



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who came to parents evening. I hope you enjoyed seeing some examples of your child's learning and found the conversations useful; both celebrating their achievements and thinking about their next steps.

Children and their belongings

We try very hard to help the children gather all their belongings at the end of the day and take all the right clothing and equipment home. As you can imagine this is no mean feat – especially with our youngest children or with the older ones after clubs. If you notice that the wrong item has come home please return it to school the next day as someone else will be looking for it. If your child accidentally brings home someone else's book bag (and we really try to avoid this) please do not read through the contents, just return it to school and we will reunite it with its owner. Thank you for your help with this.

School Shoes

I have noticed over the last few weeks that a number of children are coming into school again in trainers rather than black school shoes. I understand that some children want to have more sporty shoes for play and lunchtimes but these should be brought to school separately and changed before going out onto the field. When asked, the standard answer from the children is often that parents have lost or misplaced the school shoes and I am pretty sure this isn't the case! Can you please check footwear as you leave home and remind your children to wear our full school uniform each day which includes black school shoes?

Staffing news

Our Head Cook, Mrs Fiona Bareham, who has been serving up fantastic food here at Steeple for the last 11 years, is sadly going to be leaving us at Easter. She has been offered an exciting new opportunity that we simply cannot match. While we are very pleased for her and wish her well this does mean we will be advertising for a new Head Cook. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested please look out for a parentmail message and information on our website next week.

Mrs Tracey How
Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary	
Spring Term	
March 2019	
Weds 20 th	EYFS & KS1 Charity Fun Run
Fri 22 nd	Y6 World Book Day dress up.
Weds 27 th	Year 3 Assembly 10.10am
Fri 29 th	PTA Easter Chocolate Bingo 5.30pm
April 2019	
Thurs 4 th	Easter Service 9.30am
Fri 5th	Last Day of Term
July 2019	
Sat 6 th	School Fete
September 2019	
Sun 22 nd	The Steeple Chase run

School Meal Charges

Charges for the **Spring Term** will be as follows:

Daily:	£2.30
Weekly:	£11.50
1 st half term	£69.00
2 nd half term	£69.00
Whole Term	£138.00

We appreciate payment through our online payment system: SIMS AGORA. 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**

Year 6 will be celebrating
World Book Day 2019
 On
Friday 22nd March

Children are welcome to come dressed as a book character and we will be following the theme of "Share a Story".

We need your help!

Please can you help save the environment by saving your plastic bottle tops (of all colours) by bringing them in to school to give to Mrs Meridew and Miss Webb for a recycling project to help the children learn about keeping the World's oceans clean.

Many thanks!

'Tackling Tables' Together – Home Packs!

I will be placing a new order for home packs and so if you have not yet ordered your pack to practise at home, this can still be done by filling in the order form that you were given at Parent Consultations. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or through SIMs Agora. Packs are priced at £8.50. **I will be placing a new order at the end of next week and so will need order forms and payment by next Friday 22nd March please.**

Teachers have already noticed improvements in the children's speed of recall and their understanding of the link between multiplication and division through using the cards in school so we are very hopeful that more practice at home with the cards will help even more.

Jo Daniels

Maths Subject Leader

News from Starling Class (Reception)

Hello from Starling Class,

What a fun filled week! We have been doing lots of scientific experiments for STEM week including making potions, colour changing liquids and building towers using marshmallows! We also had a visit from Cambridge Music where we appreciated the different types of music, we were fascinated! We began looking at numbers 11-15 using the Number Blocks and learnt two new sounds: er and air.

This week we changed Library books on Wednesday due to our exciting SAW (Science, Art, Writing) day on Tuesday. However, library will continue as normal next week on Tuesday so please make sure children's books are in their book bags not their wallets.

Next week we are learning all about Spring alongside all our usual learning in Phonics and Maths. Also, on Wednesday, we are having our charity event 'Rainbow Run'; any donations are welcome for the school charities. Please remember Welly Walk begins again this week on THURSDAY.

We hope you received our invitation via parentmail for our Mother's Day Afternoon Tea on Wednesday 27th March, please could you respond to let us know if you are able or unable to make it, so we know how much food and drink to provide. Many thanks.

Finally, thank you to everyone who made it to Parents Evening; we loved catching up with you about your child's progress. We spoke to lots of parents about Mathematical vocabulary these are the books we mentioned: Mouse count by Ellen Stowe Walsh (adding), The sleepover by Catherine Fosnot (making 8 in different ways), The double decker bus by Catherine Fosnot and Nina Uz (exploring numbers within 10) You can also watch them on Youtube.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Mrs Meridew, Miss Webb and the Reception Class Team.

