



Message from Mrs Daniels:

The Summer term is incredibly busy and this week has been no exception. A number of school visits are planned in addition to geography fieldwork in our village and the surrounding area over the course of the next five weeks.

"How come a snail can live under a log?" is one of the many questions that were asked by children in Year 4, when they were taught by experts at the RSPB at Rye Meads about living things and their habitats. The visit on Wednesday was a brilliant way of bringing the learning in the classroom to life.

We are looking forward to our Sports Days next week and hoping that the weather is kind to us. In the event of very heavy rain I will let you know early in the morning if we are going to need to postpone the event but fingers crossed that both events can go ahead.

Sports Day for Reception, Years 1 & 2 – Wednesday 19th June at 9.30am on the school field

Sports Day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – Thursday 20th June at 9.30am on the school field.

Please can all children have a full PE kit in school next week and a named water bottle, waterproof coat and sunhat to cover all weather possibilities.

A reminder also of the PTA's upcoming film screening of 'Wonka' on Saturday 6th July. The poster gives all the necessary details about advance tickets sales. We hope to see as many families as possible joining us for this new event.

We are contacting the relevant authorities to discuss the repainting of the yellow lines on the road outside school. Until this happens please can we remind you to park in one of the 3 designated car parks in the village and avoid parking in the area between the church and the bus stop. Have an enjoyable weekend.

Jo Daniels,

Acting Headteacher

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Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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Phone: 01763 852474
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Website: www.steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

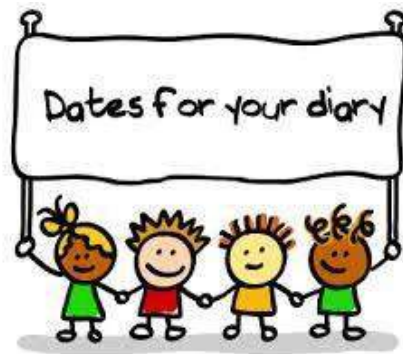
"The shoe that fits one person pinches another; there is no recipe for living that suits all cases."

Carl Jung



“How come a snail can live under a log?” is one of the many questions that were asked by children in Year 4, when they were taught by experts at the RSPB at Rye Meads about living things and their habitats.





Weds 19 th June	Sports Day (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)
Thurs 20 th June	Sports Day (Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6)
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 Outdoor Cinema Event—WONKA
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

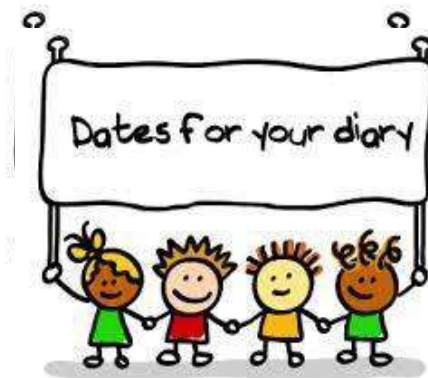
Please make payment for school lunches via Parentmail **in advance of meals taken.**

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

Absence Reporting

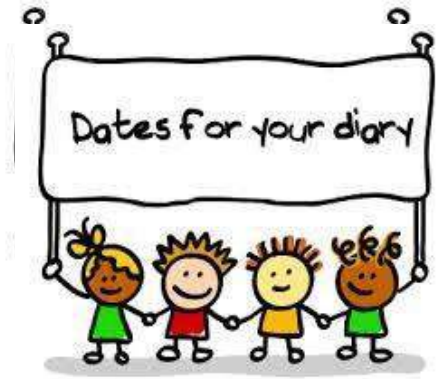
If your child is absent please advise us on 01763 852474 (Option 1) and leave a message on the absence line or email office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

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 2023	Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October
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 February 2024	Monday 19th – Friday 23rd
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>



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 21st April 2025 and Monday 1st 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@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/guidance/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

Summer Holiday Scheme Places

for free



Would your child like to attend a fully funded holiday scheme this Summer where fun experiences, a meal and snacks are included?

