

19TH JULY 2025

www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



@steeplemordenprimary



Resilience ~ Compassion ~ Excellence

NEWSLETTER

Autumn is in the air

Welcome back! We have now completed two full weeks back and it has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled in to their new classes and have remembered our routines and expectations. It has been great to see so many of you on the gate in the mornings too and punctuality in these first few weeks has really improved on last term! Children in year 1 and 2 have taken really well to going through a different entrance, please can we ask that parents continue to say 'Goodbye' at the gate and let the children walk from there. This will support congestion at the drop-off point. Thank you.

As with any new year, there are new things to introduce and I am excited for the plans we have coming up. Some **curriculum updates** for this academic year include: moving our Science and Music curriculum over to PKC (as we did last year for History, Geography, Art & DT), transitioning to a new phonics scheme called 'Sounds Write' (more information to follow), introducing Spanish as the consistent language to be taught across Key Stage 2, introducing a scheme to support the teaching of handwriting throughout the school and introducing Spelling Shed as both a scheme and a tool you can use at home to teach/support spelling. There will be more information on these things, plus upcoming trips and visits we have planned at the **Year Ahead meetings on Thursday 25th September**. All class teachers will do a short presentation at 3.30pm and then repeat it at 4pm to enable parents with siblings in school to attend both presentations.

Just a reminder that we are not able to tape earrings for PE – this is a county-wide policy not just a school one. Earrings need to be removed for PE (or be using flat backs) in order to participate. More widely, we strongly encourage that children do not bring or wear jewellery to school due to risk of loss or damage.

It was a joy to receive a high percentage of applications this year from our Year 6s who applied for positions of either House Captain or Sports Captains. Each letter was well thought-out as to why they would be suited to the role, so I am pleased to share that all who applied have a role for this academic year! Congratulations to the following:

House Captains – Grace V and Holly C (Barley), Lydia and Holly H (Wheat), Ffion and Robyn (Rye)

Sports Captains – Elijah and Joy (Barley), Lexi and Maia (Wheat), Rhys and Erin (Rye)

Playground Leader – Bernie, who will support the organisation of play leaders

We are just waiting on the final badge to be delivered and these will be presented in collective worship next week.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week,

Mrs Housden

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our recent Stars of the Week...

Friday 12th September – Archer, Tilly, Zac, Harry S, Lexi

Friday 19th September – Oliver B, Pippa, Johnny, Abigail, Holly H



School Choir

I am delighted to share that we will now be offering a choir for children in Key Stage Two during part of a Friday lunchtime. We are aiming for a debut performance at the Christmas Carol Service. If you would like to sign up, please email the office so we can create a register.

Firework Ticket Design Competition

A huge 'thank you' to all those who entered our firework ticket competition! We had lots of entries and it was so difficult to choose. Designs were shortlisted by team in school and then put to an anonymous vote.

I am pleased to say a huge "Well done" to Bow in Birch Class and Maia Walker in Oak Class who have each one a family ticket to attend the fireworks event and will have their design used on the tickets!

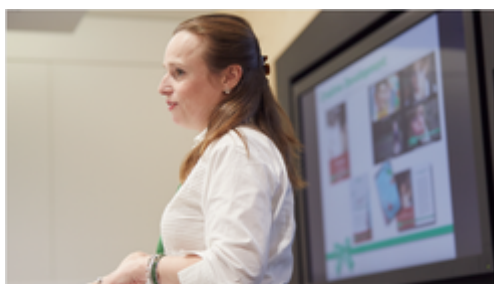


REMINDER

**Our Firework Event volunteer meeting is
Thursday 25th September @7pm in the school hall.**

We need volunteers to help with the following stalls: hot chocolate, mulled wine, snack shop. We also need volunteers to be fire marshals and people who can support the clear up on the morning after.





Free online safety virtual workshop

Watch our free online safety virtual workshop for parents and carers.



