



NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

Motivate Educate Nurture

I cannot believe how quickly the term has gone. There have been many highlights but what has shone out for me, is the kindness and support, by the children to each other. We have enjoyed the many opportunities for the whole school to come together, through activities including the 'Booknic', STEM Fair and Easter Egg hunt, and during these times the true spirit of Stanton has been fully embraced.

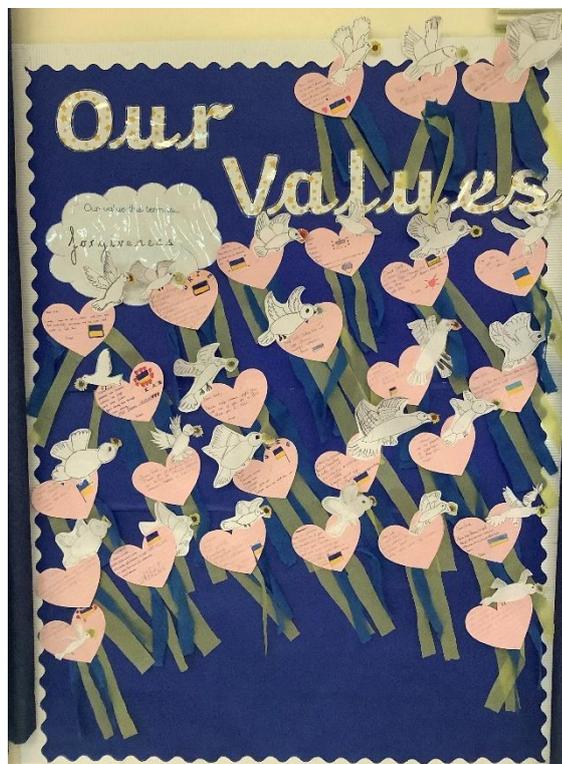
The ethos of Stanton flows through everything we do. In Key Stage 1 the children learnt about the life-saving work the WWF do and were motivated to raise money to support this important work. In Key Stage 2 the children have demonstrated sensitive and thoughtful views on the experience of the people of Ukraine, showing great empathy towards the experiences of others. So please enjoy this round up of an incredibly enjoyable and successful term.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their endless dedication and enthusiasm to provide an immersive education for our children, whilst also selflessly stepping up to cover staff shortages and support children learning remotely, despite the ongoing challenges.

Finally, on behalf of the Stanton team, I would like to thank you for your support and wish you an enjoyable Easter break.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Matthews - Head of School



House Points for Term 4 - Well done to ASH

Points for Term 4

Ash – 421

Birch – 383

Survivor – 349



Ash



Birch



Survivor

Easter Celebrations

Today we visited St Giles Church for our Easter Service and it was lovely to hear the children singing together again. Earlier this term we were also able to take part in an Easter Experience Day, helping pupils explore the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection.



We also all came together to enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt and Darling Class enjoyed an Easter Bonnet Parade.



Easter Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated and bought cakes at our Easter Cake Sale. We raised over £150 which will be used towards our Jubilee Day Celebrations.

World Book Day

Smiles, stories and a spectacular costume parade started our day, followed by World Book Day badge making and a Stanton 'Booknic' in the afternoon. This was an opportunity for children across the school to share the magic of stories together. Bunting, blankets, books and bear biscuits helped to create these special memories, captured within our photographs.



Teachers dressed up as bears from books and the children enjoyed matching the bear to the book, whilst words from stories could be heard in the air throughout the day.



Finally, many children returned to school for bedtime stories and hot chocolate, whilst parents and families joined Mrs Anderson for a workshop about the importance of reading.



So many happy memories made.

Mrs Anderson 😊



Science Week & STEM Fair

This term we took part in Science Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Fair. To celebrate, we conducted experiments in our house teams, created our own experiments for the STEM Fair and had guest scientists talk to us about careers in STEM!