Children in receipt of benefit-related free school meals are eligible to attend a participating holiday scheme for up to 64 hours.

Please visit the County Council webpage for details and the wider eligibility criteria:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf
(or scan the QR Code)

Questions: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Department for Education

CAMBRIDGESHIRE
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

Cambridgeshire
County Council

News from Starling Class (Reception)

What a lovely week we have had. The children have been learning about Father's Day. We have enjoyed hearing all about the fun things the children do with the special men in their lives. We've heard about pancakes, pizzas, bike rides and camping!

In Maths, we have been thinking about capacity whilst thinking about the terms full, half full and empty. We predicted which containers could hold the most water and were surprised that the tallest container didn't always hold the most water. We also learnt that capacity could be anything, it didn't have to be water. We used cubes and paper clips to fill containers too.



In Phonics we continued our Phase 5 learning which included new sounds. The sounds we learnt this week were: oy, ir, ue, aw. 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
Scenic	Lovely looking natural surroundings
Douse	To make something wet by pouring a lot of liquid over it
Inhabit	To live in a place
Luscious	Having a nice sweet taste, often juicy
Deliberate	A careful or unhurried way of moving or acting

Next week we are going to be thinking about oceans and what lurks under the sea.

As it is getting hotter, please ensure you send your child to school wearing sun cream and with a sunhat. We also need raincoats as the British weather is so unpredictable!

Have a great weekend.

The Reception Team



News from Robin Class (Year 1)

This week we have been super-productive!

Hopefully you will have picked up on the surprise cards which have been put in book bags ready for Sunday! (shhhhhh!) The children worked really hard on these and we think have done a great job. We hope all those father figures out there have a lovely day.

We completed the Phonics Screening Check for most children on Tuesday. We are pleased with the progress all the children have made during their time in Year 1. Results of this check will be shared with you in the end of year report.

We have had a look at some mnemonics to help us learn two more number spellings – this time the number two and the number four.



(Some children have also considered the anomaly of the number 'forty' when spelling numbers associated with 'four')

This week in Art we have been looking at nature sculptures created out of leaves, stones, wood and ice. We then closely studied natural objects and produced careful observational drawings. In PE, we have been sorting our teams and heats for Sports Day next Wednesday morning.

