic this week led us to explore the Grand Canyon and find out some fascinating facts about the scale of this natural wonder of the world, including the number of visitors it has each year and the diversity of plants and animals that make it their home.

We seem to have somehow reached the end of another very busy half term in Year 5 and can't quite believe that only six and a half weeks remain when we return to school on Tuesday 6th June.



We have lots of learning to pack into a short space of time and would really like to invite you into school to see some of that learning on Thursday 13^{th} July (9.30-10.30am). More details to follow about this after the holiday.

Have a lovely relaxing holiday.

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. The children have planned and have now started to write their own autobiographies. We aim to finish this in the first week back after half term.

As well as English, we have been focussing on other areas of the curriculum. In RE we are finishing our work on salvation. In History, we are tying up all the loose ends concerning our

work on ancient Greece. In PE, we are focussing on outdoor problem solving activities as well as field athletic sports. In Maths, we have started

looking at problem solving exercises.

Earlier in the week, we all thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Burwell House, near Newmarket, where we took part in a brilliant day in a television studio. The class was split in two, with onehalf presenting a news

report whilst the other half focussed on the technical side.

This included roles such as, the director, the floor manager, the camera operatives, the vision mixer and the sound mixer, to name but a few. On the presentation side, the children were allocated roles such as the news anchor, the weather reporter, the sports reporter and the outside (green screen) team. It was an excellent session and all children gave it at least 8 out

of 10! Take a look at some of the photos of our day out.











Next term, the final half term at primary school for the children, will be a busy one – more details to follow. Have a peaceful and enjoyable week off, next week, and the children will need to rest and have some 'me' time after their exertions during the revision for and the SATs exams. There will be no homework set over the half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team











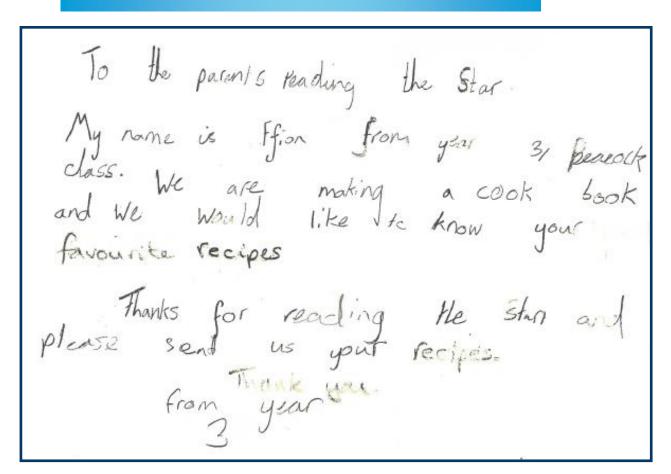


Transition to Bassingbourn Village College

You should have received, or will shortly receive, communication from BVS regarding transition arrangements. They are holding a parent's meeting on 13th July at 6.30pm.

On the transition days on 17th and 18th July, children can use the Myalls bus service from home pick up/drop off point to/from BVC.

If you have any questions regarding transition, please direct all enquiries to BVC.

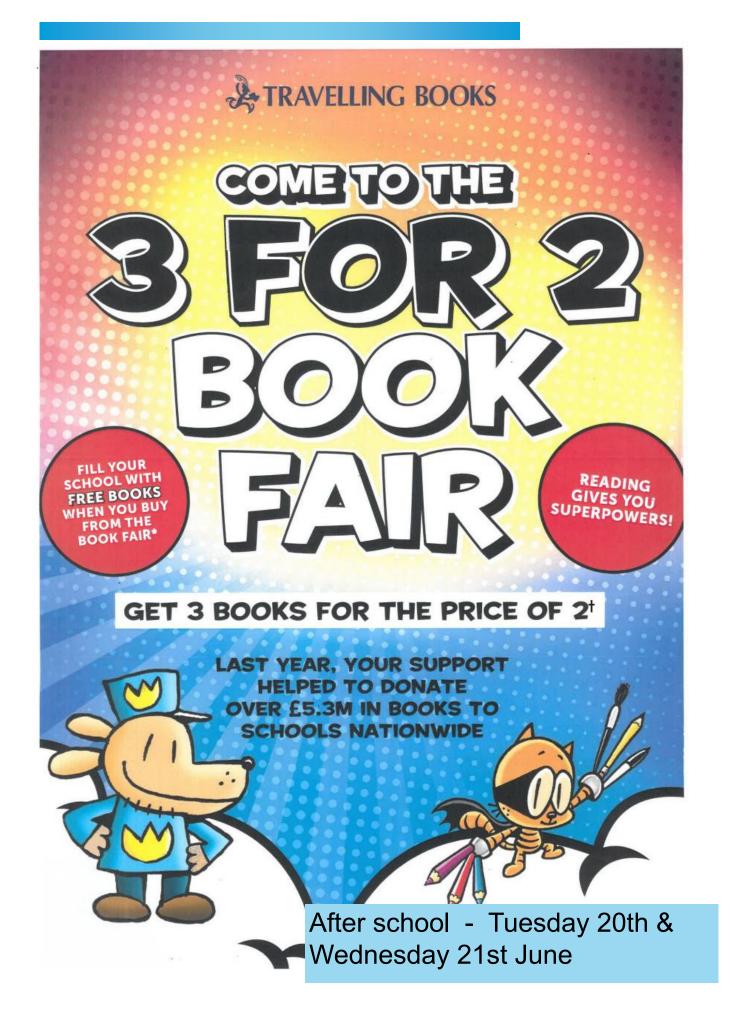


Can you help Year 3 create a recipe book? See note from Ffion on behalf of the class asking for your favourite recipes.













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

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

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek. ."

Barack Obama

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