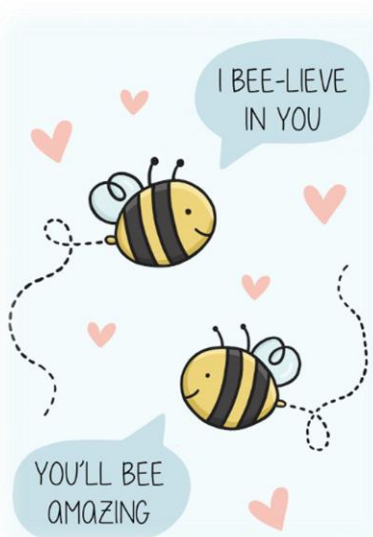




Stocksbridge Junior School

Issue No. 656

16/01/2026



This week marks the start of our Annual Stocksbridge Junior School Spelling Bee, a time of year when we enjoy celebrating the importance of spelling and the vital role it plays in our children's education. There has definitely been a 'buzz' in the air as around school, children are practising their spelling words, ready for the first round.

Learning how to spell correctly helps to develop strong literacy skills by enabling children to use words accurately and express themselves confidently in writing. When children can spell words correctly, they are better able to understand their meanings and communicate their ideas more clearly.

Our SJS children love nothing more than a challenge, and we hope you will support your child as they learn their 50 words. While some children will win medals, everyone will benefit from an extended vocabulary and an increased bank of words they can spell correctly.

We know they will all 'bee' amazing!

SJS STARS OF THE WEEK

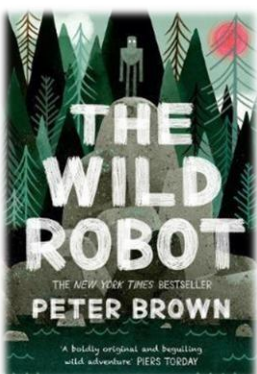
- Y3CB: Ellis
- Y3JG: Skyla
- Y4GG: Fern
- Y4MC: Nathan
- Y5CS: Katie
- Y5HK/CG: Hollie
- Y6CH/LR: Harris
- Y6RD: Laila

PE Star: Pheobe
The Hub: George

Y3/4 Yard: Eva
Y5/6 Yard: Ollie

Attendance & Punctuality: Tom
Dining Hall: Evie

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Mrs Shaw has chosen this week's Book of the Week; The Wild Robot by Peter Brown. This is such an original, thought-provoking and heartwarming tale about a robot who learns to survive in the wild, makes friends, and overcomes fear, discovering what it means to belong.

READING AROUND THE WORLD

Y3 - PARIS

Poppy
Declan

Y4 - CAIRO

Emily
Isabella
Alice
Amelia
Holly

Y4 - NAIROBI

Lola
Nathan
Emily
Isabella
Holly

NEXT WEEK'S PE TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Y4GG Y5CS	Y3CB Y6RD	Y5HK/CG	Y4MC Y6CH/LR
			Y3JG

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTERS

Our Spring term Curriculum Newsletters have been sent home to parents this week, which provide an overview of your child's key learning in each subject this term. These are also available on our school website.

Spring Term - Year 3

English

Class Reader

In term 2a, we are writing to explain by writing an explanation text linked to our Ancient Egypt learning. Throughout the rest of term 2, we will then be writing to recount and narrate, where we will learn the skills to add detail and cohesion to our writing. Through our writing, we will widen our vocabulary and use organisational devices to structure our report. We will be focusing on the following SPaG skills:

- Use of formal tone
- Use of compound and complex sentences
- Use of fronted adverbials
- Use of subject-specific vocabulary
- Use of expanded noun phrases

Mathematics

In Mathematics, our Spring units of work are:

- Multiplication and Division
- Length and Perimeter
- Fractions
- Mass and Capacity

We will also continue with our 'Fluency Bee' practice of our multiplications.

Science

In Science, we will be finishing our **Light and Shadow** and moving on to **Forces and Magnets** in the second half of the term. Our Light and Shadow learning will help us answer questions like:

- What is a light source?
- How do we protect ourselves in the Sun?
- Our Forces and Magnetism learning will help us answer questions like:
 - What are forces?
 - How do objects move on different surfaces?

Reading

In our daily Reading lessons, we are studying a range of extracts including poems and non-fiction texts, which are all linked to other subjects.

We will be developing our skills in fluency, activating background knowledge, vocabulary, visualising and comprehension.

In 2b, we will be completing our last Novel Study where we will be reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.

