Friday 7th June 2024 steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk



THE STAR



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

Message from Mrs Daniels:

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 proudly represented the school this week in the annual 'Quad Kids ' competition, which involved over twenty local schools at the University Sports Ground in Cambridge. Children enjoyed

making new friends and trying their best across the disciplines of sprinting, long distance running, throwing and long jumping. Our team did well to place sixth overall. Thank you to all the parents who helped transport children to and from the event. All the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were a credit to the school.



Mrs Morris led a moving whole school assembly on Thursday to recognise the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings, 6th June 1944. The children listened intently, with the aid of interactive maps and photographs, to details about how much of Europe was occupied by the axis powers and which parts of Europe allied forces were in control of. To try to explain the scale of the events of the time the children looked at a photograph of the O2 stadium which holds 20,000 people, the number of allied and axis forces that died on 6th June. Mrs Bowmer played the 'The Last Post' and

the children listened respectfully during a time for reflection to remember the sacrifices that the soldiers and their families made. The children reflected that in their own lives, making the right choices is often difficult but it



is

important to stand up for what is right even though sometimes it might feel scary or difficult. Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Jo Daniels, Acting Headteacher

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

7 Hay Street Steeple Morden Royston Hertfordshire SG8 OPD

Phone: 01763 852474

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

"My final message to you is, whatever your personal battle, be brave and face it. Every single day is precious. Don't waste a moment."

Rob Burrow



Mon 10 th June – Thurs	Year 1 Phonic Screening Check
13 th June	
Wednesday 12 th June	Year 4 Visit – Ryemeads RSPB Centre
Weds 19th June	Sports Day (Yousafzai/Packham)
Thurs 20 th June	Sports Day (Rashford/Rosen)
Wednesday 26th June	New Reception Parents Meeting – timings tbc
Thursday 27 th June	Year 4 Cricket Competition
Mon 1st July -Fri 5th 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 11th 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 18th	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.

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Spring term ends

Autumn term begins
Autumn half term
2023

Autumn half term
2023

Autumn term ends
Autumn term ends
INSET Days

(pupils not in school)

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Friday 1st September

Monday 4th September

Spring term begins Thursday 4th January 2024
Spring half term Monday 19th – Friday 23rd
February 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

INSET Days Monday 15th April
(pupils not in school) Monday 3rd June

Monday 3rd June Monday 22nd July

Thursday 28th March 2024

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.



Term Dates 2024-2025

Autumn Term dates

INSET:- Tuesday 3rd September 2024 & Wednesday 4th September 2024

Thursday 5th September to Friday 25th October

Half Term: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December

Christmas Holidays: Monday 23rd December to Friday 3rd January

Spring Term dates

INSET:- Monday 6th January 2025

Tuesday 7th January to Friday 14th February

Half Term: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February to Friday 4th April

Easter Holidays: Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April

Summer Term dates

INSET:- Monday 22nd April 2025 and Monday 2nd June 2025

Tuesday 22nd April to Friday 23rd May

Half Term: Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May

Tuesday 2nd June to Wednesday 23rd July

Summer Holiday: Thursday 24th July onwards

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@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 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.

Absent for
Five days from the onset of rash and all the lesions have crusted over
Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
4 days from onset of rash and once# recovered
Exclude until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed
Until 48 hours after last episode of sickness/diarrhoea
None
None
5 days after onset of swelling
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-andnits/

Notice Board

Covid-19 - Current advice is that this should be treated as any other respiratory infection. The following is from <u>People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

