



Message from Mrs Daniels:

The sunshine has returned this week and the children have been enjoying break times and lunchtimes on the field. It is that time of year when we need to think about sun protection in order to keep all the children safe. Please can we ask that you apply sunscreen to your child each day before school and bring a named sunhat/cap along with a named water bottle into school.

We seem to have several children in each class without PE kits. Can we ask that you double check that PE kits include shorts, T-shirts, sweatshirts, socks and footwear and at this time of year in particular they need to be in school all week. In the summer term extra outdoor PE sessions or changes to timetables can happen.

Year 3 had a fantastic time on Tuesday learning about the Tudors. They all looked amazing in their costumes and going into the hall really did feel like we were stepping back in time. Thank you to parents for supporting this and we hope you enjoyed hearing all about it and receiving some of your gifts. A quite different experience awaits the children in Reception class and Year 1 when 'Safari Stu' arrives next week with his collection of creatures!

Year 6 have been working so hard this term on the run up to their SATs next week, practising tasks at home and in school, some children even fitting in some extra spelling practice at break time on the field. I have spoken to them today along with the Year 6 teaching team – please look out for a separate Parentmail to Year 6 parents. This time next week we will have completed all of the tests and the children will be able to look forward to all the fun events that are planned for the second half term as the children prepare for their move to secondary school.

Wishing everyone a relaxing weekend.

Jo Daniels
Acting Co-Headteacher

Regular articles

Diary Dates	2-3
Noticeboard.....	4-6
Starlings (Reception)	7
Robins (Year 1).....	8
Owls (Year 2).....	9
Peacocks (Year 3).....	10
Swifts (Year 4).....	13
Hérons (Year 5).....	14
Puffins (Year 6).....	15
Assemblies & Collective Worship	11
.....	
Community News.....	17

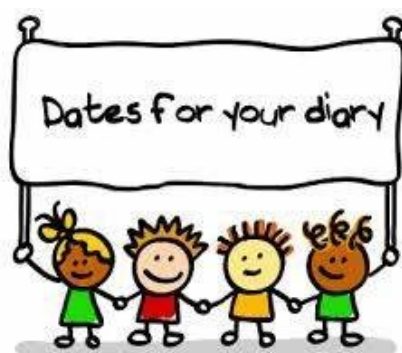
Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

7 Hay Street
Steeple Morden
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 0PD

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

"If you're always trying to be normal, you will never know how amazing you can be."

Maya Angelou



Mon 13 th – Thurs 16 th	KS2 SATs
Weds 15 th May	Safari Stu – visiting Reception Class & Year 1
Mon 27th – Fri 31st May - Half Term Holiday	
Monday 3 rd June	INSET Day
Thurs 6 th June	'Quadkids' Small Schools – Wilberforce Road Athletics Track, Cambridge
Mon 10 th June – Thurs 13 th June	Year 1 Phonic Screening Check
Wednesday 12 th June	Year 4 Visit – Ryemeads RSPB Centre
Weds 19 th June	Sports Day (Yousafzai/Packham)
Thurs 20 th June	Sports Day (Rashford/Rosen)
Wednesday 26 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting – timings tbc
Thursday 27 th June	Year 4 Cricket Competition
Mon 1 st July – Fri 5 th July	Bikeability
Fri 5 th July	Rocksteady Concert - tbc
Sat 6 th July	PTA Event – Outdoor Cinema Event
Weds 10 th July	Year 6 Performance (afternoon)
Thurs 11 th July	Year 6 Performance (evening)
Mon 15 th	Reports home to parents
Tues 16 th	Potential Year 6 Party – date and time tbc
Weds 17 th	Year 6 to BVC
Thurs 18 th	Year 6 to BVC Year 6 Parents Meeting (at BVC)
Fri 19 th	Leavers Assembly Final Day of Term!