Parent Online Safety Training

We understand that in an ever-changing and developing world in regards to technology, it can be hard to keep on top of how to keep your child safe online. The NSPCC have a 40 minute training video available via their website aimed at parents to support with this challenge.

Visit their website below or search for 'NSPCC' <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/>



Have your name on the moon!

In January, four astronauts will fly around the Moon and back again on Artemis II and they could take your name with them!



Sign up here to have your name travel into space!
<https://www3.nasa.gov/send-your-name-with-artemis/>



Can you help?

We are building up our 'small world' area in our playground and need the following items. You will be able to find a full list on the website and we will update this often to let you know what we have enough of and what we still need. The children have use the money they raised at the bake sale to provide heavy duty boxes so children can access these resources at break time.

<https://www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk/opal>

Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO

Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Wooden spoons 	Action figures 	Plastic crates
clothes to roleplay e.g. Jackets Hats	Cars 	Dinosaurs 	Pans 	Plastic dolls
Lego 	Small balls 	Baking Pans 	Plastic tubes 	Tarpaulin
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Cake Moulds 	Cardboard tubes
Guttering 	1x1x1m cable reels 	Big Cones 	Aprons 	Chalk



PTA NEWS/NOTICES



As the PTA begin to get organised for the Fireworks event, we are looking for someone (or a small team) to take on sourcing sponsorship from local companies. This would involve designing sponsorship packages and contacting local businesses. If this is something within your skills set and you could volunteer some time between now and the beginning of November, please reach out to us at pta@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Acorn Class

In Acorn class we have been thinking about starting school. As part of learning about each other, each child brought in an all about me bag and shared 4 of their most important items with their new friends. As part of our settling in process we have been developing our independence skills, remembering to try first before asking for help, learning to put our resources away when we have finished and exploring the classrooms both outside and in!

This week we have been talking about who is in our family and creating our family trees. First we painted and cut out our trees, developing our colour mixing and scissor skills and then we chose the photos we wanted to add to our trees. We also started our balance-ability sessions, which will take place every Tuesday as part of our PE program. It was FABULOUS fun!



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Ash Class

Hello from Ash Class,

Welcome to Year One. We have been establishing our class rules and routines and the children are really finding their feet and remembering lots of the key messages. We are really proud of how mature they are being.

We have begun recapping Phase 3 Phonics. We started at 'ch' and have also taught 'sh', 'th', 'ng', 'ai' 'ee', 'igh' and 'oa'. Your child will have received a reading book based on these sounds so they should be able to read the book without any help. Reading records have been sent back out. Please write in these EVERY time your child reads, ideally this will be daily. Thank you.

In Maths, we have been thinking about numbers up to 10. How we write these numbers in numeral and word form as well as counting on from a given number and showing how many counters that number is worth using a tens frame and counters.

In Art, we have been looking at primary and secondary colours and what happens when we mix these colours. We have looked at shades and tints and how we make lighter and darker colours using black and white paints.



PE days are Monday and Thursday. Children need to wear kits on a Monday morning and bring school uniform with them to get changed into after their PE lesson. They will then leave their PE kit at school until Thursday where they will get changed into their PE kit after lunch and they will come home in their PE kits with their school uniform in their bags. This is the plan up to half term.

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week at our Year Ahead meeting.

The Year One Team

Birch Class

In Birch class we have been settling back into the routines of school life. We are currently reading Aladdin and forming sentences describing what is going on in the story. We have also been learning how to answer questions in full sentences.

In Maths lessons we have been learning to partition numbers flexibly using different types of resources, which takes a solid understanding of place value – something we will continue to focus on over the year.

Our Geography lessons have seen us create sketch maps with corresponding keys and become more familiar with the compass directions and applying them in real life. In science we have been learning about how the skeleton and muscles function.

I look forward to meeting you at the Year Ahead meeting next week.

Mr Beavan and the Year 2 Team.