News from Robin Class (Year 1)

We have had an exciting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) Week

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we had our SAW (Science, Art, Writing) Days. The children looked at some electron microscope photos of sand and seashells. The pictures were weird and wonderful, and the children couldn't tell what they were at all. Using their imaginations, they came up with all sorts of wonderful ideas about what they could have been, where they were, what was happening and even who could live there. In the afternoon on Tuesday they all wrote a short piece – a story or description about their picture. All of Wednesday morning was taken up with Art. We all used various Art media (watercolours, poster paint, pastels, crayons) to create 4 small images based on one of the photos, which we have then put together as one picture to display in the classroom. **Cont'd**

News from Year 1 (continued)

In Year One once we had been to the music performance on Tuesday morning with the rest of the school, we had an additional 30-minute music workshop with Songspiel where we learned a Sea Shanty, using body percussion and actions to help remember the song. The group were very impressed with the children's ability to learn the words and sing so well.

We had a Science activity morning on Thursday with children from Reception and Year 2, entering the Potions Room, Colour Room and Engineering Room to investigate and work together as a team. We had an amazing time.

Thursday afternoon saw us working in different teams in our classroom, using more engineering skills to create a scene (of the children's own choosing) just using aluminium foil and pipe-cleaners. A good time was had by all.

After such a busy and exciting week, we hope you have a restful weekend.

Mrs Bowman and the Year 1 team.

Year 2 News - STEM Week



Our STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) has kept us very busy and we have been learning lots through asking questions, researching, predicting, investigating, designing, building and calculating!

On Tuesday we explored how we can link Science, Art and Writing through looking at 'The Sea.' What did we learn about seaweed? Why is their salt in the sea? Which objects sinks and which float?

Thursday was our 'thinking scientifically' day. This gave us the opportunity for children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 to work together on a number of fun (and quite messy!) scientific investigations in our three classrooms – 'The Colour Room,' 'The Potions Room,' and 'The Engineering Room.'

Ask your child what they used to build very tall structures, what they mixed in their potions and why they were using skittles (the sweet variety) to help them learn about colour?

We hope you have found this week's Parent Consultations informative and helpful.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Luebcke, Mrs Daniels & the Year 2 Team

EASTER BINGO

Friday 29th March
5.30pm School hall

TUCK SHOP
HOT CHOCOLATE
CAKE
TEA & COFFEE



EASTER RAFFLE
1ST PRIZE
HOTEL CHOCOLAT
COPPER EDITION VELVETISER !
RRP £99

PTA NEWS

After a really productive AGM last week we would like to confirm the following dates for your diary

EASTER BINGO 5.30pm FRIDAY 29th MARCH in the school hall

SUMMER FETE SATURDAY 6th JULY

For those of you unfamiliar with the Easter Bingo it is a family event held in the school hall hosted by Mrs Miller where family and friends buy their bingo cards to win a variety of scrumptious Easter Eggs! Prizes for a line and a full house!

There will be refreshments on offer as well as the Easter Raffle which this year has a fantastic 1st prize for any discerning chocolate lover! A Hotel Chocolat Velvetiser! Tickets will be on sale at the event



We have news of the events for this year, the successes of last year and where the money raised has been spent in school to benefit all of our children. We will be sending out all this news and information on how YOU can help us, even an hour of your time or a useful suggestion or contact can really make a difference. This information will be sent to you via Parentmail shortly.

Thank you for your continued support
Bobbi Smith Chair

News from Peacock Class (Year 3)

It has been quite an eclectic week this week in year three.

On Monday we made sure we were fully prepared for our visit to Burghley by looking at Tudor kitchens, planning a feast, and looking at the key events of this period of history.

Tuesday at Burghley was fabulous, all the children were impeccably behaved and were a credit to themselves and the school. The staff at Burghley could not speak highly enough of them. While we were there, we visited the Tudor doctor, learnt some games that children would have played, learnt a Tudor dance, found out about what would have happened at a Tudor feast, who would have sat where and who would have been able to eat what. We were then treated to a short tour of some of the rooms in Burghley house; the kitchen was fascinating and the painted room unbelievable! We finished the day by making Tudor pockets. A wonderful day was had by all, some found it rather tiring and had a snooze on the way home!

On Wednesday, we finished planning our banquet to celebrate the success of the Spanish Armada and then made moving pictures as one of jobs for STEM week. On Thursday, we investigated buoyancy. We were trying to find out what would be the best shape for some new Tudor ships, how well we could get them to float, how much Spanish gold we could carry and how different liquids could affect how well our boats would float.