Mrs Breen led some excellent investigations with skittles. Using skittles and warm water, the children discovered that the different chemical properties of the food dyes in the skittles meant that initially, as the colours dissolved, they did not mix together. This resulted in some beautiful sweet art!



Mrs Weston worked on an engineering project with the children, creating puff powered rockets! The children were absolutely thrilled with their air power creations.



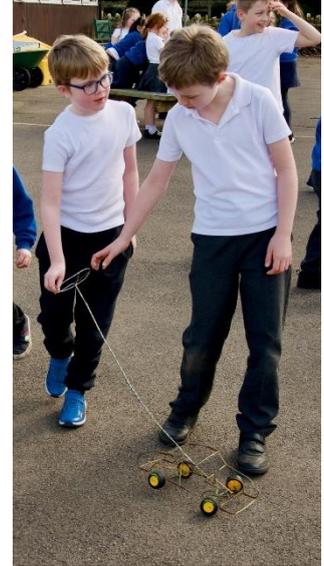
Mrs Anderson helped the children to investigate alien solutions. Different materials were mixed together into an alien soup and the children had to work together to separate the solids from the liquids, the magnetic materials from the non-magnetic materials and consider how to remove materials once they have dissolved into a solution. Some excellent messy science!



On Friday, the Science Week continued, with bird box building and bug hunting in Amazon Class. Working in groups with adult support, the children used hammers and nails to secure together untreated wood to make sparrow boxes. After building bird boxes, they went bug hunting using our new bug collectors. The children had a great time magnifying minibeasts and identifying the species. Thank you to Mr Cole for supplying the bird box kits.



In the afternoon, the whole school came together for the STEM Fair - a chance for children to showcase their own experiments. There were volcanoes, trash fashion, grown crystals, games, rockets, cars and many, many more experiments! We also had guest talks from Alison Nightingale, an epidemiologists who now works with the MOD and submarine data analysis and also Dr Parimala Shivaprasad, who researched different ways to reduce waste and has created a business around reusing waste flowers for essential oils.



At the end of the fair, it was time to announce our winners. Congratulations to:



Amelia - germs experiment

Florence - balloon in water

Rose - fizzing tablets experiment

Kaiden - soil experiment



The winners all received a prize and everyone received a certificate for creating super experiments and investigating all the different areas of STEM.

Thank you so much to all the children and parents for joining in with our STEM Fair, researching at home, experimenting, innovating and getting involved with STEM. I am so proud of you all for getting stuck in to STEM learning and making the fair a success! I only wish that I could have been there to join in with your triumph!

Thank you again to the staff for making it such a fantastic day. We truly do have a superb team at Stanton!

Lastly, thank you to Alison Nightingale and Dr Shivaprasad for coming and speaking to the children. Thank you to British Science Week for their funding support.

Mrs Todd

Art Competition

Well done to everyone who entered our Art Competition. We were so impressed by your creativity. Thank you to our House Captains for organising.



Sporting Update

On the 17th March the Stanton hockey team (Elliot, Eli, Archie, Anja, Evangeline, Daisy and Jessica) went to the Wiltshire quarter-finals of a hockey tournament. When we got there we had to practice in the baking sun. Eli – our goalkeeper – had to have some help putting on his foam armour as it was very big. When we were all ready we played a practice game, the game rules were that if you had the ball you have to pass it to another player, then follow the ball and stand behind the person you passed to. Then came our first match. Or it would have been our first match if the other team appeared so that match was moved to the end. Our 'first' match was against another primary school and they were an extremely good team. They played in white and it really reflected the scorching



sun. Although we nearly scored many times they beat us 3:0. Straight after that match we had to play our second match. They were very good as well but scored one less than the first team. So we lost 2:0. After those two matches we were very hungry and thirsty so we ate our lunch and had a drink. Our third match went better as no one scored any goals. So we drew 0:0. Then it was the semi-finals but we didn't go through because we didn't win any games. We stayed and watched the semi-finals then we went back to school. I enjoyed it but couldn't help feeling disappointed that we didn't win a game. In all, I think that we played well but the other teams were just better! By Elliot

We are very proud of our hockey team who rose to the challenge despite challenging circumstances. Well Done SSQ! Thank you to Elliot, one of our Sports Crew Reps for this honest and reflective report.