Geography

In Geography, we will be starting our new unit learning all about **Our Local Area**. We will be learning:

- How to describe physical and human features in Stockbridge.
- How to use digmaps to plan walk around Stockbridge, considering potential hazards and how we avoid these.

History

During the spring term, we will be comparing back to the **Ancient Egyptians**, we can be able to answer a range of questions like:

- What Egyptian period is the longest?
- What Egyptian period was the shortest?
- What was some of the art and architecture of the great?
- Who did the Egyptians build pyramids?
- Why did the Egyptians build pyramids?
- Why did the Egyptians mummify people?

Spring Term - Year 4

English

This term in English, Year 4 pupils are developing their reading and writing skills through a range of engaging texts. They are writing their own narrative myths inspired by Ancient Greek history, exploring characters, settings and themes from this fascinating period. Pupils are also studying Operation Codgeman by Malorie Blackman, using the story to write newspaper reports that focus on recounting events accurately. In addition, they are learning how to write persuasive texts, developing strong arguments and using language effectively to influence the reader.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, our Spring units of work are:

- Multiplication and Division
- Length and Perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals

We will also continue with our 'Fluency Bee' practice of our multiplications for the upcoming Y4 multiplication check in the Summer.

Science

In Science, we will be studying **Sound** and moving on to **Living Things in their Habitats** in the second half of the term. Our Sound learning will help us answer questions like:

- How is sound made and how do we hear it?
- How does sound travel?
- What changes the volume and pitch of sound?

Reading

In our daily Reading lessons, we are studying a range of extracts including poems and non-fiction texts. We will be developing our skills in fluency, activating background knowledge, vocabulary, visualising and comprehension.

In 2b, we will be completing our next Novel Study where we will be reading 'Operation Codgeman' by Malorie Blackman.

Geography

In Geography, children will be starting our new unit learning all about **Energy**. They will be learning:

- To know why energy sources are important.
- To investigate the benefits and drawbacks of different energy sources.
- To identify how a settlement has grown around an energy source.
- To know how energy sources are distributed in an area.
- To explain reasons for choosing an energy source.

History

During the spring term, we will be comparing back to the BC era to study the **Ancient Greeks**. Through our learning, we aim to be able to answer a range of questions:

- Who were the ancient Greeks and when did they live?
- Who lived on Mount Olympus?
- How and Ancient Greece governed?
- Did the ancient Greeks give us democracy?
- How do the ancient Greek philosophers influence us today?

Spring Term - Year 5

English

Class Reader: Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo

We will be writing a non-chronological report on the Anglo-Saxons.

We will be writing to narrate and orientate Beowulf.

We will be writing to describe a setting and describe the weather.

SPaG

Spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, including:

- Identify and use prefixes.
- Revise personal and possessive pronouns.
- Identify and use dashes to indicate parentheticals and use them in our writing.
- Identify and use adverbials of time, place and number.
- Use commas to indicate parentheticals.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we are learning to:

- Multiply up to a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number.
- Solve problems with multiplication.
- Divide a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number, including with remainders.
- Solve problems with division.
- Multiply numbers by 10, 100, 1000.
- Multiply a mixed number by an integer.
- Calculate the area of a square.
- Use factors as operations.
- Identify equivalent fractions and decimals.
- Order and compare decimals.
- Calculate the perimeter of rectangles, trapezium, squares and polygons.
- Calculate the area of rectangles and of compound shapes.

Science

Materials - Properties and Changes

All part of this unit, we will answer the following questions:

- What properties do materials have?
- What is a conductor?
- Which materials are conductors?
- Which materials are insulators?
- What does a material do when it is heated?
- How do we separate a mixture using distillation?
- How do we separate a mixture using filtration?
- Which separation methods will we use?
- What are reversible and irreversible changes?
- Is a reversible or irreversible?

Reading

In Reading, we are studying extracts based on the Anglo-Saxons. We will be focusing on different question topics, including retrieval and inference questions.

Next, half-term, we will then begin our next Novel Study, which will be 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. The text will link to our learning in Geography as we learn about the rainforest.

Geography

In Geography, we are learning about **rainforests**:

- We will learn about what a rainforest is and where the world's rainforests are located, including the Amazon rainforest.
- We will learn about the different layers of a rainforest and how which plants and animals can be found in each layer.
- We will learn what food, medicine and other resources can be obtained from a rainforest.
- We will find out why the world depends on rainforests.