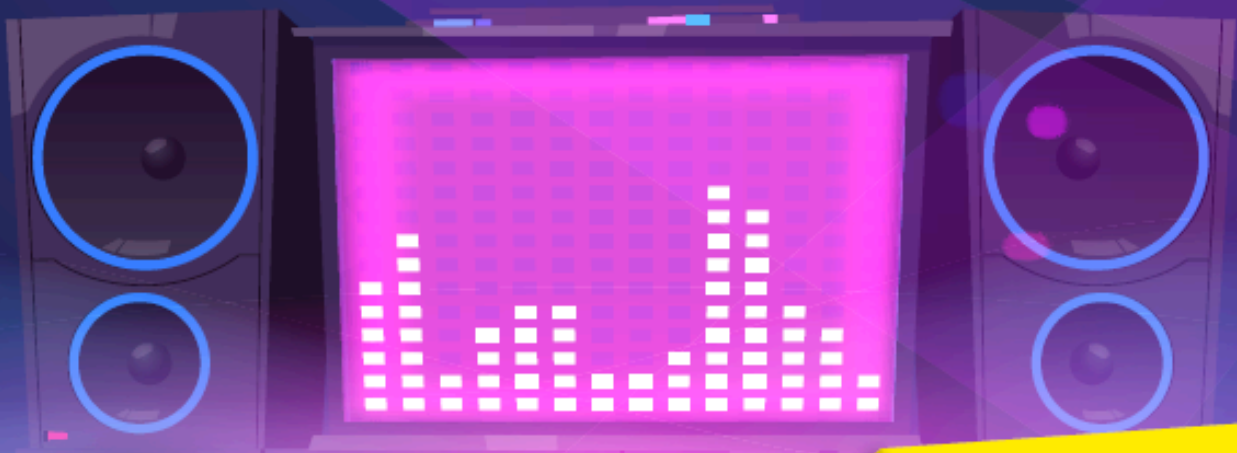
DISCO

FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER
DJ HAYLEY

£4 PER CHILD INCLUDING ENTRANCE, SNACK AND A DRINK

5PM – 6PM ACORN*, ASH, AND BIRCH
6:15PM – 7:15PM HAZEL, YEW, AND OAK

***Acorn children need to be
accompanied by an adult.**



BOOK NOW
**TICKETS AVAILABLE
THROUGH PARENTMAIL**

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

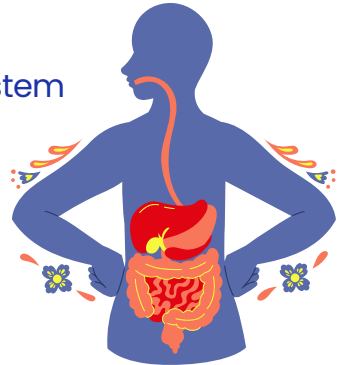
Hazel Class

Welcome back,

I am pleased to report that we have all had a positive and enthusiastic start to the new school year. In English we have been finding out about the life and times of Charles Dickens before we start our work on Oliver.

In maths we have refreshed our minds about place value and built on our understanding of the value of digits in different numbers.

In science we have shown interest in the early stages of our digestive system and look forward to finding out about how the organs work together to digest our food. We have had interesting debates in our PSHE lessons through our discussions about wants and needs when packing a bag for holiday. We will extend this by considering wants and needs within the classroom.



Yew Class

Welcome to Year 5.

The typical day, in Year 5, runs as follows:

At the beginning of the day, when the children arrive, a morning activity will be set – this will more often than not be a maths activity but can be from any subject from the curriculum. The maths activity, that I call '5-a-day Maths', contains differentiated questions, and there are questions on a range of mathematical problems in order to keep different topics fresh in the children's minds. After morning collective worship there will be a reading activity for the class to do.

Next we complete our maths activities. Over the last two weeks, we have started looking at place value in numbers up to 1,000,000 before going onto rounding numbers.

In English (usually after break and before lunch) we are currently studying the book 'The 1000 Year Old Boy'. We are reading the book and are discussing different aspects and all the features and punctuation associated with it. When we have completed this, the children will write a number of texts linked to the book. Spellings will also be looked at up to three times a week too. This will be the pattern of our English lessons throughout the year.