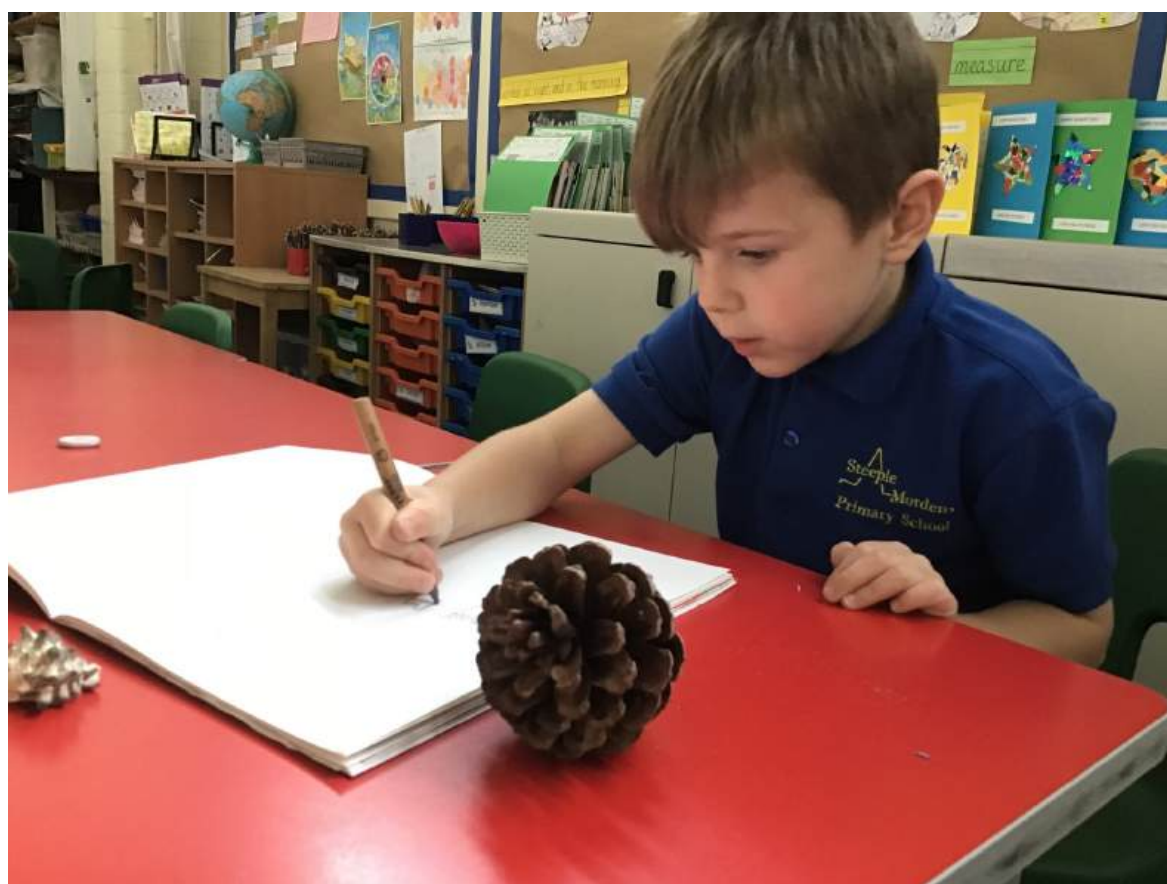


News from Robin Class (Year 1)

This week in English we created a story map together to help us to retell our story – Jim and the Beanstalk. This children were brilliant at helping me draw the pictures they wanted and can tell the story so well, using the ‘map’. In Maths we have been looking at numbers to 100, really thinking about the 10s and 1s numbers, starting to partition them and being able to compare any 2-digit numbers.

Thank you for all your help with your children’s learning – have a lovely weekend!

The Year 1 Team



SUNDOWN CINEMA

Bring your chairs, blankets, beanbags, and join us on the school field for a relaxed evening of family entertainment.

**SATURDAY
6TH JULY
5PM**

GATES OPEN 4.30PM
**Steeple Morden
Primary School**



BBQ | BAR
POPCORN
Ice Cream

Advance tickets

BEST VALUE £16 Family *
* 2 adults & up to 3 children

£9 Adult, £6 child

Prices on gate

£10 Adult, £7 child
(No Family Tickets)

Under 2s FREE



Scan QR code to
buy advance
tickets now

OR

Click [here](#) if online

Also available to buy
for cash from school office upon request

This event will go ahead in all weather so please dress appropriately for the forecast. As this event is a fundraiser for the school, if we do have to cancel we will consider the ticket price a donation. Refunds will be issued upon request.



News from Owl Class (Year 2)

Another wet week at Steeple Morden but we have been lucky to still get a lot of time outside, the weather has not stopped our fun.



In English, we have continued our narrative topic by looking at a range of features that we have now started to include in our planning. We have been reading 'Somebody crunched Colin' and ordering the story using our time conjunctions.

In Maths, we have continued our topic of 'Time'. This week we have moved on to 5 minute intervals, counting forwards and backward in 5s. We have focused on whether the time is 'past' the hour or 'to' the hour.

Ask your child about the picture



In our topic lessons, we are now looking at the British seaside and comparing what it is like today to what it was like in the past. We have started by looking at the vocabulary linked to the seaside, e.g pier, promenade, tourist, resort.

In PE, we have been doing some relay races after watching some Olympic relay races on the screen, this led us to doing a bit of research about Usain Bolt at the end of the day on Tuesday.

The new spellings have been given out, the rule is: words including 'o' that make the 'u' sound. The test will be on Monday 17th June.

Thank you to all the parents who have come to meet with us this week, it has been really beneficial for us and we hope that you have found it useful too. Something that has come up a few times is the understanding of how we teach certain topics in Maths, this information is available on our Website (Information-Maths Curriculum) where you can see examples of Maths learning at our school.