On Friday the children 'carouselled' around the Key Stage 2 classes finding out about the science of glitter bombs, the secrets that poo holds, and exploring air pressure! What more could one want from a Friday in mid-March?!!

Next week we will be writing short scripts all about the different activities at Burghley.

In maths we will be investigating time.

In our topic work we will begin our preparations for a Tudor Fayre.

Date for your diary:

Our class assembly will be on Wednesday 27th March 10.10am

Thank you for your continued support

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Seward and the Year Three Team

News from Swift Class (Year 4)

This week has seen us fully involved on our STEM (Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering) challenges, which have all been linked with the theme of 'Journeys'. We have looked at how germs might travel and considered how we can reduce their spread. We visited other classes to study 'journeys' connected with our bodies, such as how blood travels and the journey food takes through our digestive system. We had fun making things travel through the air and in building boats. At the time of writing, we still have to test whether our crafts float and if they can support different amounts of cargo. Watch this space!

Thank you to everyone who has been able to come in this week to enable us to talk about the progress children are making. These discussions with you are incredibly helpful in helping us to plan the next steps in their learning. If you were not able to come in this week please do contact me, via the school office, to arrange a convenient time when we can meet.

As part of 'Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge' some children from our class will be visiting the church to meet with members of the Cafe Church. This will take place during the school day.

We will be continuing our work on fractions and decimals. It does help the children if they see how we use these commonly used terms in everyday life. Some examples are in telling the time ($\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{4}$ hours), serving food ($\frac{3}{4}$ of the cake remaining), shopping (50% off) etc. If you could point these out to your children, as they come across them in familiar activities, it really does help some to make links and gain further understanding.

In English we are building up different aspects of what is needed to write a story. Next week we will be looking at some of the ways authors show character in their stories either through dialogue, description or action.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr Beavan and the Year 4 Team

News from Heron Class (Year 5)

We have had an exciting and unusual week in year 5 in a week full of STEM activities and a visit from Cambridge Live Music. As part of this visit year 5 were lucky enough to enjoy not only the whole school performance (which involved music, song, poetry and shadow puppets) but also a class-based workshop. This workshop taught us how to make the basic shapes needed with our hands to create an impressive set of shadows which we were all encouraged to practise in front of a large screen.



Our STEM week activities started with an investigation into air resistance by making parachutes with different sized canopies and measuring the time it took for them to fall, using stopwatches. We then undertook a project which focussed on the properties of water. This included investigating surface tension and learning why some objects float and others sink. The project included science investigations, writing and art with water as the focus. On Friday, all classes attended different *journeys* themed workshops in key stage two classrooms with each of the KS2 teachers.

Mrs Talbot, Mrs Morris and the Year 5 Team

News from Puffin Class (Year 6)

Firstly, a big well done to all the children who went to Castleton in Derbyshire for surviving and making the week an enjoyable, fun, educational, if not a rather wet, week. Fun was had by all and the resilience shown by the children in the treks across the hills in the horrendous weather conditions (wind on Tuesday and heavy rain on Thursday) was remarkable. Well done all.

In English, we are continuing with our topic on fables, based on Aesop. We have looked at a variety of his fables and answered questions on these, including what the moral of each were. We also tried to put a couple of his fables into tweets and we hope to show a few of these on our twitter feed.

This week, in Maths, we have looked at fractions and how to convert remainders to decimals. Next, we will be looking at the relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages.

The next homework will be due in on 20th March.

Thank you to all parents that attended the parental consultations this week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Baker and the Year 6 Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

Events / Adverts / Messages posted on our website [Community Page](#)

Children's Art Competition

Children's Tennis Coaching

Steeple Morden Tennis Club

Are You Tuff Enough – Charity Obstacle Course 17th March.

Home Start Black Tie Ball 29th March 2019

Litlington Pre-School Easter Fayre 30th March 2019

Mothering Sunday at Steeple Morden Church 31st March

Bikeability Trainers Required Ad

Oxford & Cambridge Singing School 8-10th April

Junior & Youth Athletics Camp – 8-10th April

Junior & Youth Netball Camp 10-11th April

Pop-up Pub Guilden Morden 11th April

Church Spring Fair 27th April

Smarties Easter Holiday Club – Activities & Booking form

Litlington Preschool

Smarties

Please follow this link if you are interested:

https://steeple-morden.eschools.co.uk/website/community_news/365736