In the afternoons, we focus on the other curriculum subjects. For example, we have started looking at the creation story in RE, the human body in Science and we have also looked at the First World War in History lessons. In PE lessons (Monday and Friday), we are working on developing our basketball and rugby skills.

More information about how we do things in Year 5 will be on the Year Ahead Meetings next week.

Thank you.

Mr Baker and the Year 5 Team



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Oak Class

Wow, what a fabulous start to the new school year we have had in year 6! It has been a pleasure getting to know all the children and watch them take on new roles and responsibilities – new house captains, sport captains and a playground leader were announced this week.

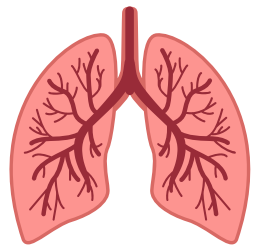
In English we have been reading the 1000 Year Old Boy and have been writing a biography based on its author, Ross Welford. In maths we have been focusing on place value but with numbers up to 10,000,000.

In other lessons we have spent time rediscovering each subject of the curriculum, looking back at what the children already know and showing them that these will become the building blocks for this year. We have begun to explore our topics with several highlights including:

- Learning you can stand in both the northern and southern hemisphere at once
- An active demonstration of how blood flows through the heart and into the lungs to get oxygenated
- Beginning our new language, Spanish, with several songs and a funny greetings game
- Brilliant moves demonstrated and shared in our dance lessons.

If you're looking for ways to support at home this week, focusing on embedding column addition and subtraction with bigger numbers (up to 1,000,000) as well as looking at word classification (noun, verb, conjunction, pronoun) would really support the learning in class.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome to the school.
Miss Barrett and Oak Class



OTHER NEWS/NOTICES



Steeple Morden **FIREWORKS**

Steeple Morden Village Green Meadow

Saturday 1 November 2025

Gates Open: 5:00pm

Bonfire: 6:00pm

Fireworks Display: 6:30pm

Advance tickets:

Family £20 (2 adults up to 3 children)

Advance individual ticket £7

On the gate:

Adult £12

Children £6

Sweats and Treats

Hot Chocolate and Mulled Wine



No personal fireworks or sparklers allowed.
Only the professional pyrotechnic team is permitted to use fireworks.

As we are a charity, in the event of a cancellation we will only be able to refund on request.

OTHER NEWS/NOTICES



SENDIASS

Cambridgeshire, Peterborough & Rutland

Cambridgeshire, Peterborough & Rutland SENDIASS provides information, advice and support to parents, children and young people regarding Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

SENDIASS offers:

- Impartial advice and information about all aspects of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- Advice and support for parents, children and young people who are navigating the Special Educational Needs processes.
- Advice and support for parents and young people to work collaboratively with schools, other educational settings, health and children's services, and other professionals involved in individual cases.
- Inform and signpost parents and young people to all available support services and organisations.
- Advice and support for parents and young people in resolving disagreements in a timely manner and supporting through mediations and tribunals where necessary.

Please contact us for further information, advice and support.

Contact: 0300 365 1020

or email

Cambridgeshire & Rutland = sendiass@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Peterborough = sendiass@peterborough.gov.uk



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support



TRIAL AVAILABLE

Drama Kids Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire

DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE, COMMUNICATION AND CREATIVITY

Our innovative and imaginative curriculum incorporates role play, improvisation and structured performance.

Our one-hour classes for young people from ages 4-18 encourage:

- * Enthusiasm and energy
- * Ongoing confidence
- * Self-esteem
- * Communication skills
- * Effective social interaction

ENROL NOW!
FOR AGES 4-18

Unlock your child's potential!