Completed Art (textiles) projects from last half term below.

The Year 2 Team



News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

A most enjoyable week.

The children are very enthused and interested in 1940's life.

In English, we have continued working on our diary writing. This week we have made notes from our holiday at home along with considering writing in the first person.

In Maths, we have continued our work on time, looking at reading the time to the minute and on a digital clock. Please keep up telling the time practice on an analogue clock at home. Work on time will continue again next week.

During our 'Holidays at Home' day, we had the best of days working on a range of activities that were recommended by the wartime government for what you could do while holidaying at home. These included a cross-country run, a beetle drive, cottage crafts (we made paper cottages that tessellated), homing pigeons that transported secret messages in Morse code and making peacocks from old bedsheets and a house coat. Thank you for the efforts from home with costumes and the entries for the craft competitions. Our judge was most impressed and had great difficulty selecting winners.

Thank you to those who have made payment and completed the required information for the planned visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum. If you have not yet done so could I please ask that you do as soon as possible so that the necessary work in school can be completed.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend

The Year Three Team



News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

Dates

KS2 Sports morning 20.6.24

Yr 3 Coffee Morning 9.7.24 9-10am

Visit to Chiltern Open Air 16.7.24

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.



SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

COME TO the SUPER AMAZING BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

LAST YEAR, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED TO DONATE OVER £5.3M BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

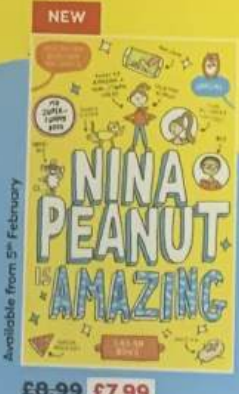
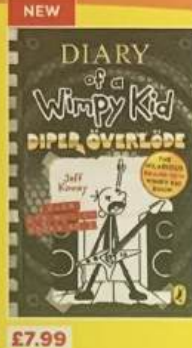
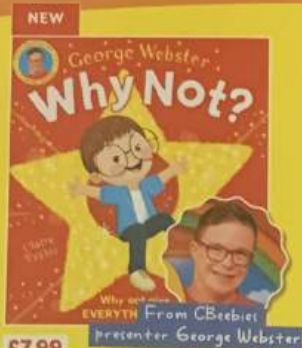


Illustration from Nina Peanut Amazing © Sarah Bowle, 2024.

Date: Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th June
3.15 pm in the Hall

Scan the QR code to pay online!



News from Swift Class (Year 4)

We have had another busy week doing many practical activities.

We also enjoyed our visit to the RSPB at Rye Meads to learn more about living things and their habitats. Thank you very much to our parent volunteers, who helped our visit go smoothly and supported the children in their learning.

"My favourite is the phantom midge"

"An animal will move to conditions that are most favourable."

"I've caught a monster!"

"I don't understand why I'm so wet??" (Mrs Smith)

"Most animals that live under logs are long and thin."

"How come a snail can live under a log?"

"A rabbit is a generalist rather than a specialist."



Learning how to make pasta from scratch has been an enjoyable challenge, forming a part of making creamy mushroom and prosciutto pasta. Even children who begun by saying they disliked certain ingredients, were impressed by their own cooking and enjoyed the dish as a whole, trying something they would not normally consider.

Well done to all the children in Swift Class for taking part in the government's Multiplication Tables Check this week. They have worked hard to recall and retain their multiplication facts up to 12x12 and thank you for all the support at home – the purpose of this check is to help teachers in Years 5 and 6 know which children still need to know their times tables up to 12 x12.

We have also been out and about in the village this week to study land use in Steeple Morden as part of our Geography field work.

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!