History

In History, we are completing our topic on the **Anglo-Saxons**. We will:

- Describe the cause and consequences of the Anglo-Saxon and Jutish invasion of Britain.
- Describe how they came to live in the East Angles and Anglo-Saxon houses and settlements.
- Make a connection about why we have a letter 'H' and Anglo-Saxon hall.
- Identify how Christianity spread to Britain in the Anglo-Saxon period.
- Explain more about Alfred the Great.
- Understand how Anglo-Saxon rule ended.

Spring Term - Year 6

English

Class Reader: Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll

Informal letters and short Narratives linked to the Nowhere Emporium.

Writing Informal letters home from a 'Wood W' trench.

SPaG

Spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, including:

- Use the passive voice and expanded noun phrases.
- Use verb tenses consistently and correctly throughout their writing.
- Use semi-colon, colon and dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses.
- Use of the colon to introduce a list and use of semi-colons within a list.
- Show how hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity.

To discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language and consider the impact on the reader.

Mathematics

- Revising Y6 Arithmetic skills
- Decimals
- Percentages
- Algebra
- Ratio and proportion
- Area, perimeter and volume
- Line Graphs
- The Charts
- Averages: Mean
- Properties of 2D- and three-dimensional shapes

Science

Evolution and Inheritance:

- What do fossils tell us?
- To understand that all living things have their own characteristics.
- To understand the terms inheritance, adaptation and natural selection.
- Why do animals have adaptations?
- To understand and explain the process of evolution.
- Why do animals become extinct?
- How can we see endangered animals?

Reading

To summarise the main idea of a text, to draw inferences such as inferring character's feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.

Introduce a list and use of semi-colons within a list.

Show how hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity.

To discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language and consider the impact on the reader.

Geography

Volcanoes and Earthquakes:

- How is the structure of the Earth linked to the formation of volcanoes?
- What happens at the boundaries between Earth's plates?
- Where are some of the Earth's volcanoes and what can we find out about them?
- What are the different types of volcanoes and why do they erupt?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano?
- Where have famous earthquakes occurred?
- How do earthquakes affect people and places?
- What help might people need after an earthquake?

History

The World Wars

- Placing the World Wars on the KS1 timeline.
- What were the causes and consequences of WW1?
- What was life like for soldiers in the trenches during WW1?
- Was the Treaty of Versailles fair?
- How can we use historical sources to find out about the evacuation at Dunkirk?
- What were the causes and consequences of the Blitz?
- Exploring the historical significance of the Holocaust.
- Evaluating patterns and continuity in propaganda.

EVENTS COMING UP...

Jan 19 Indoor Athletics Partnership Final	20 Y4GG Swimming	21	22	23
Jan 26 Spelling Bee: Round 1 Week	27 Y4GG Swimming	28	29	30

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

MENU WEEK 1

SERVED W/C: 27th Oct | 17th Nov | 8th Dec | 19th Jan |
9th Feb | 2nd Mar | 23rd Mar | 13th Apr

THE FOOD EXPLORERS

Hutchison

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

MAIN MEAL

OPTION 1

Rainbow Vegetable stir fry noodles

Cheese & Bean Lasagne

Vegan Lentil & Stuffing Pastry Roll

Vegetable Bolognese with Penne Pasta

Vegan Vegetable Nuggets & Chips

OPTION 2

Ham & Cheese Pasta

Beef Lasagne

Roast Gammon & Gravy

Chicken Curry & Rice

Oven Baked Fish Fingers & Chips

VEGGIES

Carrots & Peas

Broccoli & Carrots

Roasted Carrots & Parsnips

Peas & Sweetcorn

Beans or Peas

FILLED ROLLS

3

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

4

Ham

Chicken

Tuna

Ham

Ham

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

5

Our crunchy colourful salad & jacket potatoes with cheese, beans, tuna mayo or cheese and beans

SWEET TREATS

Blueberry Cookie Bar

Chocolate & Banana Brownie

Peach & Pineapple Crumble

Apple & Cocoa Sponge

Lemon Shortbread

Desserts available every day - a choice of jelly, fruit or yoghurt

KEY

Nutritionist's Choice

Vegetarian

Vegan

Added Wholewheat

CRICKET SUCCESS

Congratulations to three of our Y4 pupils who recently represented Stocksbridge Cricket Club's Under 9s in the Ben Jessop Junior Cricket U9 Indoor League. Along with the rest of their teammates, the children won the championship by beating three other teams from across Sheffield over six weekends of cricket, this winter.

