



Resilience ~ Compassion ~ Excellence

NEWSLETTER



Learning well underway!

It has been a busy couple of weeks and the events have started! We enjoyed a lovely Harvest Festival service at Church at the start of the week on the theme of sharing and being grateful for our farmers. Thank you to all who contributed to our Harvest collection, we were touched by the generous donations and all items have been shared between the local village food pantries.

Year 6 had their first visit of the year to experience the labs at AstraZeneca (see y6 page for full details), Year 4 have begun their statutory swimming sessions at Stollies and our new group of JTAs (Junior Travel Ambassadors) met for the first time!

We have a PTA meeting on Monday 5th October to map out key PTA dates for the year, which I will then add to the diary dates for the year ahead which I have mapped and share with you.

Another reminder regarding parking, particularly at drop off...please be considerate of both our neighbours and other road users when dropping off. Cars should not be parking on the yellow zig zags during school hours and this is not a safe (or considerate) place to do turn in the road. We have witnessed a few 'near misses' in the last couple of weeks.

We also had a visit from our OPAL mentor recently to check our progress ahead of our accreditation in July. She was very pleased with how well the whole school community have engaged in the process and the extension high-quality play the children are creating and experiencing.

Finally, it was lovely to see parents attending our Phonics workshop recently, we have had a few requests to do a similar event for Maths in each year group and Miss Barrett (as our Maths Lead) is currently planning what this could look like.

Mrs Housden

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our recent Stars of the Week...

Friday 18th September - Bailey, Eliza, Rose, Tilly, Saoirse, Charlotte

Friday 25th September - Ellis, Roisin, Connor, Miri, Phoebe, Rex





FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

**£4 PER CHILD INCLUDING ENTRANCE,
SNACK AND A DRINK**

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

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



BOOK NOW
**TICKETS AVAILABLE
THROUGH PARENTMAIL**

Steeple Morden
Church of England
Primary School

Steeple Morden FIREWORKS

Steeple Morden Village Green Meadow

Saturday the 7th November 2026

Gates open: 5:00pm

Pre-ordered food available from: 5:00pm

DJ: 5:30pm

Bonfire lighting: 6:00pm

Fireworks display: 6:30pm

Advance tickets:

Family ticket (2 adults + 2 kids) £20

Adult £8

Child £5

On the gate:

Adult £12

Child £7

Sweets and Treats

Hot Chocolate and Mulled Wine

Hot dogs £3 pre-ordered or £4 on the day

4 Hot dogs for £10 (only available if pre-ordered)

Book here



<https://steeple-morden-pta.sumupstore.com>

No personal fireworks or sparklers allowed.

Only professional pyrotechnicians or a permit holder to use fireworks.

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

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CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Acorn Class

The past two weeks in Acorn Class have been full of rich learning and lovely moments of community. The children have explored two wonderful stories in English. With Elmer, they learned to describe characters using colour words and simple adjectives, practising "Elmer is..." sentences and finishing the week by drawing Elmer and attempting early writing. Moving on to Paper Dolls, they talked about who the dolls are, explored how they are joined, sequenced simple events from the story, and rehearsed "They are..." sentences before creating their own doll drawing and writing "The doll is..." with an adjective.

In maths, the children have enjoyed hands-on exploration of sorting, comparing and measuring. They sorted objects by colour, shape, size and type, used language such as more, less, most and least, and spotted sorting rules created by others. They then moved into early measurement, comparing big and small, tall and short, and measuring animals, feet and classroom objects using cubes and other non-standard units. They investigated mass using balance scales and explored capacity through water play, confidently using words like full, empty and half full.

Across the wider curriculum, the children have taken part in PE, RE with Mrs Smith, PSHE, music, junk modelling, painting and map-making, showing curiosity and growing independence throughout.

We also enjoyed two special events. The children were excellent on our trip to the church for the Autumn Celebration, showing calm, respectful behaviour and listening beautifully. Last Friday, they worked wonderfully with their Year 5 buddies during the visit to the exhibition celebrating 150 years of Steeple Morden. They asked thoughtful questions, explored the displays with real interest and collaborated confidently with their older partners.

It has been a joyful and productive fortnight, and we are very proud of how the children have embraced every experience.