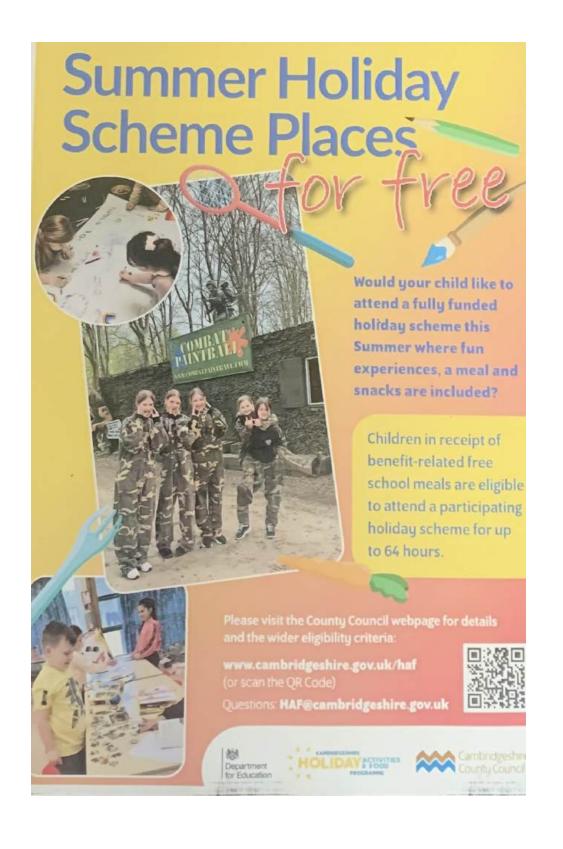
Symptoms of respiratory infections, including COVID-19

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)

Hello from Starling Class!

We hope you had a restful half term. The children enjoyed coming back into school telling everyone about the

adventures they had had. They also wrote sentences all about their half term adventures.

We began the week recapping the seasons we have previously learnt and then thought about what we already knew about Summer completing a class mind map. We read non-fiction books about Summer and then we wrote our own fact files using the facts we knew.



In Maths, we have been thinking about Shapes and how they are made up. We used 2D shapes to see if we could make other shapes, for example: two triangles can make a rectangle.

In Phonics we began our Phase 5 learning which included new sounds. The sounds we learnt this week were: ay, ou, ie, ea. These graphemes have been sent home for you to practise at home with your children.

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

Word	Meaning
Absurd	Something that is ridiculous or that does not make any sense
Essential	Something that is necessary or needed
Hindrance	A person or thing that makes it more difficult for you to do something
Distance	The length of space between two points or places

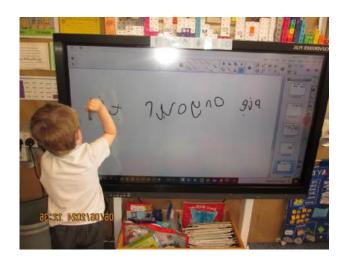


Next week we are going to be thinking about all the special men in our lives when we're learning about Father's Day.

As it is getting hotter, please ensure you send your child to school wearing sun cream and with a sunhat.

Have a great weekend.

The Reception Team







PTA UPDATE

As a PTA we value the support of the parent community and wider village community. Last night we held our AGM and unfortunately there was none of this support. We met as three committee members, a PTA volunteer and Mrs Daniels as Head. We love running events and the parent support we get at these events but we really need more members of the parent community to support the ongoing organisation of the PTA. When there are many people to share the load the load is much lighter. We are particularly looking for people to support in the roles of:

- Assistant treasurer, to learn the ropes from Candice before she leaves us in summer 2025.
- Secretary to help with minute taking, poster creation and communication; this could be a role shared between people.

Class representatives for each class. We know that many classes have active WhatsApp groups and these are a great informal way of communicating but currently we can only easily contact some year groups. If you think you could be a class rep we would share key messages with you to pass on to the parents of that class. It would also be a useful way of parents feeding information back to the PTA.

If you can help with any of these roles, even on a part time or shared basis please contact us.

On 6th July we have our 'Sundown Screen' event showing 'Wonka' at 5pm. For this event we need volunteers to help run the gate, bar and popcorn stall. Please let us know if you can help with this for part of the event, half an hour each will go a long way.

