



Message from Mrs Housden:

We have had a very eventful week this week with a variety of activities going on. Of course on Monday we marked Armistice Day with a church service and minutes silence, which all of the children did very respectfully. We have also had our netball team out at a match with Bassingbourn Primary School and they showed excellent sportsmanship and teamwork throughout. Some of our Key Stage 2 children attended a maths competition at St. Francis school in Letchworth on Wednesday afternoon, and again, did a fantastic job of representing the school. Finally, today we have seen the children wearing their spots in a variety of ways to support Children in Need! A bit more detail on these events can be found in the noticeboard section of this week's Star.

As always we value and thank you for your support in these events and occasions as they simply couldn't happen in the same way without you.

Also, as the nights are drawing in, I just wanted to send a reminder about clothing when children are out and about in the dark. The "BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN" campaign, aimed at children between 4 and 11 years old, urges them to wear bright or fluorescent clothes during the day and reflective clothing at night to make sure they can be easily seen. There are some excellent ideas and resources at www.think.gov.uk

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Mrs Alex Housden,
Headteacher

Congratulations to this week's Stars of the Week:

George, Annabel, Harry, Amelia and William.

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

7 Hay Street
Steeple Morden
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 0PD

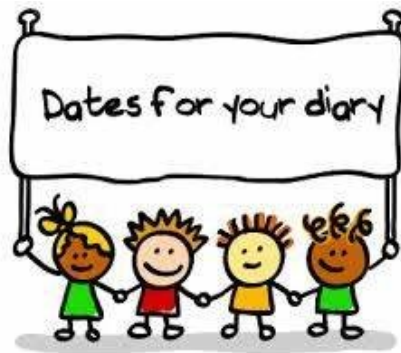
Phone: 01763 852474

E-mail: office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



Follow us on Instagram:
[@steeplemordenprimary](https://www.instagram.com/steeplemordenprimary)



Date	Event information
Tuesday 19 th November	Reception 2025 Tour – 2pm
Wednesday 20 th November	Reception 2025 Tour – 5.30pm
Friday 22 nd to Sunday 24 th November	Christmas Tree Festival at Steeple Morden Church – <i>children have all contributed to the decorating of a tree, these will be on display throughout the festival</i>
Wednesday 4 th December	KS2 Cross Country at Milton Country Park (information for children participating will be shared separately)
Tuesday 10 th December	Nativity Performances – 2.00pm and 5.15pm (Acorn & Ash class) Specific information to follow
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas Lunch Day & Christmas Jumper Day – we invite children to wear a Christmas jumper with their normal school uniform. We will accept any voluntary donations to Save the Children UK as Christmas Jumper Day is a National event
Friday 13 th December	Rock Steady Concert – 1.45pm Parents/Carers of children who are in performing bands are invited to attend.
Tuesday 17 th December	KS2 Carol Service - 9.15am and 5.30pm (by candlelight) Parents/carers are invited to attend, specific details to follow
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term

Sat 23 Nov
Science
Tech
Arts
FUN!!

RAREfest 2024
● INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION

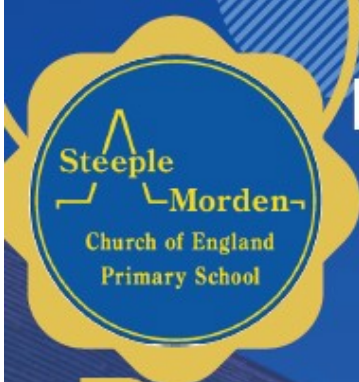
FREE

SAT
23 NOV
10-4pm

For curious minds of all ages!
A bustling marketplace of hands-on science, tech and community exhibits, interactive talks, films, and research-inspired art.

camRARE
Cambridge Rare Disease Network

BOOK FREE TICKETS HERE
CamRareDisease.org/RareFest24



**Do you have a child
starting school in
September 2025?**

Reception Tours

**Come and visit us...
Tuesday 19th November at
2pm
Wednesday 20th November at
5.30pm**



**Get in touch to book
your place**

**office@steeplemorden.
camb.sch.uk
01763 852 474**



Notice Board

Parent Governor

You should have received an email to explain that applications for our Parent Governor vacancy are now open. The application is attached to the email which was sent via Parent Mail. The closing date is Wednesday 20th November.

