



Dear Parents and Carers,

Swimming this week has, unfortunately, been a real non-event but the rain itself has not prevented lessons taking part. As many of you know, Steeple children are a hardy bunch and understand that if you are in a pool and already wet, some rain won't hurt. Staff are also quite prepared to don waterproofs and carry on regardless.

The rain combined with the colder weather has been our major issue. This has meant that the pool temperature has been difficult to maintain and therefore the chemicals necessary to keep everyone safe have been impossible to stabilise. Adding in the unexpected need to buy a new water test kit has been a challenge to say the least.

However, things are looking up! The weather forecast is looking more promising and generally the condition of the pool water is starting to settle. I used the phrase "cautiously optimistic" in assembly today and crossed my fingers. If at all possible we will try to put in some additional sessions over the coming weeks to try and catch up on those missed but obviously this will depend greatly on available staffing and supervision.

The weather has also led to some postponements and cancellations of sporting fixtures over the last week. Again, where possible these will be rescheduled so please keep checking Parentmail and The Star for updates.

### Staffing news

Miss Hayley Sheppard will be joining us on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June as our new Kitchen Manager. She comes with lots of experience and we are looking forward to any new ideas and suggestions she may have for us.

We all owe a huge thank you to Maria Barker who has stepped up and taken on the role since Fiona left, and also to Mrs Weston who joined the kitchen team on a temporary basis.

Mrs Tracey How  
Headteacher

<b>Dates for Your Diary</b>	
<b>June 2019</b>	
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Art Gallery in school (3.10-6.30pm)
<b>Wed 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 1 Class Assembly
<b>Wed 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Reception Father's Day event (2.00pm)
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 trip to Bewilderwood & Campout at school
<b>July 2019</b>	
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Move-up morning
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Music Evening (6.30pm)
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 to BVC
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> (am)	Rec/KS1 Sports Day (reserve Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>School Fete</b>
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Day (reserve Thu 11 <sup>th</sup> )
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	RockSteady Concert (2.00pm)
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Performance (1.30pm)
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Performance (6.30pm)
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Leavers Party on the school field
22 <sup>nd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 to BVC
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Class Dinosaur Dig Party
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>End of Term</b>
<b>September 2019</b>	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Autumn Term Begins</b>
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	The Steeple Chase run

## **School Meal Charges**

Charges for the **Summer Term** are as follows:

Daily:	£2.30
Weekly:	£11.50
1 <sup>st</sup> half term	£50.60
2 <sup>nd</sup> half term	£85.10
Whole Term	£135.70

We appreciate payment through our online payment system: SIMS PAY. Alternatively, cash or cheque (payable to Steeple Morden Primary School) **in advance of meals taken**. Please send your payment into School in a named envelope. **Thank You**

### **Music Evening Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 6.30pm**

We would like to invite you to a celebratory music evening this term. Our choir will be singing some of their favourite songs, year 2 children will be demonstrating their recorder skills and year 5 will perform on their ukuleles. Children who have piano lessons with Mr Tate will also be asked to play for us.

In addition, if any children receive instrument tuition outside of school and would like to perform on this date we would love to hear them! To ensure that parents are happy for their child to perform, and that the music would be appropriate could parents/carers please send in a note to this effect with details of the instrument, level of competence and title of the music by **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

## Clubs – Summer Term 2019

Day	Time	Club	Start Date	End Date	Staff Member
Monday	3.10-4.15pm	Choir (Years 3-6)	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Mrs Palmer
Monday	3.10-4.15pm	Years 1 & 2 Summer Sports	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Mrs Miller
Monday	3.10-4.15pm	Photography (Years 5 & 6)	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Mr Beavan
Tuesday	3.10-4.15pm	Years 5 & 6 Athletics	Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Mrs Miller
Wednesday	3.10-4.15pm	Years 3 & 4 Summer Sports	Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Mrs Miller
Thursday	8.15am- 8.45am (Doors open 8.20am)	Running Club (Years 1-6)	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Miller
Thursday	3.10-4.15pm	Years 5/6 Cricket	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Miller

- All clubs will meet in the hall and the adult in charge will complete an attendance register.
- Children need to be collected from the playground by a parent/carer when all clubs end at 4.15pm.
- If your child is in school we will assume that they are attending the club. If for any reason they cannot attend the club, please notify the adult taking the club. **All email messages need to be sent to school by lunchtime please.** [office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk)

LAMDA Drama Classes with Mrs Myerscough will be on Wednesdays, meeting in the Reception classroom.