Last year we raised £7,723 from the fireworks, summer fete and easter bingo events. This money is now being spent across the school to support the enrichment of our children's school life and experiences. For example, we have funded:

- The chicks in Year 1,
- New outdoor equipment is on order for the Reception class outdoor area.
- New cooking equipment
- New gardening equipment
- Reading books to support the new Phonics programme in school
- Book bags for new starters in Reception
- Ice lollies at Sports Day
- Year 6 leavers gifts

Coronation gift for each pupil

There are future plans that include bigger spends including, away sports kit, outdoor area developments and playground development but these will be projects for the next school year.

There are also future plan for a school disco in the Autumn term. If you think you could be part of a team to organise this event please let us know.

We continue to volunteer our time to enrich the school community with fun events for families in order to raise funds to support the school in delivering a full and enriched experience for our children. This is only possible if the community works together to provide these events and raise funds. If you can help us then we can continue to meet this aim. We really do need as many volunteers as possible to make this possible.

Many Thanks

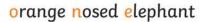
Your PTA Team

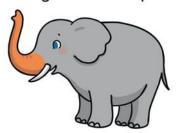
News from Robin Class (Year 1)



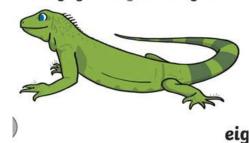
Robin Class have had a great first week back to this final half term of Year One! It was lovely to hear all about the children's week off – from family walks, movie nights and picnics to travels further afield and day trips out. What was even better was the pride they took in writing about these experiences – this time as a letter to a friend.

This week, we have been looking at the spellings of some of the number words in more detail. Although most children can now read these numbers well (even including eight when they know they are number words!) most are struggling to write them. Once they have practised writing these in school, they will bring home their sheets so you can see





every iguana gets hairy toes



one



which words they are struggling with. Please do take some time to practise this Year One objective more at home if possible – ask if they can remember any of our mnemonics to remembering how to spell them!

News from Robin Class (Year 1)

In Art this week, the children had a go at their own sculptures of 'things in nature', using clay. They were very imaginative and we hope you enjoyed seeing their creations when they came home.

We have begun looking at the story of 'Jim and the Beanstalk'. We have already compared it to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and found that there are links to that story. Over the coming weeks, we will be over-learning the story, creating a story map (as a class) and deciding which parts of the story we like and don't like.

Our Maths this week has been practising counting forwards and backwards in steps of 2, 5, and 10. PLEASE check in with your child about the ones they are finding tricky – we have said counting in 2s on the way to school and 5s or 10s on the way home every day would be a great way to get the practice in.

Have a super weekend!

The Year 1 Team





SUMMER SCREENING

HOLD THE DATE

SATURDAY 6TH JULY 4.30PM

Steeple Morden Primary School



Tickets on sale soon!

News from Owl Class (Year 2)

Welcome back to the final half-term of Year 2, we hope you had a lovely half-term. It has been great reading about what you all got up to in the recounts that were written on

Tuesday. It sounds like you had lots of fun and adventures.

In English, we have started our narrative topic, looking at all different types of fiction writing and the different genres that they fall into. We have had a look at the components of narrative and had a go at creating a simple story that we acted out with our peers.



In Maths, we have started out new topic of 'Time'. This week we have focused on o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. We have enjoyed using the clocks and using our prior fraction knowledge to support us.

In PSHE, we completed a lesson about what is fair and unfair and whether we all have the

same opinions about this, it was interesting to hear some different perspectives.

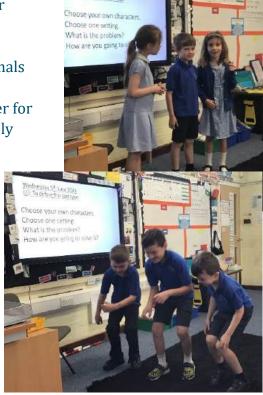
In our topic lesson, we started to look at what animals and plants depend on to survive in their different habitats and how often they both rely on each other for survival. Lots came up that surprised us and it really got us thinking about lots of different things, the discussions were fantastic.