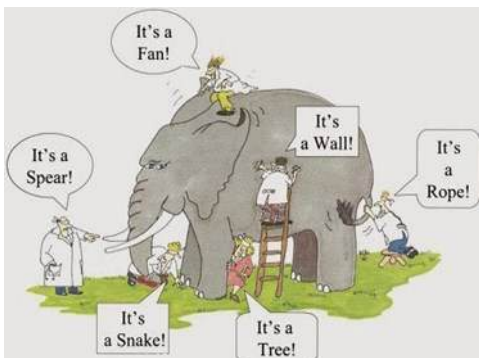
As the weather gets a little warmer over the course of this term, please can we remind you to make sure that your child has a named sunhat/cap and a water bottle in school each day and has had sun-cream applied in the morning. Sunglasses are not required so please do not send these into school unless 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!

News from Heron Class (Year 5)

We have had another busy week in Year 5. We have finished our discussion texts and begun to look at our next genre – explanation texts. We have looked at some examples of this type of writing and identified the common features. In preparation for our own writing, we have been working on using plural and possessive –s for singular nouns correctly. In spelling, we have focused on spelling words ending with the letter string –ough. These words are available on Spelling Frame for your child to practise at home.

In Maths, we have now finished our work on angles and moved onto a new topic – position and direction. This topic involves lots of work on co-ordinates; this is always a popular area of learning for the children as it involves using maps and following routes.

In Science, we have begun to investigate air and water resistance as part of our final topic – Forces. To investigate air resistance, we have made parachutes of various sizes and dropped them from the highest point on the play structure to see if we can articulate the link between the size of the parachute and the time taken to reach the ground.



Finally, in R.E. this week we have continued to explore Hinduism. We have spent time listening to the story of the six blind men and the elephant – a story that is used in many Eastern religions to explain tricky concepts. In this context in Hinduism, it is used to help explain the Hindu approach to ideas about God. Each man describes the part of the elephant that he can feel and interprets it as the whole. Hindus live with very

different ideas of God, but see each as part of something much bigger. Their understanding of God is defined as pluralism, rather than polytheism.

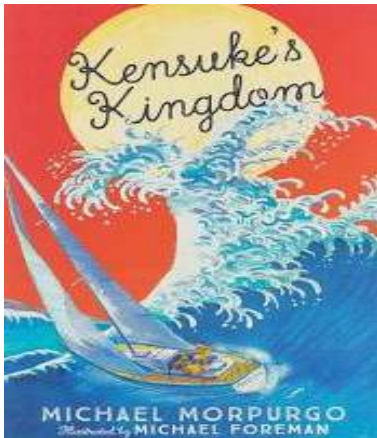
With thanks for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team



News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

This week we have been continuing to focus on our writing. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading Michael Morpurgo's 'Kensuke's Kingdom' and have discussed the book and the themes in it. Using the book as a focus, we then drafted, wrote and edited an adventure story. We looked at different aspects of the story, from developing our story mountain in our planning, through to working on our dialogue and the different ways that we can show what a character's personality is like. The children loved reading Kensuke's Kingdom and were all very much engaged when doing so. Many of the class gave the book an 8, 9 or 10 out of 10. A resounding thumbs up from Puffins!



Shortly we will be focussing on our end of year production. We held auditions earlier in the week and the pupils will be given scripts for the roles that they will play. The play will be one based on sport and the Olympic Games. From next week we will be rehearsing, designing, singing, acting, dancing, making, building, drawing, painting, writing and many other '-ing' endings in preparation for the production. There will be two performances in the last full week of term (10th July - pm and 11th July - evening). More details to follow in due course.

A reminder that next week will be Sports Day. Please could you make sure that your child has their full PE kit in school all week. Some Year 6 children will also be helping at the Sports Day on Wednesday for the younger children. They will also need a sun hat, a water bottle and sun cream (if necessary) applied.

Homework, this week, will be the usual spellings, which are due back next Thursday. Could your child also start learning their script for the production too, please.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 6 Team



LEAVERS HOODIES—2nd PRINT RUN

Date live online : Monday 17th June

Deadline to order: Monday 24th June

Delivery to school : Week Commencing 8th July



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



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>

*"The finest ship to sail the sea of life is friendship."
J. M. Robertson*

Steeple Morden C of E Primary School

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