School Meal Charges Summer 2024

Daily:	£2.40
Weekly:	£12.00
1st half term	£67.20
2nd half term	£81.60
Whole term	£148.80

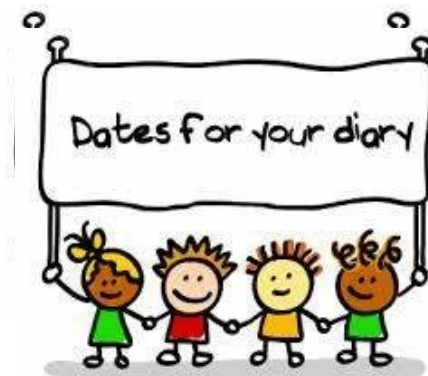
Please make payment for school lunches via Parentmail **in advance of meals taken.**

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

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.



Term Dates 2023 - 2024

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> <i>(pupils not in school)</i>	<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> <i>(pupils not in school)</i>	<i>Monday 15th April</i> <i>Monday 3rd June</i> <i>Monday 22nd July</i>

We are hoping to publish our dates for 2024/25 in the next few weeks. However we are currently awaiting confirmation from BVC so that we can align with them where possible to support parents with children in both schools.

Notice Board

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'.

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.

Home Time Arrangements

Please ensure that you advise the office by email on office@steplemorden.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 a last-minute phone call at the end of the day.

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/>

Notice Board

Covid-19 - Current advice is that this should be treated as any other respiratory infection. The following is from [People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19)

Symptoms of respiratory infections, including COVID-19

Respiratory infections can spread easily between people. It is important to be aware of symptoms so you can take action to reduce the risk of spreading your infection to other people.

The symptoms of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections are very similar. It is not possible to tell if you have COVID-19, flu or another respiratory infection based on symptoms alone. Most people with COVID-19 and other respiratory infections will have a relatively mild illness, especially if they have been vaccinated.

If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and you have a high temperature or you do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities, you are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

Symptoms of COVID-19, flu and common respiratory infections include:

- continuous cough
- high temperature, fever or chills
- loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- shortness of breath
- unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
- muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
- headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

News from Starling Class (Reception)

We enjoyed hearing what the children got up to over the bank holiday weekend. It sounds like you all had lots of fun.

We have continued our learning about plants and growing. Most of us predicted correctly that the lettuce plant that would grow the most was the plant we watered and in the sunlight. Some of us were surprised that the lettuce plant in the cupboard grew more than the lettuce plant out of the cupboard that we didn't water! Unfortunately our cress seeds are yet to grow. We keep watering them in the hope that they will.

In Phonics, we have continued learning Phase Four where we have been blending adjacent consonants in words. This week we focussed on 'CCVC' words such as scrap, screen and scroll. In Maths we have begun learning about doubling. We used a song to help us remember our doubles. Can your child remember the dong? In Music we have been learning about Funk music. The children have been listening carefully to see if they can identify any of the instruments in the songs. We've heard saxophones, trombones, flutes and even bass guitars!

We continued our 'word collecting' work this week with the following words below to build on our ambitious vocabulary.

<u>Word</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Word	Meaning
Affluent	Having a lot of money or owning a lot of things
Precarious	Something is dangerously likely to fall or collapse
Abode	The place where someone lives
Sabotage	To do something negative or destructive on purpose



News from Starling Class (Reception)

Next week we are going to begin learning about mini-beasts and their habitats. We are looking forward to our visit from Safari Stu on Tuesday to enhance our learning.

Mrs Monks will be teaching on Tuesday next week as Mrs Clare is away. Mrs Clare will teach the following Wednesday instead.



Thank you to everyone that sent in sunhats – they have been needed. Please could we make sure that children have a jumper or cardigan in school every day, thank you. We would recommend a waterproof coat to be in school every day also as we never know which weather we may experience!

Have a great weekend.