In PE, we have started focusing on team games and earning points in order to prepare us for Sports Day, we loved having a bit of healthy competition.

The new spellings have been given out, the rule is: words ending in 'ey' that make the ee

sound. The test will be on Monday 10^{th} June.





News from Owl Class (Year 2) Continued

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



Quad kids 2024

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

We are all refreshed from a week at home and have started our 'life in the 1940's' work with focus and enthusiasm.

In English, we have identified the features of diary writing and thought about the grammar of writing in the first person. We will work on this over the next couple of weeks aiming to write a diary entry recounting our 'holiday at home'.

In Maths, we have started our unit of work on time. To begin, we looked at reading the time on an analogue clock. Although we have worked hard this still need *a lot* of practice, so any telling the time at home would be beneficial. Work on time will continue next week.

In topic work, we have started our section of work on life in the 1940's. We could not do this without considering the impacts of WW2. So far, we have briefly looked at the reasons for the war, who sided with who and some of the government campaigns that were put in place. In preparation for Monday, we have discussed 'holidays at home' and the fun competitions that the children can enter by completing the activities















at home.

You will shortly be receiving a parentmail about a planned visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum which is planned for the final week of term. Please look out for this.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend

The Year 3 Team

WEEKLY HOME ACTIVITIES

Reading, please aim for at least 4x weekly noting what has been read in reading diary. Books and diary must be in school daily please.

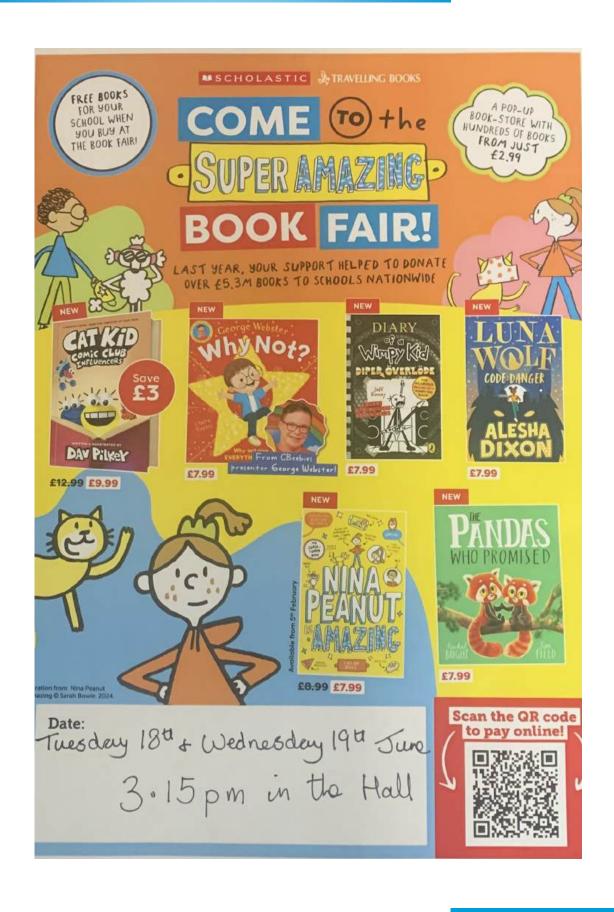
Mathletics and **Spelling Frame**, logins for both are in reading diaries.

Tackling tables practice.

REMINDERS

Please name all clothing. Send books and diary into school each day. Full PE kits needed in school everyday.





News from Swift Class (Year 4)

In English Lessons we have been reading Katherine Rundell's 'The Explorer.' The children have been engaging well with this exciting and adventurous text. This has helped us particularly to understand how speech is punctuated and how settings are described.

In Maths we have been dividing numbers by 100 and next week we will be furthering our work with decimals by ordering, comparing and rounding them.