This term there will be 10 sessions:- Apr 24<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> / Half Term / Jun 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, Jul 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Timings will be as follows:-

Years 1 & 2 - 3.10-3.40pm

Years 5 & 6 - 3.40-4.20pm

Years 3 & 4 - 4.20-4.50pm

Parents/Carers can contact Mrs Myerscough by email:-

[sinead.dramaticgrowth@gmail.com](mailto:sinead.dramaticgrowth@gmail.com) / [SineadMyerscough@aol.com](mailto:SineadMyerscough@aol.com) / 07801940433

### **Lunchtime Clubs**

**Chess Club** (Years 3-6) - will run on Friday lunchtimes with Ms Nutley and Mrs Brown.

**Needlework Club** (Years 5&6) – will run on Monday lunchtimes with Mrs Brown.

## **News from Starling Class (Reception)**

Hello from Starling Class,

This week we have begun our new topic 'Land Before Time' where we have been learning all about dinosaurs. The children have loved the dinosaur cave in the role play area and digging for dinosaur bones and fossils in the dinosaur dig sand pit. We have been consolidating our learning of numbers 1-20 and extending our learning by using numbers up to 100 in Maths and in Phonics we've been recapping syllables. We have also been singing, dancing and moving to music as well as practising our throwing and catching skills in preparation for Sports Day.

Next week we will continue our learning about dinosaurs by thinking about classifying dinosaurs in different ways. We will also be counting, doubling and halving as well as practising our letter formation and continuing our Phase Four Phonics journey.

On Wednesday (19<sup>th</sup> June) at 2pm, we have our Father's Day Dinosaur Dig where we are inviting dads, grandads and uncles (or other special males in the children's lives) to come in to school for a celebration of how wonderful these men are. Due to this there will be no swimming next week.

We hope you have a fabulous weekend celebrating Father's Day!

*Mrs Meridew, Miss Webb and the Reception Class Team.*

## **News from Robin Class (Year 1)**

This week the children have enjoyed learning facts about all kinds of different mini-beasts. They have started recording the facts they liked into fact-files which we hope they will eventually turn into mini-beast fact booklets. They have also solved mini-beast clues to identify the correct creature and labelled insect diagrams.

We have been practising some music for our class assembly next week and all the children have started putting together some super information to share with you all. With assembly in mind, we will not be swimming on Wednesday morning next week, so that we are all dry, presentable and ready to perform!

In Maths we have continued thinking about adding and subtracting 10, 11 and 12, relating this to reducing shop prices in a sale. The children are continuing to get the hang of 'spider counting'. Some of the children have also created a little shop out of the things they have made in some choosing time in the afternoons – we are hoping to incorporate this into their learning over the next week or so.

Hopefully we are over the worst of the weather now! Please send in water bottles daily and sun hats as needed.

We hope you all have a super weekend,

*Mrs Bowmer and the Year 1 team*

## **News from Owl Class (Year 2)**

We have had another busy week in Year 2 – solving maths problems, writing instructions and a story, learning about the life of Florence Nightingale and making sea creatures out of recycled materials for our 'Paper Plate Challenge' to name but a few of our activities.

The children were disappointed not to swim as explained in yesterday's Parentmail but we will be able to catch up our missed session later this half term.

### **Homework Reminders**

Thank you for your support with all of the following:-

Reading – please continue to make comments in reading record booklets when you listen to your child read. These books are checked on a daily basis for comments and messages.

Spelling – Please can you help ensure that your child brings their Yellow Spelling Folder in every Monday – thank you.

Maths - please continue to work on Mathletics activities and practise our 'Tackling Tables' cards.

Homework Folders – to go home on Friday and be returned to school by the following Wednesday.

### **PE Kits**

Please could you ensure that children have a full PE kit in school all week:-

shorts, T-shirt, jogging bottoms, sweatshirt, plimsolls, outdoor trainers, socks

Lessons will usually be on Wednesdays but days can sometimes change, particularly during the summer term.

**Swimming Kits** – needed on Thursdays.

**Recorders** – needed on Fridays.

### **Water Bottles**

Please can all children bring a clearly labelled water bottle to school every day. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Luebcke, Mrs Daniels and the Year 2 Team*

### **Remember the date:-**

Year 2 Class Assembly – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – 10.00am

### **News from Peacock Class (Year 3)**

In Year Three this week .....

In maths we have tackled problem solving involving different units of measure, converted time between digital, analogue and 24 hour clock, measured in mm and converted to cm and also measured the capacity of a variety of containers (in the rain!)

Next week we will be thinking about addition and subtraction.

In English we finished our instructional texts so that we can now share our den building skills with others. We also started our work on Robin Hood researching the truth behind the legend. We will continue with this next week.

In topic this week we started our science work about plants, identifying the different parts and their functions. Rain stopped play for our other science activities so we started our art work looking at the Dutch masters of flower painting, focussing on Rachel Ruysch, and then the American artist Georgia O'Keeffe. Thank you for the flowers that you sent in, they have led to some beautiful art work. (The classroom has smelt wonderful, I have often thought if I had a shop I would have a florist!)