**FOSS Update from Terms 3&4**

Firstly, THANK YOU to all the parents and children for joining in with all the activities we have organised over the past two terms. We have had a bumper set of fundraising events for the library and have raised a total of just over £1200!

Rags2riches February collection - £88

Virtual balloon race – £571

Spring Raffle – £500 (exact figure tbc)

Easter Egg hunt - £100



We're looking forward to better weather in terms 5&6 and have a few ideas of exciting events – maybe it will even be possible to run an event without any Covid disruption for the first time in 2 years! I do hope so!

Raising money for Stanton School is truly a team effort across the board. I'd like to say a huge thanks to all the parent volunteers on the FOSS Team who work hard behind the scenes to raise money that benefits everyone's children. Also thank you to the staff at Stanton for taking part in non-uniform days (to the children's delight!) and helping with our events in school, in particular Mrs Edwards and Mrs Pennington in the School Office, who are so helpful with sending out our letters and taking payments for events.

Have a great Easter Holidays everyone, I hope you can stay Covid-free and come back with energy and enthusiasm for more fun in Term 5!

Best wishes

Yvonne Cole

Chair of FOSS

Parent's Easter Holiday Challenge - FOSS would like as many people as possible to register for Amazon Smile and Easyfundraising over the Easter Holidays!

We currently have 8 people registered for Easyfundraising. If each family registered and raised £10 per year, that is at least £500 we could get for free!

Last quarter, we raised £10.15 from Easyfundraising and £40.95 via Amazon Smile. Your friends and family can also nominate Friends of Stanton School as their chosen charity for both these schemes. By using these websites, FOSS receives donations directly from the companies that you shop with online. You can raise money from all sorts of purchases, from holidays to clothes, from insurance to utilities to TV subscriptions – the list is pretty comprehensive.

So don't delay – visit those websites and register today! Thank you

Darling Class Update



We have had a very busy and happy half term and have welcomed new Nursery children into our class. We have enjoyed learning to orally tell the story of Little Red Riding Hood, using actions to support our use of connectives. The Reception children also let their imaginations take flight as they created their own version of this classic fairytale.



We have enjoyed time in the woods, observing the changes that Spring is bringing, hunting for minibeasts and keeping a weekly log of the frogspawn in the pond. We have had some exciting visitors too; Deborah from Wiltshire Fire service came to tell us about her exciting job as a firefighter and showed us how to stay safe. We also had a visit from Chloe's mobile farm and had the opportunity to stroke some beautiful farm animals and even feed Rusty, a seven day old kid. In this last week of term we have practised our weighing skills and observed changes in state as we made chocolate nest eggs for the school cake sale and we have just started clearing our flower and vegetable patch, ready for some growing next term.

Please visit our blog to find out more about the exciting things we have been learning during Term 4: [Darling Class Blog](#).



Amazon Class Update



During Term 4, Amazon Class have continued their exploration of our wonderful world, trekking across the globe to Africa! We've been on a virtual safari, focusing in on the country of Kenya. We have explored the scorching climate, the different landscapes and the safari animals that inhabit the savannah.

The children have been immersed in African culture, creating vibrant African artwork, following the beat with some traditional African drumming and sampling some flamboyant African dance. We reflected on the importance of Fairtrade produce, learnt about how chocolate is grown on Fairtrade farms in Ghana and how to look for the Fairtrade logo, before making our very own Fairtrade brownies.

We have explored the super story of Meerkat Mail, learning more about meerkats found in the African desert and writing postcards which we sent to Mrs Boddington in Africa. We have asked her lots of questions about meerkats and sampled some dried mango she sent over from Africa!