Your local academy:

07834 197816

combs-herts@dramakids.co.uk @dkcambsherts

Drama Classes across Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire

www.dramakids.co.uk



OTHER NEWS/NOTICES

CAMBRIDGE UNITED FC SCHOOLS TICKET VOUCHER

APPLICABLE FIXTURES



4TH OCT 2025
15:00



18TH OCT 2025
12:30



15TH NOV 2025
15:00



29TH NOV 2025
15:00



4TH JAN 2026
15:00

ADULT AND U18 FOR £12!



THIS CODE ENTITLES YOU TO 1X U18 SEATED IN THE MEAD PLANT & GRAB FAMILY SOUTH STAND FOR £12. CODE CAN BE REDEEMED FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE APPLICABLE FIXTURES VIA CUFCTICKETS.COM

ALL FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE GO TO WWW.CAMBRIDGEUNITED.COM FOR LATEST INFORMATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  **Anglia Ruskin University**

HOW TO REDEEM...

Please scan the QR code located on the front of the voucher and the code will automatically be applied to your basket, when one adult ticket and one under 18 ticket in the Mead Plant & Grab South Family Stand are added to your basket or enter the code SCHOOLS0126 at checkout, alternatively please call the Ticket Office on 01223 566500.



HOW TO GET HERE...



The easiest way to get to the Cledara Abbey Stadium is via the Park and Ride. It costs £3.50 to get a return bus ticket from the Newmarket Road Park & Ride, which is located at CB5 8AA. After sorting your ticket/s and checking out the Kids' Zone, head for the Mead Family South Stand turnstiles, which can be found via the path which goes through Coldham's Common. If you have any queries on the day, please talk to our 'Abbey Helpers', who are dotted around the ground ready to take your questions and be of assistance.

JUNIOR U'S KIDS' ZONE...

Once you have arrived at the Cledara Abbey, why not stop off at the Kids' Zone, which is located just outside of the Club Shop. Open from 1pm-2:45pm at every Saturday home Matchday, it features an inflatable goal, games such as Giant Connect 4, Table Football and Subsoccer, and you may even see an appearance from our First Team players! The Kids' Zone is also the place for our Junior U's to get their Matchday Passport stamped! Ask our staff about becoming a Junior U member - there are loads of fun benefits!



SCAN ME

OTHER NEWS/NOTICES

ROCK
STEADY

ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS!



IGNITE THEIR SELF-BELIEF

- ✂ Children learn to play an instrument in their very own band.
- 🎸 Fun and inclusive in-school band lessons- No music theory involved.
- ★ Follow their musical journey in your Backstage account.
- 📄 Exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification.
- 🎵 Instruments provided and no experience necessary.

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S
PLACE ONLINE



0330 113 0330 (Mon- Thurs 9am-5pm, Fri 9am-5pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com

ROCK
STEADY



LEARN TO PLAY MUSIC IN A BAND THAT'S FOR EVERYONE.

Choose from: Keyboard, guitar, bass, drums or vocals.

Inclusive and hassle-free!

Takes place in school,
instruments provided and no
experience necessary!

Have fun and learn by playing

Children work their way
through a curriculum of up
to 300 musical skills.

Taught by professional musicians

Rocksteady band leaders are
highly trained musicians who
make learning music fun.

Much more than music

Improves wellbeing,
confidence, social skills and
academic achievement.

Progress at their own pace

Your child can achieve an
exam-free, Ofqual-regulated
Trinity music qualification!

End every term on a high note

Watch your child shine as
they perform in their end of
term concerts.

"Her confidence has
grown so much. It has
helped her in all
aspects of her life."

Louise

"My son actually
wants to go to school
on his Rocksteady
days. It has given him
an alternative to
academic learning."

Michelle

"I've seen him
flourish socially and
have friends across
the year group."

Bekki

£64.49 per month (no payment in August).
Money back guarantee for the first month- Cancel at any time.

START THEIR
MUSICAL JOURNEY



0330 113 0330
(Mon- Thurs 9am-5pm, Fri 9am-5pm, local rate)
info@rocksteadymusicschool.com

TRINITY
TECHNICAL
MUSIC
TEACHER
C

Rocksteady Music School Ltd. Registered in England No. 1071000