Sports News - Netball Tournament

Children in Years 5 and 6 took part in a 'Bee Netball' Tournament at Bassingbourn Primary School. Five children are on court at any one time in a team of seven and they rotate around all positions of GK, GD, C, GA & GS! Our teams played very well in some closely fought matches and scored lots of goals. Well done to Holly, Lydia, Ffion, Maia,, Erin, Rhys, Lexi, Freddie, Bella-Rose, Olivia-Rose, Freddie, Lawrence, William and Ellie and a big thank you to Mrs Weddepohl and Mrs Carter who were cheering the teams on from the side lines. We look forward to more fixtures later in the year. Cross Country running is the next event in our sporting calendar and lots of enthusiastic runners are in training!

Maths Competition at St Francis College

Some keen mathematicians from Oak, Yew and Hazel class visited St Francis' College in Letchworth during the week to attend a more able maths event, where they worked with children from other schools to solve some challenging maths problems. It was heartening to see how well our children proactively introduced themselves and interacted with new children to successfully problem solve. Thank you to parents for going out of your way to organise picking up the children at the end of the day.

Toy Collection

The Christmas Tree festival is taking place at Steeple Morden Church next weekend and to coincide with this, there will be a collection of good quality second-hand toys which will be delivered to a local women's refuge and Mary's Child charity.

Christmas Raffle

We are planning to hold a Christmas Raffle at both of our nativity performances and Christmas Concerts in December. If you are able to donate something for the raffle, either personally or through a business, please get in touch via the school office. These could be individual items that could be included within a Christmas hamper or a standalone individual prize.

PTA Notice Board

INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**



With
Parentkind

HERE'S HOW:

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2** Choose your primary school
- 3** Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4** Shopping online?
Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5** We'll do the rest!
We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.



Selected stores. Minimum spend £24. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 16+. App & Opt In required.
0.9% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072633.
Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30.11.24

St Peter & St Paul Church, Steeple Morden



11TH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th November, 2024

We'd love for you to join us
Friday 9-4 / Saturday 11-4 / Sunday 11-4
Refreshments will be available
Bacon butties Friday am and Soup on Saturday

Christmas Tree with Toy Service on Sunday 24th at 4pm
(We are collecting good condition 2nd hand toys for a local
Women's Refuge and Mary's Child charity)

News from Acorn Class

This week we learnt about the importance of Remembrance Day by learning what is meant by 'Lest We Forget' and we took part in a minutes silence with the whole school at the war memorial in Steeple Morden. We were quiet and respectful and thought about all of the soldiers that gave their lives for us to have the lives we have today.



We continued our learning on transport by looking at boats and how they float. We made paper boats and completed an experiment with water to see if our boats would float.

Unfortunately, when they got wet they ripped and sank. So we made paper boats again, but this time we coloured our paper with wax crayon before folding it into a boat. This time the boats floated! We learnt that this is because the wax crayon makes the paper waterproof. This week we have learnt the following sounds: y, z/zz, qu

and ch. In Maths, we have been looking at adding 'one more' to numbers up to 5.

Please remember to bring book bags into school every day. Inside your child's book bag should be their homework folder with their school reading book, library book, graphemes (sounds) and harder to read and spell words. We use these homework folders at different points throughout the week so they do need to be in school all week. Thank you for your help with this.

The children are enjoying visiting the library each week. They will need to bring their library book into school on a MONDAY if they would like to swap it for another book. This book is for parents to read to children.

As the weather is getting colder, it is a good idea for children to be wearing layers. We go outside A LOT and if the children do not choose to go outside the door is still open so tights under dresses and skirts, vests under polo shirts are all welcomed. Please can we make sure that every child has a coat and jumper or cardigan in school every day.



Show and Tell this week was the Bananas and they were brilliant! Next week it is the turn of the Oranges. The theme is: Transport; so anything that goes!

News from Acorn Class

We have received lots of family photos for our family book. Thank you. If you are yet to send yours in, we would love to have it. You could send in a hard copy in your child's book bag or email a digital copy to the school office.

We would like to do some junk modelling with the children but are low on supplies. If you have any cardboard boxes, clean yoghurt pots, plastic lids, egg boxes, pipe cleaners or anything else that lends itself to creating models please could we have them. Thank you.

Have a great weekend and see you on Monday!

The Acorn Class Team



News from Ash Class

This week Ash class have been busy writing letters, adding and doubling numbers up to 20 and performing a sequence of movements in Gymnastics.

In History this week, the class continued learning about the past and how historians research and learn from the past. They enjoyed researching Mary Seacole and sharing the facts they found out. Please see the parent email sent out regarding our history lesson next week and family trees. Any questions please contact me via the office email.

In computing this week, the children compared creating a painting with pen and paper to creating one on a digital device. The children were very creative using the large screen in class to create their own portraits and used key terminology like tools, pen, highlight or colour change to express what they were doing.