Mrs Simon, Mr France and the Acorn Class Team

Can you help?

We are in search of the following items

Home Corner & Role Play

Doll's prams and buggies

Doll's cots

Dolls

Dolls' clothes and blankets

Baby baths

Hair brushes

Handbags

Purses

Scarves

Bags

Old suitcases, especially suitcases on wheels small

Old shoes

Wigs

Small World Play

Toy cars

Plastic animals

Other small-world figures and vehicles

Trees, fencing, signs

Creative & Loose Parts

Silicone cupcake moulds

Curtain rings

Nuts and bolts

Pine cones

Shells

Other interesting natural or recycled materials

Classroom Storage

Plastic drawers

Small baskets and containers

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Ash Class

What a busy couple of weeks we have had in Year One!

We have begun learning the 'extended code' in Phonics where the first sound we have been learning spellings for is /ae/. We found many different ways to spell /ae/ including:

- a as in cake
- ai as in rain
- ay as in plain
- ea as in break

In English we have been using the traditional tale 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to think about story settings. The children have compared Jack's house to the Giant's house and thought of adjectives to describe each setting. We then found a picture of a different house and wrote our own setting description of the house.

In Maths, we have been looking at 'greater than', 'less than' and equal to using these signs '>', '<', '='. The children could identify which number was greater or less but it has taken some time to figure out which sign is needed. We used these pictures to help us:



In Science, we have been thinking about our senses. We conducted an experiment to see which of our senses we needed to use to see, smell, taste, touch and hear. We found that some of the items had nice smells and some had nasty smells!

In PE, we have been working on our ball skills. So far we have been rolling, throwing and catching to ourselves, our partners and a target. We have learned the importance of a warm up and how to put the equipment we use away safely.

We have noticed that lots of the children are needing a bit of extra support with their fine motor skills. Here are a few ways you could support this at home:

- playing with Lego
- using play dough
- threading, eg: making bracelets
- following dot to dots
- colouring
- making shapes out of elastic bands
- using tweezers to move small items

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Monks and the Year One Team.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Birch Class

It has been another couple of busy weeks in Year 2!

In Maths, we have continued our work on place value. The children have been ordering numbers and using the greater than and less than symbols to write comparison statements. They have also been putting their place value knowledge to good use by solving a range of simple problems. Next week, we will begin our new unit of work on addition and subtraction.

In English, we have started working towards producing our own wolf fact files. So far, the children have sorted statements about wolves into true and false, thought of questions they would like to find the answers to, and labelled a diagram of a wolf to explain some of its key physical features. We will continue finding out more about wolves before using all our new knowledge to create our fact files. In Science, we have been learning about our senses. This week, we have been thinking particularly about the senses of sight and hearing and how we use them. Over the next couple of weeks, we will move on to explore taste and touch.

In Geography, we have continued to investigate our locality and develop our mapping skills. The children have drawn maps of the classroom and have also thought carefully about the route they take on their journey to school.

We have been getting very colourful in Art! The children have been learning more about colour mixing, creating secondary colours and using them to paint sunflowers inspired by the work of Vincent van Gogh. Our work is now on display in the church. We have also explored tints and shades, following a look at the work of Johannes Vermeer and thinking about how artists use light and dark colours in their paintings.

A big thank you to all the parents who were able to come along to our Year Ahead meeting. It was lovely to see you and to have the opportunity to talk about what we will be doing throughout Year 2. If you were unable to attend, you should have found our optional homework grid in your child's book bag and received an overview of the information shared.

Finally, a couple of little reminders. Please try to make sure that your child is reading in some way every day. This might be their school reading book, a book from home, a comic, a magazine or even reading signs and instructions when you are out and about. Every little bit of reading really does help.

Please also make sure that all clothing is clearly named, including jumpers, cardigans, coats and PE kit. With lots of very similar-looking uniform in the classroom, named clothing makes it much easier for us to reunite lost items with their owners!

Thank you for your continued support,

Wishing you a good weekend from the Birch class team



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Yew Class

By the time you have read this we should have finished (or almost finished) our first unit on place value in Maths lessons. We use different ways to learn about the topics. This includes using 'Steeple's Big 5' – ask your child what this means. Another strategy we use is 'Draw it/Write it/Say it/Build it'. Next week we will start to look at different addition and subtraction strategies.

