



Newsletter

January 2025

Speldhurst CE Primary
School

Newsletter Date
Friday 31st January 2025

The first month of 2025 has zipped by, and when we come back to school next week, we'll be into February! Despite some changeable weather and the usual round of winter colds, children and staff alike have been busy as usual. New topics are well-underway, plans are being made for trips and visits, sports fixtures are being played again, and we are all looking forward to our Valentine's Day disco at the end of term.

It was really great to hear lots of lovely comments from parents in our questionnaire which went out last term— our wonderful staff really appreciate hearing how much they are valued by us all.

Owen

Last term, Year 4 were visited by Owen Griffiths, a good friend of Mr Howe. Owen has Cerebral Palsy and he came in to talk about what is different about his life, but crucially, what is exactly the same! Empire Class really enjoyed hearing about Owen's life and gained a great understanding of a person living with a disability. Owen is keen to return and speak to more of our children and he will be back on Wednesday 12th February to speak to Crispin Class and Russet Class.

Bikeability

Starting next week, our Year 6 pupils will be taking part in the 'Bikeability' programme which will arm them with all the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safe while cycling on the roads. With the class beginning their secondary school journey in September, we want to make sure that if they choose to use a bicycle to get to school, they can do so in as safe a way as possible! Do look out for the children in high-vis vests as they negotiate the local roads!

Volunteers Needed!

Mr Steibelt would appreciate some help with clearing the Nativity backdrop from the wall in the school hall on Monday 10th February. Please contact the office if you are available to help. Coffee and biscuits provided!

Sport at Speldhurst

Our girls football team have been hit by a spate of postponements- mostly due to poor weather— but they will be ready and raring to go when they next play, aiming to maintain their unbeaten record.

Our boys team showed their finest form in a match against St Matthew's yesterday afternoon. A wonderful goal from Wilbur and a stunning hattrick from Leo secured an impressive 4-1 win. Mr Bowyer is hopeful that we can clinch the league title when we play our next game against Bidborough.

Miss Bailey and Miss Allen are doing a great job filling the shoes of Mrs Neighbour with the netball team who are looking forward to getting back to action once the weather improves!

PTA Lego Competition

The deadline for entries to the PTA Lego Competition is today, so please get any last minute models sent in!

Mr Howe and Mrs MacNaughton are really looking forward to looking through all the entries and taking on the difficult task of choosing the winners! Thank you to everyone who has supported this competition which has become one of many popular annual events run by our fantastic PTA.

Dates

February

Monday 3rd— Instrumental Recital

Wednesday 5th— Jazz Class walk around the village

Thursday 6th— Bikeability begins

Friday 7th— Bramley Cake Sale

Wednesday 12th— Owen Griffiths in to see Year 5 and 6

Friday 14th— Own Clothes Day, PTA Valentine's Disco, End of Term 3

Monday 24th— Start of Term 4

March

Monday 3rd— Year 3 Cricket Session, Year 4 Recorder Festival at TWGGS

Tuesday 4th— Year 4 Cricket Session

Wednesday 5th— Year 5 Cricket Session, Travel Committee Meeting

Thursday 6th— World Book Day

Wednesday 12th— Piano Recital

Thursday 13th— Girls Football Match vs St Johns away

Friday 14th— Pippin Cake Sale

Tuesday 18th— Tempest Class Photos, Parent Consultations 3.30pm-5.30pm

Wednesday 19th— Year 6 visit to Temper Temper Chocolate

Thursday 20th— Parent Consultations 3.30pm— 7.00pm

Tuesday 25th— Orchestra Assembly

Wednesday 26th— Year 4 trip to Kent Life

Monday 31st— Year 6 Swimming Begins

April

Thursday 3rd— Easter Service, Swimming Gala, End of Term 4

Friday 4th— INSET Day



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Bramley Class Roman Day



Bramley Class enjoyed a wonderful day getting their Roman topic off to a flying start! We were joined by Alan from 'The Victorian School' who put on a great day of activities. The children dressed in their finest Roman clothes and built boats, learned Roman warfare techniques, and practised their throwing skills with Mrs Hadley in the stocks! Experiences such as this really help to spark the children's imagination and deepen their understanding of their learning. Thank you to the parents and the PTA who help to make it possible for us to provide such opportunities for the children.

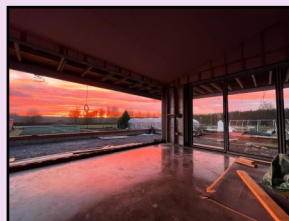
NSPCC Workshops

Following our NSPCC 'Speak out, Stay Safe' assemblies on Monday 13th January, our Year 2, 5 and 6 children took part in workshops which helped them to consider what they can do if they feel upset or worried, and who they can speak to when they need to. The safety and wellbeing of our whole school community is so important to us here at Speldhurst and we are grateful to the NSPCC for providing us with another resource which can add to the array of ways we help foster positive mental health and a safe environment for all.



Dragonfly Farm

We were delighted to have Rachel and Mike, the owners of the new Dragonfly Farm Shop & Cafe opposite the school, visit us this week to talk about their plans ahead of their grand opening in Spring/Summer 2025. The farm shop and cafe will be open 8am-6pm, Monday to Saturday, serving breakfast, lunch, tea and everything in between (takeaways available too!). They will have seating for 30 inside and considerably more outside on their patio, and there will be a car park for 30 cars. The farm shop will stock fresh local produce, frozen meals and more. We are all very excited to have such a wonderful offering opening on our doorstep and we are sure it will be very popular with Speldhurst School families!



Travel Plan Committee Meeting

The car park at Dragonfly farm will form part of our plans moving forward to try and relieve some of the traffic pressures on the Langton Road as Rachel and Mike have kindly offered the use of the carpark at drop-off and pick-up **for anyone who uses the shop or café**. This, and many other ideas will be discussed at a meeting on Wednesday 5th March in the school hall immediately after drop-off. All are welcome to attend and the hope is a committee can be formed which includes parents. Please do come along if you have thoughts and ideas, even if you can't commit to being on a committee!