In our mandarin lessons we have been learning about different types of Chinese food and how varied dishes can be across the country.

Can your child identify which character represents which food and the reason why? 我吃...

米饭, 面条, 面包

Well done to those children who took part in the Quad Kids tournament this week at Cambridge Sports Ground You represented the school well and thank you to parents for arranging transport.

We are looking forward to our visit to the RSPB at Rye Meads on Wednesday next week to help our understanding of our science unit on living things and their habitats come to life. Please remind your children to bring a sun hat, their packed lunch (unless you signed up for the school to make you one) and their water bottle.

The Year 4 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.

Keeping Children Safe in the Sun!

As the weather gets a little warmer over the course of this term, please can we remind you to make sure that your child has a named sunhat/cap and a water bottle in school each day and has had sun-cream applied in the morning. Sunglasses are not required so please do not send these into school unless these are required for a medical reason that we are already aware of. At the moment we are more in need of sweatshirts and coats but the sun might appear at some point over the next few weeks!

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 Heron Class (Year 5)

The Year 5 Team

Welcome back to school after the half term break. We hope that you all had a relaxing and peaceful holiday. The children certainly seem to be calm, rested, and ready to start on our last half term of learning together in Year 5.

In Maths, we have continued our work on shape using protractors to measure angles up to 180 degrees and to draw angles accurately ourselves. We have also used what we know about angles around a point and on a straight line to calculate the size of missing angles. The children seem to have enjoyed this work and everyone has made good progress. We have also taken another Tackling Tables test.

In English, we have finished our work on discussion texts and spent some time editing and improving our writing. Everyone completed their piece of writing by expressing their own personal opinion about whether or not they believe social media causes poor mental health, if you have time maybe you could ask your child for their opinion. In Science, we have used our time this week exploring another irreversible change - the reaction of bicarbonate of soda with an acid. We discussed the heat given off during this reaction and identified the reaction as endothermic as the temperature difference was negative.



Finally, in R.E. this week we have continued to explore Hinduism. We have started with one of the most challenging ideas to understand - namely a sense of what Hindu ideas about God, the world and living beings are. We have begun to use the terms Atman and Braham to try to explain these concepts.

With thanks for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team



News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

The Year 6 Team

I hope you all had a restful and peaceful break last week and the children are ready to enjoy their very last half-term at primary school.

This week we have been continuing to focus on our writing. The class finished writing their own auto-biographies at the end of last half term. There were some very honest accounts and some very readable anecdotes! We have now begun our next genre, where we will be focussing on an in-depth book study, leading to the children writing their own adventure story based on the book.

We will still be working on some mathematical activities this term, as it is important that the children keep the subject 'ticking over' in preparation for secondary school. We will focus on more open-ended problem solving exercises in particular. For example, this week we looked at problems associated with distances and travel.

Another area we will focus on will be PE – we will be partaking in athletics, cricket, rounders and OAA or Outdoor Adventurous Studies. More about that in a week or two.

Homework, this week, will only be the usual spellings, which are due back next Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 6 Team

LEAVERS HOODIES

We are looking at putting on a 2nd run for anyone that has missed the original deadline for leavers hoodies. A separate Parentmail will be sent out to confirm if we can do this.





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 line n 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.u k 01923 627055

Age UK Hertfordshire, a name you can trust.
Cleaning and helping athome for 1000's of clients across Hertfordshire



Tea, coffee, home-made cake
Toys and lots of space for little ones
Do join us after school drop-off







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

Netball & Athletics Half Term Holiday Clubs

Biggleswade Swimming Club

Relax & Unwind Sessions—Steeple Morden & Royston Sessions

Royston Hockey Club Juniors Section

NCT Nearly New Sale

Castle Coaching Football and Rugby training sessions

First aid course—for adults, juniors and teens

Summer Choral Courses at St Catherine's College

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

"In a world full of adversity we must still dare to dream."

Rob Burrow

Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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