The Reception Team

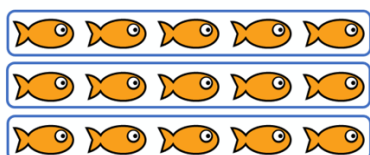


News from Robin Class (Year 1)

This week, we enjoyed 'potting on' our sunflower seedlings and everyone proudly carried their little pot home. Hopefully they all arrived safely and it was great to hear of children watering, taking care and planning where they are going plant their own sunflower. We really hope they grow nice and tall for you and bring a ray of sunshine to your gardens in the summer!

We have begun to look at diary-writing this week. Having read a couple of diaries – 'Diary of a Bean' and 'Elephant Diary' – the children were great at spotting features of this kind of text – specifically looking for a 'date', verbs in the past tense and having photographs with captions (and possibly diagrams with labels). All the children worked hard to write in the past tense about how we planted, watered, watched over, moved and cared for the sunflowers as they grew.

In Maths, we have been learning about arrays. The children are getting good at identifying the row and columns and using stem sentences to talk about what they can see. e.g.:



There are 3 rows of 5
There are 15 altogether.



There are 5 rows of 2
There are 10 altogether.

The carrot we started growing for our science investigation has started to grow green shoots, but so far we haven't seen any growth in either the onion or tomato slice. We will keep watching!

Having been able to observe the froglets and tiny frogs, a few have been rehomed to garden ponds this week. It has been super to see the children take such an interest in the changes that take place over time. The rest of the tadpoles will be rehomed this weekend or next to free up a bit of classroom space.

Phonics: This week, to tie in with our learning about using verbs in the past tense, all the children have been focussing on reading regular past tense verbs (words with an 'ed' ending), or thinking about how to spell these words correctly in our writing. Hopefully the children will have remembered some actions to go with verbs – do ask them what they know!



We hope you have a lovely weekend,

The Year 1 Team

News from Owl Class (Year 2)

We hope that you had a lovely long weekend, we loved hearing about the different things that the children got up to. We have had another exciting week in Owl Class and have loved playing on the field at lunchtimes.

In English, we are finalizing our description topic by doing some independent writing using all of the tools that we have been learning this term.

In Maths, we have continued with fractions, we are on the last bit now, focusing on unit fractions (where the numerator is one) and non-unit fractions (where the numerator is higher than one) and looking at three-quarters and how we can make a whole by counting up in fractions. Next week, we will be focusing on reasoning and applying all that we have learnt.

Our sewing projects are starting to take shape and we have been practising our needle work and attaching the different shapes on our designs. The children are really impressing Mrs Brown with their skills.

This week's spelling rule is words ending with 'le' that make the 'l' sound, all spelling sheets have gone home and it is great to see those that practiced last week.

In PSHE we have been talking about change, what changes happen as we grow up, what we can control and what is out of our control. (See attached photo)

This week, we have started making our final Torah. We have stained paper using teabags and have started to create our ornate Torah covers, it has been great to use a range of media to decorate the covers with symbols, patterns and colour.

Now that the weather is getting warmer please can we remind you to send your children in with summer hats and water bottles. Please make sure that jumpers/cardigans are labelled in case they need to take these off, we have had a lot of unnamed lost property, thank you.

The Year 2 Team



Changes		
... you can not control	...you can choose	... you can make happen
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What year it is• People passing away• Birthdays – age• Illness and injury• Which school or class you are in• New brothers or sisters• Others people's opinions• Getting taller• New topics to learn• Skin/hair/eye colour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tidying up more• Making a mess• Which new pet you want• New clothes/ what you wear• New games• Possessions (you can ask for things for occasions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your behavior• How we react• Handwriting• Effort• What you buy with pocket money• Practicing games/sports• Get stronger• Try new foods

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)



The highlight of this week was our much anticipated Tudor day. It was really, really, really...fun

In the morning, we spent time learning about Tudor society and working practices. We became apprentices for Lord Patrick.

