



# TERM 5 NEWSLETTER

Motivate Educate Nurture

## Welcome Back

It has been wonderful to see the children so happy to be back in school and ready to enjoy the summer term. The teachers have planned another excellent term filled with exciting opportunities. Please look out for the class letters and curriculum maps for more details.



With such a beautiful sunny start to the term, we have taken every opportunity to be outdoors with lacrosse and cricket lessons, Amazon's first visit back to Stanton Woods, lots of learning in Darling Class outdoor area and after school Grassroots sports club. We are also delighted to welcome back Mrs Plowright who teaches recorders. She is delighted to be teaching some of the theory to one of our older pupils and she hopes more children will join the club in September.

We started the week with a special whole school assembly looking back on the life of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, including who he was and what he did. Each child then made a pledge, inspired by what they had learnt about his life and work, to help others or the environment.



This term we are reviewing our communication to parents. One change is that there will be a School Newsletter to parents at the start and the end of the term instead of weekly, which will focus on the children's learning and life at Stanton. Whole school letters, messages and other information will be sent out when needed. Also, do not forget to look at our class blogs which can be found on our website or on the School News App and follow our Facebook page.

We look forward to discussing your child's progress with you at Parent's Evenings next week.

Sarah Matthews

Head of School



### *Value of the term*

*This term the children will be thinking about the importance of respecting others, even when they are different to them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs).*

**House Points Results for Term 4**

With a term learning at home and school, it was great to see all the children working hard to achieve house points. Well done everyone for your contributions. Last term, it was very close! We will be starting again this term but then adding together all the points at the end of the year.

**Ash – 382****Birch - 364****Survivor - 366****Awards for Term 4****Darling Class**

Learner of the Week: Malachi, Romeo, Yumi, Shefalika, Cruz

**Amazon Class**

Mathematicaian of the Week: Molly, Florence, Grace, Ethan

Writer of the Week : Henry, Tommy, Kyla, Jasper, Riyana

Learner of the Week : Daniel, Alfie, Angus, Elodie, Henry

**Rhine Class**

Mathematicaian of the Week: Nico, Geena, Niah, Anja

Writer of the Week : Azlan, Niah, Brooke, Maggie

Learner of the Week : Flora, Maggie, Devina, Daisy

Teacher's Special Award: Delilah, Marcus, Alexander, Lola

### TOPIC: *The Surprises of Spring*

Following lockdown, Darling Class have been busy settling back into life as a class of inquisitive learners. This term, we have been exploring many different areas of early learning through our chosen topic. The children have enjoyed learning about St. David's Day and Spring, cooking in the kitchen and being scientists with our magical colour changing flower potions; predicting and observing change.



All our learning is inspired by books here in Darling class. We have been enjoying 'Tell me a Dragon' to develop our descriptive language and create our dragons, The Shopping Basket to help our instruction writing, The Odd Egg and The Ugly Duckling to explore animal life cycles.

Finally, we all celebrated Easter with We're Going on an Egg Hunt; writing clues for our Rhine class buddies to find their eggs, drawing maps and setting up their egg hunt in the woods. Children working at home and at school have amazed us with their enthusiastic engagement.



Commented [SM1]:

#### Maths is Fun!

Asked what they love about maths, here were some of the children's responses:

*"It is fun!"*

*"We get to play games and it's really exciting."*

*"We do maths outside."*

*"It's like we're learning but we're playing too."*



**TOPIC: *Awesome Animals***

Last term the children loved exploring all things animals



**Animal Collective Nouns**

We have really enjoyed exploring all the different names for a group of the same animal. Did you know that a group of porcupines is called a Prickle of Porcupines and more than one shark is called a Shiver of Sharks? Endless fun and learning to be had!

**Animals that help humans, Cloud Tea Monkeys and Tea Tasting**

We have been learning about different animals who help humans, which led us to explore the wonderful book, 'The Cloud Tea Monkeys', in which the monkeys help Tashi and her family. We tasted different teas to inspire our descriptive diary writing as the main character.



**Snub Nosed Monkeys and other unusually named animals**

We loved finding out about the many unusually named animals that share our world and particularly enjoyed learning about the Golden Snub Nosed Monkey. We are very proud of our finished fact files.

**Learning from David Attenborough himself**

There is no one better to learn about animals from than Sir David Attenborough himself. We have been exploring the Life in Colour series and how animals use their colour in nature for survival, socialising and much more. The children have learnt so many incredible facts about the wonderful animal species that inhabit our world. In science, we have also learnt about the human skeleton and used our best detective skills to 'guess the animal from its skeleton' - some very interesting ideas!



**Animal Artwork**

In Term 4 we explored the artwork of Henri Rousseau, with a particular focus on 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm' painted in 1891.

**Enjoying Books in the Reading Garden**

As the weather brightens, the children have enjoyed some quiet time in the very peaceful Reading Garden, exploring an array of wonderful books from Mrs Anderson's collection. During the summer term, we look forward to choosing some new books for our school books collection and adding plants, flowers and bird feeders to our Reading Garden.

**Panda Cam!**

We have become quite fond of Yang Guang, our panda friend from Edinburgh Zoo, having a sneak peek of him eating and sleeping on the live Panda Cam.



**Replanting our fruit!**

Some of the children have been planting seeds and pips from the fruit they enjoy at break time to see if they will grow. We were delighted to see a little watermelon seed growing in the woods. We made a sign to protect our little seed and the children have been taking great care of the new plant.

### TOPIC: *Builders, Growers & Engineers*

Last term the children threw themselves back into learning with lots of enthusiasm and were eager to explore our topic. We transforming into junior engineers to design our entries for the Primary Engineering Competition, designing inventions to solve a wider world or a smaller scale problem. After exploring previous entries they came up with their ideas and then wrote persuasive letters to say why their entry should be chosen.



#### Volume Challenge

As part of their learning on Volume, Year 6 were challenged to construct a cube that has an interior volume of  $1 \text{ m}^3$  and work out its dimensions. Some chose to use straws while others used newspaper. Once they had completed constructing their cubes, they used them to estimate the volume of the classroom using the cube they had constructed.

#### Just So Stories, Animal Collage and Reports

With a focus on living things in science, the children transferred their knowledge to do some super writing. They loved listening to the Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling and then created their own Just So Stories, really capturing the essence and features of this genre. They then wrote non-chronological reports about their made-up animal. Finally, the children then used collaging to create some stunning artwork based on their creature.



#### Easter in a Box – The Movie

Each week the children in Year 4 excitedly opened a box which contained items from the scene in the movie. Over the weeks they revealed the story of Easter and each added an egg to their box. The children then spent the last lesson decorating crosses and shared their learning with the rest of the school in the Easter Service. They really enjoyed this project organised by Mrs Fisher, who is our RE teacher.



**Dates for term**

- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Lacrosse Club starts – Term 5 only**
- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Parent’s Evenings**
- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Fire Safety Talks**
- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Bank Holiday – School Closed**
- **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May – NSPCC Number day – details to follow**
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Nursery Open afternoon**
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Cricket Club starts for the Summer Term**
- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May – End of Term 5**
- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Start of Term 6**
- **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Rags to Riches Collection**
- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Open Morning**
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day**
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Sheldon Transition Week**
- **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Moving Up Morning**
- **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Transtion day at Hardenhuish**
- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July - End of Term 6**