In English the class are enjoying working through the book 'Pig Heart Boy' and we have completed a biography of the author, Malorie Blackman. The class put a lot of work into the research, planning, structure, writing and editing of the piece – so, well done to all. Our second genre was on examining the features of a diary extract before writing one based on the events at the beginning of our class book, 'Pig Heart Boy.'

Thank you to all the parents that came to the Year Ahead meeting last Wednesday. I hope you found this informative.

Earlier in the week, the school went to the village church for the school's harvest festival celebrations. Thank you to all who donated a gift for their child to take to church.

Homework was set for the first time last week and your child should have received a slip explaining what they needed to do. For your information they will need to complete a couple of Mathematics activities based on what they are learning in class and also a Spelling Frame activity reinforcing what we are learning in class, as well. Homework will continue to be set on a Friday and should be completed by the following Friday.

Thank you.

Mr Baker and the Year 5 Team

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

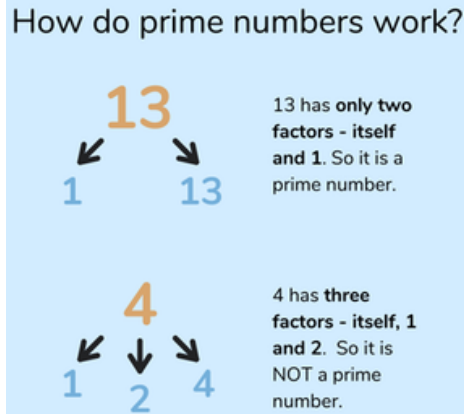
Oak Class

What a lovely few weeks we have had in Oak class. It was lovely to meet so many of you at the Year ahead meeting and sharing the exciting things we will be doing in Year 6. We have celebrated the selection of our house and sports captain as well as our personal development lead and our school councillors. The children are now familiar with the routines and expectations are impressing me every day with how well organised they are. We visited church for our harvest festival, where the house captains spoke beautifully.

This week we have also been on our first class trip of the year to AstraZeneca in Cambridge. The visit gave us an insight into the life of a scientist. We learnt the stages of developing a cure for 'Unicorn-ites' following the same steps that the scientists were doing. We also have a lab session where we learnt how to use pipettes and made some incredible science art.



In maths we have been looking at prime numbers and squared / cubed numbers. As many children have been to visit some secondary schools this week, it might be worth recapping this with children at home to ensure they have a good knowledge of prime, square and cubed numbers.



I will be sending home some letters, one about SATs CPG books we are able to order (cheaper) through school and one about the residential trip to PGL.

As always, if there are any questions please don't hesitate to get in through using the class email address.

Miss Barrett and Oak Class



Are you a junior and looking for a new sport?

WHY NOT GIVE HOCKEY A TRY??

Royston Hockey Club runs a very successful training programme for boys and girls under the age of 14.

Fully qualified coaches, run three separate age groups on Sundays, from 10.00 am - 11.15 am at KJAR astroturf pitch.

INTERESTED?? Then please drop us a line to confirm your details. More information is also available on our website. Don't worry if you don't have a stick - we can lend you one.



DAY AND TIME:
Sunday's (Sept - April)
10.00 am - 11.15 am



VENUE:
KJAR Astroturf
Garden Walk, Royston
Hertfordshire, SG8 7JH



GET IN TOUCH:
Any questions, please email us on
junior@roystonhockey.co.uk

www.roystonhockey.co.uk

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9:00 - 11:00AM
For ages 4- 6 years
£19 pp

9:00-3:30PM
for ages 5 (year 1) to 16 years
£35 pp - Sibling discount available

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Christmas Fayre
at Bassingbourn Primary School

Friday 20th November
4:30pm - 7:00pm

A magical evening for all the family!

Christmas Games
Fun for all ages!

External Stalls
Great gifts and more!

Refreshments Available
Hot drinks, treats and more!

COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN!

Please get behind **FRIENDS OF BCPS**

We are fundraising for **AIR CONDITIONING UNITS** in our main hall