The lord of the manor told us, all about Anne Boleyn's arrest and upcoming trial. During the day the Lord was kind enough to keep us up to date with the news about her. As apprentices, we learnt the skills for a variety of common Tudor crafts and trades.

We made leather bookmarks by carefully hammering a sharp tool into leather to make a pattern. Limning (painting lockets) this needed to be very careful work as the miniatures, were really miniature!

Ink making and writing with quills, this was much harder than we first thought, as we needed to make the ink by grinding oak apples, resin and cuttlefish bones.

Soap making was very messy but smelt lovely as we chose sweet smelling herbs and spices to mix with soap flakes. We only needed to make a small amount, as we would only wash once a month. Sewing we carefully stitched our initials into fine cloth. Everyone was expected to be able to sew in Tudor times. Some women and girls were judged on how well they could sew.

Many of us visited the apothecary to cure simple ailments such as headaches and sore throats. Fortunately, no one had a bad injury and needing the barber's surgeon, we did not fancy the rusty old saw being used to amputate a cut leg!



News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

Once we had finished all these jobs, we came back to the classroom to find out a little more about the life of Henry the VIII and his wives. We were told about secret messages that some of the king's advisors and spies sent each other. They may have used invisible ink that became visible by using heat.

In the afternoon, we prepared for and then reenacted a Tudor feast. As part of this, we provided entertainment in the form of a play about George and the dragon, a selection of songs, one was about the Tudor Rose. Some of us performed a walking line dance and some provided entertainment through juggling.

Special orange, Spanish Tudor wine was enjoyed along with cheese, bread and fruits.

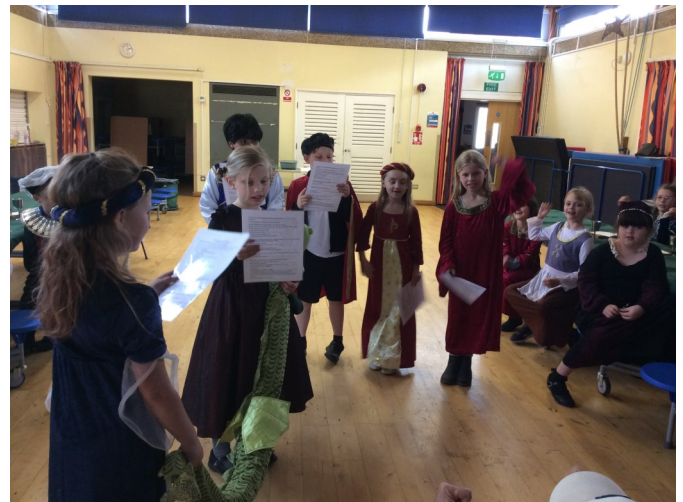
An enjoyable, day was had by all.

Thank you to the parents who were able to help us during the day, we couldn't have managed without you.

Ashwell will form the focus of our 'Pathways through the Past' topic. Just for interest 'Ashwell at Home' day is on 12th of May. <https://www.ashwellathome.org.uk/>

Wishing you a relaxing weekend

The Year 3 Team



Reporting Your Child's Absence

If your child is absent from school, you **MUST** notify school **EACH DAY** that they are absent by 9.30am and provide the reason for absence.

You can notify us in the following ways:

- Email us on office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk
- Telephone us on 01763 852474
- Leave a Voicemail on the telephone number above
- Tell us in person via our front desk

If we haven't heard from you each day that they are absent, we are obliged to investigate your child's absence.