We have also learnt the story of Lila and the Rain, learning new vocabulary such as scorching, sweltering, arid, dehydrated, wilting, ebony and awash to name just a few! We focused on the techniques used by the author to bring the story to life and then became authors ourselves to rewrite this wonderful story of hope.

To really bring our topic to life, we went on our own safari adventure to Cotswold Wildlife Park where we met many fascinating animals and enjoyed a zookeeper talk all about the King of the Savannah- the lion.

And if all of this wasn't enough to keep us busy, we have shown true determination throughout March to complete our 100 Miles in March challenge to raise money for WWF and save many of the animals we have been learning about this term. A huge thank you to everyone who donated to this cause and supported our exhausting efforts. So far we have raised a fantastic £203!



I couldn't be prouder of Amazon Class's achievements this term.

Please visit our blog to find out more about the exciting things we have been learning during Term 4: [Amazon Class Blog.](#)

Rhine Class Update

It's been another busy and exciting term's learning in Rhine Class. Our topic 'Flight' saw us travel to the Hawk Conservancy Trust. We were treated to a thrilling World Birds of Prey flying display, with a fun but informative commentary explaining what the birds were doing and why. Being able to see the birds swoop down close to your head was a thoroughly engaging and memorable experience. We were also fortunate to have



had a visit from Mr Cole, who came to demonstrate and explain how he uses a drone at work.

We have enjoyed reading our class book 'Skellig' by David Almond and poetry by William Blake. This inspired the children to write their own poems based on Tyger, Tyger, which have been published in a class book.

We explored many of the themes in Skellig including: wings, flying and angels. The children thought about what they would do if they could fly, learnt about owls and made their own Angel out of Clay after looking at Anthony Gormley's famous sculpture – The Angel of the North.



We had great fun celebrating, "poisson d'avril" (April Fish) which is the name for April Fools' Day in France. It is a day when children try to hook paper fish on the back of unwary victims and when found they shout out 'poisson d'avril!'

Also this term the year 6 children took part in Bikeability, gaining practical skills and understanding how to cycle on today's roads.

Well done, great work Rhine!

To find out more about our learning visit [Rhine Class Blog](#).



Dates for the term – look out for Friday reminders!

Date	Class	Activity/Event	Notes
Monday 25 th April	Start of Term 5		
Monday 25 th April 3-4pm	Rhine Weekly	Lacrosse Club	No need to sign up again, new joiners welcome
Monday 25 th April	Rhine – Year 3 and 4	Multi-skills Festival	Please see email for details
Monday 2 nd May	All	Bank Holiday	School Closed
Thursday 5 th May	Amazon	Class Trip to Sevington School	See email for details
Thursday 5 th May	Rhine – Year 5	Hardenhuish Taster Day	See email for details
Monday 9 th – Thursday 13 th May	Rhine – Year 6	End of KS2 SATs	See letter for more details
Tuesday 10 th May	Rhine	First Aid Workshop	More details to follow
Tuesday 17 th May	Rhine (for children who signed up)	Dance Competition	See email for details
Thursday 26 th May	Rhine	I Sing Pop Concert Malmesbury Abbey	More details to follow
Friday 27 th May	All	Jubilee Celebrations – Big Lunch	
Friday 27th April	All	End of Term 5	
Next terms date - More information to follow next term			
Monday 6 th June – Friday 10 th June	Year 1	Phonics Screening	
Wednesday 8 th June	Darling	Trip to Slimbridge	
Monday 13 th June	All	FOSS – Rags to Riches	
Wednesday 15 th June		Open Morning	
Wednesday 22 nd June	Rhine – Yr 6	Chippenham Games	
Friday 24 th June	All	Sports Day	
Tuesday 28 th June	All	School Photos – Classes	
Friday 1 st July	All	Reserve Sports Day	
Thursday 7 th July	Rhine – Yr 6	Leavers Assembly	
Friday 8 th July	All	Annual report to Parents	
Monday 18 th July	All	Last day of term	