Next week we will continue with our art work and return to the science of plants.

Swimming was disguised as tennis again, sorry fingers crossed for next week!!

Thank you if you have made the payment for your sausage butties, if you have not yet done so, please can you?

Many thanks for your continued support.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Seward & the Year 3 Team*

### **News from Swift Class (Year 4)**

This week, as part of a whole school project, we have been writing letters to the Ocean. The children have been discussing and sharing ideas about the topical subjects of pollution and how man has used the oceans to dispose of plastics and other waste.

Children in Swift Class are also extending their letter writing skills as a homework task. We have looked at work done by some companies and organisations who have introduced ideas to help the environment. The children now have a choice to write to companies - to either thank them for the work we've noticed they are doing to help the environment or, to ask them if they have environmentally friendly initiatives. We have found that sometimes this work is never actively promoted – Sainsbury's, for example, carries out work with farmers that is not well known. One child is planning to write to McDonalds to ask if the toys, which come with 'happy meals', need to be made of plastic as, in all probability, they are used for only a few minutes. If your child wishes to send their letter, they can bring it into school and we will send it on their behalf.

(continued over ...)

### **News from Swift Class (Year 4) continued ...**

Next week, in our English lessons, we will also be looking at the novel 'This Morning I Met a Whale'. Not only does this book link well with our topic work it is based on real events and is written from a child's point of view which, I feel, will really interest the children.

Over the next two weeks children will be taking part in the government's new times tables check. This is based 'on screen' and we will be working in small groups, using iPads to complete the check.

We hope that you enjoyed looking around the Art Gallery on Friday - it all looked very professional.

*Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team*

### **News from Heron Class (Year 5)**

This week in English we have started a new unit of work which is linked to our whole school environmental focus. We have used the laptops to research ocean pollution, linked to World Oceans Day last Saturday. The genre which we will be focussing on is discussion texts, and we have begun by trying to identify what makes this genre unique.

In Maths we have also started a new topic - looking at the properties of shapes. This will include types of angles, naming a variety of 2D and 3D shapes, nets of these shapes and calculating missing angles and lengths of lines.

This week, in the afternoons, we have started our new science topic; Reproduction and Life Cycles. We are beginning by looking at flowering plants and learning how new plants are formed. Following this we will progress onto life cycles and reproduction in animals including humans.

For our North America geography topic we have been comparing the UK with the Caribbean. So far, we have considered the similarities and differences in the climate, the fruit that is grown, types of housing and beaches. The homework that has come in this week continues to impress – many thanks for all of your help and support with this.

We are practicing hard for our ukulele performance and look forward to sharing our pieces with you at the musical evening! On the subject of performances, Year 5 will be singing with the Year 6s during the Year 6 end of year production. There will also be some minor parts for some of our Year 5s however these have not been allocated yet. Please put the 17<sup>th</sup> July in your diaries for the evening (6.30pm) performance which our Year 5s will be part of. The other performance (which they will also participate in) will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> July at 1.30pm.

With thanks for your continued support,

*Mrs Morris, Mrs Talbot and 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. We will be writing our own adventure stories based on the book next week, focussing on the use of story mountains to do so.

We have been focussing on Geography too. We will be discussing the water cycle in more detail and we have studied the major rivers of the world, before focussing closer to home - looking at the major European rivers. We have also continued with our Science and RE work (and will be this week).

We held auditions earlier in the week for our end of year production and some of the pupils will be given with scripts and roles that they will play, shortly. From next week we will be rehearsing, designing, singing, acting, dancing, making, building, drawing, painting, writing and many other words with '-ing' endings in preparation for the production. A reminder that there will be two performances in the last week of term - 16<sup>th</sup> July – pm and 17<sup>th</sup> July – evening).

Homework will be linked to the production.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website Community Page

Positive Parenting Workshop, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
RunOrwell 10k, 5k and 2k run Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup>  
Litlington pre-school open day, 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
Steeple Morden Literary Festival, 7<sup>th</sup> July  
Morden Players Young Players weekend 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> July  
Football Summer Camp (Royston) , July/August  
Parenting Courses  
Adult Learning Skills – Fast Track Qualifications  
Litlington Preschool  
Smarties

**Please follow this link if you are interested:**

[https://steeple-morden.eschools.co.uk/website/community\\_news/365736](https://steeple-morden.eschools.co.uk/website/community_news/365736)



This year's summer fete sees the return of our popular 'Adopt a Teddy' stall.

But as usual, we need your help!

This is your chance to have a clear out and give all those soft toys under the bed the chance of a loving new home!

Please bring donations of any clean, good condition teddies, puppies, crocodiles, piglets etc. in to school before 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank you!