**SMARTIES
MAY HALF
TERM**

50% off for HAF Children 10% Sibling Discount

Ages *3 - 11

Tues 28th May
Decorate your own
Mug then lets
make
mug cakes

Weds 29th May
Make your own Garden
Stepping stone,
Suncatchers &
Window art

**Thurs 30th
May**
Grass
heads,
Flower
pressing &
Tie-dye or
Fabric Paint
a T-Shirt

Friday 31st May
pond dipping,
camp fire
cooking, create
your own bug
Hotel
Clay afternoon

To book please use this Booking link
<https://forms.office.com/e/nVkpRxnvj>

Session Prices

7.45-9 am	£6
9-1.30pm	£18
9-3pm	£25
9-6pm	£35

For more information please email Smarties on
georgina@smartiessteeplemorden.co.uk or give us a call on 01763 852888

Ofsted Number: EY434661

*3 year olds dependent on
staffing levels

Woodland walks
& Trips to the park
(Weather Permitting)

SMARTIES PRESCHOOL
& OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

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

News from Swift Class (Year 4)

In our Maths lessons on decimals, we have been focusing on the significance of place value and how decimals interconnect with our prior learning on fractions and later in the year, with percentages.

In Geography, we have been discovering more about the process behind global warming, particularly exploring the role of greenhouse gases in the enhanced green house effect. We have discussed how there are practical steps individuals can take to help reduce global warming such as recycling, opting for sustainable modes of transport like walking for short distances, and conserving energy by reducing heating usage at home.

Our Design and Technology lessons have revolved around the renowned Scottish architect and designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh. We've been inspired by Mackintosh's innovative designs, using them as a starting point to create our own model prototypes of chairs tailored to specific target audiences. If your child is particularly interested in his work, you can see an entire house he designed in Northampton!

<https://www.78derngate.org.uk/visitor-info>

The Year 4 Team



News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

With the SATs tests taking place next week, the children have been continuing to work hard this week in preparation. You should have received a letter, via Parent Mail, which discusses the arrangements for next week. Below is a timetable of when the various exams will take place.

Monday 13 th May	SPAG (including Spelling)
Tuesday 14 th May	Reading
Wednesday 15 th May	Maths – Arithmetic and Reasoning
Thursday 16 th May	Maths – Reasoning

In English lessons we have been working on various areas linked to grammar and punctuation, such as, synonyms and antonyms, active and passive, Standard English linked with formal and informal writing, hyphens for ambiguity as well as work on phrases and clauses. Our next writing genre will be on autobiographies.

This week, in Maths, we have studied area, perimeter and volume of shapes, as well as looking at statistics and data. We also studied exam techniques for the reasoning questions and looked at ways to approach and answer them.

Homework has been set (no spellings though this week) and please use the Mathletics and maths.co.uk websites to help your child to revise any aspects of maths that is needed.

Finally, good luck to all the students for next week's tests. Please remember to factor in some R&R this weekend, and next week, as well as continued revision for the SATs exams.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 6 Team





Cleaners / Home Helpers needed now in Royston

£11.10 per hour PLUS holiday pay

Work involves cleaning, shopping and other domestic duties such as changing bed linen and laundry. You always see the same regular clients, helping them to stay independent and living in their own home.

- | We're really flexible, work at times to suit your day
- | Extremely satisfying, see the difference you make just doing the cleaning and being a regular friendly face
- | Office support and backup always available whilst you work.

For more information contact:

recruitsouth@ageukherts.org.uk
01923 627055

Age UK Hertfordshire, a name you can trust.

Cleaning and helping at home for 1000's of clients across Hertfordshire



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



ABINGTON PIGOTTS SPRING PLANT SALE

In aid of the Village Hall and Church

Sunday May 12th

Abington Pigotts Village Hall

10 am - 2 pm

A perfect start for your garden this May weekend - come and enjoy a bacon buttie or a piece of cake

Community News

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website Community Page

Smarties Preschool
Litlington Preschool
Bonfitness Pilates
Helen O-Grady Drama Classes
MF Tennis Coaching
Modern Foreign Languages Tuition
Biggleswade Swimming Club
Royston Hockey Club Juniors Section
NCT Nearly New Sale
Castle Coaching Football and Rugby training sessions
First aid course—for adults, juniors and teens

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

“Yesterday is but today’s memory, and tomorrow is today’s dream”
Khalil Gibran

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