In PSHE this week we looked at what it is to be a good friend; how can we be a good friend and how a good friend can make us feel. We had a fantastic discussion and it linked very well with anti-bullying week.

Please continue to complete home reading nightly and record in the log book. Please can I also ask for all belongings to be named. We have a few more layers now with the colder weather and gloves, new coats and scarves need to be named. Thank you.

We hope you enjoy the weekend,

The Ash Class Team

News from Birch Class

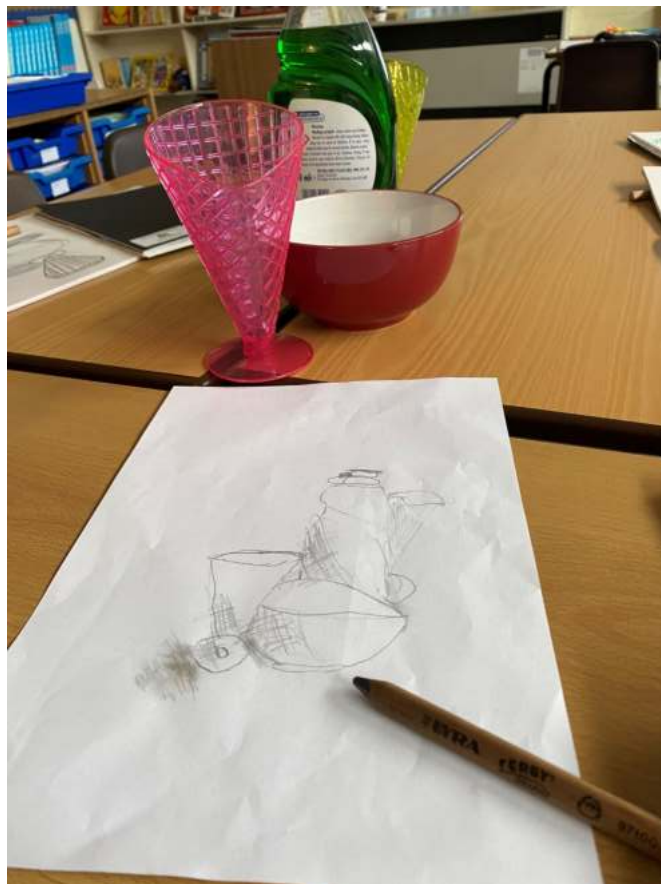
This week in Birch class we have been exploring a book where a mysterious creature, similar to a newt, is found in a pond. We have been developing our own description using descriptive devices, such as similes.

In Maths we continue to pay attention to the conventions on setting out addition and subtraction calculations in column format and have stressed the importance of this to help calculation errors that could be easily avoided.

In Art, we have been focusing on looking carefully when we are drawing and how to achieve different tone to produce form in art when drawing still life. It was good to see some children had applied their learning at home and used their cross hatching skills when making their spots for Children in Need day.

Thank you for helping to raise money for children who are not as fortunate.

The Birch class Team



News from Hazel Class

In English, we started our work based on the book called 'The Roman Bean feast'; a rather entertaining tale of a boy called Davey, who wants to win the Roman prize in a school competition, however his 'know it all' neighbour and peer, wishes to win the prize herself. Not only does Davey have to cope with Molly the neighbour, but his Dad is away and Mum is left at home juggling toddler twins whilst trying to help Davey with his Roman project.

We will be using this story to help us write diary entries; so far we have thought about how Davey feels, ordered the events in the story and listed useful fronted adverbials.

In Maths, we have started our new unit based on multiplication and division, already we are seeing the importance of knowing our times tables. We have tried using them to solve simple problems and calculations involving a multiplication between a two digit number and a one digit number eg, 19×3 . Work on this will continue again next week.

In other lessons;

In Science, we have started work on electricity, we have investigated making a simple circuit to light a bulb along with materials that are insulators and conductors of electricity. We will develop our understanding next week.

In this half term's Art work we will be looking at still life. This week we found out what a still life is and a little about how long it has formed a discipline within art.



Geography, we are looking at settlements, so far we have compared hamlets, villages and cities.

In History we have been finding out about life in Ancient Rome, we have considered how large an empire Rome had and how the Romans managed to create it.

Our PE lessons are now Monday and Friday so no earrings Monday or Friday please.

News from Hazel Class

Last week we welcomed Mrs Easton into the Hazel team, she will be supporting the learning in the classroom 3 mornings a week until the middle of December when it will increase to every morning.

