

Y1-3 NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 1 2020



Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to the autumn term after what has been an unusual period in time. We are delighted to have everyone back safe and well. Despite life still being a little unusual, we hope you have enjoyed a wonderful break together with your children and look forward to the exciting term ahead.

Topics

After an exciting redesign of our whole school curriculum, our first topic this term will be 'Castles, Vikings and Dragons'. During the first term we shall explore castles through the ages, thinking about castle features and their purpose and also finding out about the valiant Vikings and their presence in history. Within science we shall be learning about materials and the best materials for different purposes linked to our topic. In English we shall be focusing on twisted tales- comparing traditional tales to the more recent versions that have been written by various authors. This shall include the fantastic story, 'After the Fall' by Dan Santat and other carefully chosen quality texts.

After half term, our topic shall be titled 'Superheroes in History', providing children with the opportunity to learn about three of the many wonderful figures in history who have made an impact on the way we live today; Rosa Parks, Emily Davison and Florence Nightingale.

Please find attached our curriculum map providing further details for individual subject areas. Please let us know if you have any ideas, resources or expertise in any of our topic areas- we would love to hear from you.

Reading, book changing and reading journals

Reading is an incredibly important skill that feeds into every aspect of your child's education, prospects of success and future life. At Stanton St Quintin, books and reading are at the heart of our school, teaching and learning and it is our passion to instil a love for reading in every child.

Reading and the use of quality texts sits at the core of our approach to teaching across the curriculum, however reading with a child on a one to one basis is also highly important. As a result of a busy timetable and broad curriculum, we are unable to listen to every child read daily. It is therefore extremely valuable when children are supported and encouraged to read at home once a day. We understand that life can be busy, however we appreciate your support by reading daily with your child.

A new reading policy has now been produced which outlines all you need to know regarding book changing, reading strategies and use of reading journals. We ask that you read this at the start of this term (see reading journals).

Home learning

Home learning provides a crucial link between children's learning at school and home and allows children to share the experiences which they enjoy at school. We encourage children to adopt the same expectations for presentation as we have at school. Please see the table below which explains our home learning model for each year group.

	Reading	English	Maths	Challenge
Year 1	Daily reading and use of Reading Journal	Weekly spellings- please see grid in spelling book. Handwriting and correct letter formation practice. Why not use the Letter Join app for an engaging experience. Login details for a tablet device: Username: stan Swipecode: an L shape	Children will bring home a Y1 Mental Maths CGP book on a Thursday. Children should complete one page only and return to school the following Tuesday. Use of Numbots https://manage.numbots.com/ Please find your login details in the back of your reading journal.	Look out for home learning challenges throughout the year.
Year 2	Daily reading and use	Weekly spellings- please see grid in spelling book.	Children will bring home a Y2 Mental Maths CGP book on a Thursday. Children should complete one page	Look out for home learning challenges

	of Reading Journal	Handwriting and correct letter formation practice. Why not use the Letter Join app for an engaging experience. Login details for a tablet device: Username: stan Swipecode: an L shape	only and return to school the following Tuesday. Use of Numbots https://manage.numbots.com/ Please find your login details in the back of your reading journal.	throughout the year.
Year 3	Daily reading and use of Reading Journal	Weekly spellings- please see grid in spelling book. Handwriting and correct letter formation practice. Why not use the Letter Join app for an engaging experience. Login details for a tablet device: Username: stan Swipecode: an L shape	Children will bring home a Y3 Mental Maths CGP book on a Thursday. Children should complete one page only and return to school the following Tuesday. Use of TTRockstars https://trockstars.com/ Please find your login details in the back of your reading journal.	Look out for home learning challenges throughout the year.

Weather ready/PE

Children should have a named coat in school at all times. During the warmer weather, children should also come to school wearing sun cream and should bring a named sun hat. This term children should come to school wearing jogging bottoms/sports shorts and trainers, as stated in previous communication.

Volunteers

We are always very grateful for any help you may be able to offer in class, particularly listening to weekly readers. At this moment in time, we are unable to have volunteers in school, but if you are able to help or would like any further information, please do let us know- we would be very pleased to hear from you! Thank you.

Woods

This term the children shall be visiting the woods on a Thursday morning where they shall take part in various learning opportunities. Children should come to school on a Thursday morning dressed in clothing suitable for the woods. Children should also bring named waterproof clothing (all-in-ones or trousers and a coat) and wellies. We continue to look for parent helpers to attend the woods with us, even if this may only be on a 'now and again' basis, please do let us know as soon as possible.

Rory, Bucket Filling and Learner of the Week

In Amazon class we value celebrating children's achievements and allowing them opportunities to share their adventures. Rory is our very special class giraffe and a dear friend of Douglas! He is presented to a child in class Praise Assembly each week, together with his book to record any adventures shared. He should then be returned by Wednesday of the following week. Due to Covid restrictions, Rory will not be having any adventures for the moment but we hope to restart this when possible! Bucket Filling is an award given to a child who has shown kindness, good manners or supporting others. Learner of the Week is awarded to a child who has shown dedication to their learning.

Snacks and Water bottle

It is very important that children are kept fuelled and hydrated throughout the day and we cannot currently use the water foundations – so your child will need a named water bottle in school every day. Please also provide a healthy snack at break time to keep them going.

How you can support your child & contacting us

Your child's education is a partnership. We ask that you

- Support your child in his/her learning through practice at home and promoting positive attitudes
- Encourage personal independence by making sure children have the correct equipment in school
- Support the school's policies, including home learning

- Make sure your child is in school and on time.
- Make sure that you have given us the updated permissions and contact information, this includes e-safety, photographic consent and medical information.

If felt to be necessary, the best way to contact us is to use the class email: amazon@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk

We will do our best to reply but we will be teaching in the day so please bear with us. For urgent messages please call the school office on 01666 837602 or Mrs Pennington will be outside in the playground at drop off.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Mrs Anderson, Mrs Todd & Mrs Robins