We wished her a warm welcome and hope she is enjoying working with us.

This week's table facts to learn

$$10 \times 12 = 120$$

$$0 \times 6 = 0$$

$$11 \times 11 = 121$$

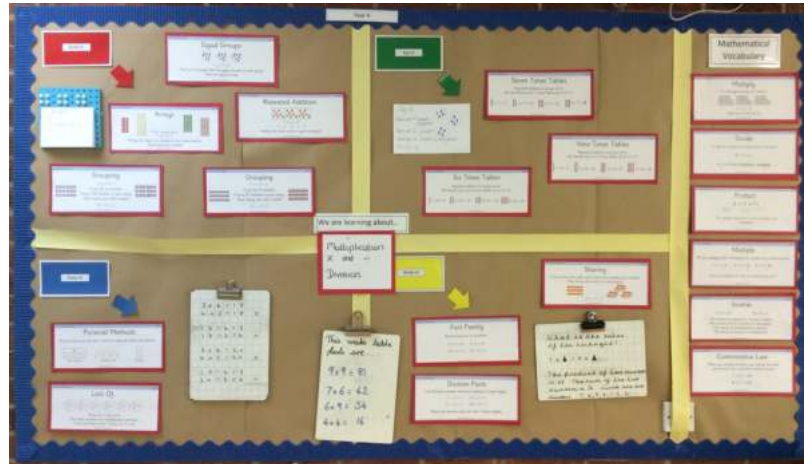
$$9 \times 12 = 108$$

Weekly home activities

Spellings, you should have found a weekly spelling job in your children's book bags,

please spend a few minutes each day working on these. They will come home on a Monday and need to be returned the following Monday.

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.



Mathletics is up and ready with set work for the children, logins are in reading diaries
Times table checker

<https://www.themathsfactor.com/times-tables-check/pinpoint/#/levels>

Reminders

Please name all clothing
Send books and diary into school each day.

No earrings on Monday or Friday

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.



The Year 4 Team

News from Yew Class

This week, in Maths, we have finished looking at addition and subtraction calculations and have started our new topic on multiplication and division strategies – more to follow next week on this.

In English, we have finished our topic on the 'Boy in the Tower' and the children have really enjoyed reading this book, including all the questions that it has raised. We looked at writing an alternative ending to the book although a few enjoyed the actual ending of it anyway. Next week we will start on our new topic based on the Australian book 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea.'

Last Wednesday we, as a school, had our 'Festivals of Light' Enrichment Day. In Year 5 we focussed on the Jesse Tree (as I explained in last week's Star entry) and attached are some photos of the finished symbols on our own Jesse tree in the classroom.

Homework will be set this Friday and should be completed by Friday 22nd November. Keep on reading and learning those times tables please.

Thank you.

The Year 5 Team



News from Oak Class

You would all be very proud of your children and the way that they conducted themselves at our Remembrance Service on Monday. Father Sam was able to join us for a service in Church followed by a service at the war memorial where we were able to observe the national two minute silence and place our crosses with the collection of poppies. Some members of the local village community were also able to join us.

All in all it has been a very exciting, and a very busy, week in Year 6. Alongside all our usual learning opportunities, some year 6 and year 5 children were lucky enough to attend a netball tournament on Tuesday afternoon at Bassingbourn Primary School with Mrs Weddepohl. They were polite, showed good sporting behaviour and played some very good netball! Well done to everyone who attended and represented the School so well.

On Wednesday, it was the turn of our mathematicians to enter a competition and represent the School. Four children from our class attended a Maths competition in Letchworth where they spent their afternoon puzzling over some very challenging questions. They showed great resilience and applied their mathematical knowledge and understanding carefully and appropriately, well done.

Back in the classroom, we continued working on our new text for this half term, 'Skellig, by David Almond. This week we considered the text as readers and discussed the purpose, intended audience and our emotional reactions to the writing. On Wednesday, we also had the opportunity to use drama to help us engage more fully with the text, an experience that we really enjoyed.

In Maths, we have spent time this week working on division, including the often-dreaded long division. From a tentative start, we made good progress and will continue to revisit this method throughout the year as necessary. There will be some activities linked to this on Mathematics this week.

Finally, we just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting your children to make such a positive start with the weekly homework that is being set for them in their CGP books. The majority of children have returned to school this week having completed the work set, in addition to their weekly spellings, which is a promising foundation for the work that lies ahead. Please pack the homework folders into school bags on Sunday evening as we need to use both CGP books in a lesson on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Thanks for your continued support.

The Oak Class Team