

# Darling Class NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM 2 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome everyone to this second half of the Spring Term. We hope that you have all had a wonderful week and are looking forward this new term as much as we are.

Monday: Mrs Breen, Mrs Morely, Mrs Harwood  
 Tuesday: Mrs Breen, Mrs Morley  
 Wednesday: Mrs Breen, Mrs Morely, Mrs Major  
 Thursday: Mrs Hunter, Mrs Major, Mrs Harwood  
 Friday: Mrs Hunter, Mrs Major, Mrs Harwood (am)

## Topic – Spring Watch

This half term we will be immersing ourselves in the world around us: preparing our flower and vegetable patch and getting seeds planted, learning to orally retell the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and then, thinking innovatively, creating our own version of the story; looking at life cycles of plants and animals and hopefully visiting a local farm. We will have World Book Day to look forward to, as well as Waste Week, where we will think about how we care for our environment and take part in a Toy Swap event.



Spring Term 4	
<b>Communication and Language</b>	While making vegetable soup and fruit kebabs, we will be asking questions about where our food comes from and how they grow. We will use adjectives to describe the taste and textures and have a go at food alliteration. Later in the term we will learn to orally retell the story of Jack and the beanstalk, developing our story language and expressing our own points of view in relation to the actions of the characters and linking our ideas.
<b>PSED</b>	As well as building relationships with each other and continuing to become independent, this term we are going to focus our attention on caring for our world and our school, including going on a litter pick and sorting materials for recycling.
<b>Physical Development</b>	Nursery will be exploring shapes, different ways of travelling and stopping in gymnastics. Reception will be learning and taking part in Target Games and yoga.
<b>Literacy</b>	We will be sharing some wonderful stories, including Oliver's Vegetables, Jack and the Beanstalk and the alternative Trust me, Jack's Beanstalk Stinks and The Extraordinary Gardener to name a few. Reception will become story writers and create their own version of Jack and the Beanstalk, developing their story language and use of adjectives. In phonics, Reception will be learning two letters one sound /sh/ and /ch/ and applying our phonics in our reading and writing of VCC, CVCC and CCVC words.
<b>Maths</b>	Reception will be continuing to gain a deep understanding of numbers, number bonds and doubles facts and will be given rich opportunities to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics, including shape, space and measures. Nursery will be working with numbers to five, knowing the number that is one more and one less, developing fast recognition of up to 3 objects, experimenting with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals and comparing quantities. Towards the end of the term we will discuss routes and locations and develop an understanding of position through words alone.
<b>Knowledge and Understanding of the World</b>	As we prepare our vegetable and flower patch for sowing, and watch our seeds grow, we will look at the different parts of the plants and their lifecycle. We will look at the changes in the world around us as we move into Spring and look at farm animals in this country and in other countries. What is similar and why do we think that is? We will use the programme 2Simple to draw a picture of a plant. In RE children will be exploring Salvation and why Christians put a cross in their Easter garden.
<b>Expressive Art and Design</b>	We will be taking inspiration from Guiseppe Arcimboldo as we using fruit and vegetables to create works of art. We will have opportunities to take part in sensory explorations and create small world puppets, as well as learn songs and rhymes.

## Forest School

We will be continuing our weekly Forest School sessions this term. Darling Class will have the opportunity to explore the pond habitat, celebrate Earth Day, help to feed the birds in our woods area and begin to create items for the new Forest School.

**Nursery** - Forest School will take place on a **Monday** afternoon.

**Reception** - Forest School will take place on a **Monday** and **Wednesday** afternoon, however there will be **NO Forest School** on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> of February**.

On Forest School days, please ensure that your child comes to school wearing suitable clothing – layers suitable to the climate, long sleeved tops that are tucked in and trousers, as well as wellies or snow boots, waterproof trousers, coat, hat, scarf and gloves and thick or double socks (it is going to be cold underfoot and children will need warm feet to ensure that they do not get cold). In school we encourage the children to be as independent as possible, so please do help your child to practise putting on and taking off these items at home.

If you can help with Forest School on any of these days please email [darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk)

## P.E

**Nursery** will be participating in P.E sessions run in the hall **most days** this term, so please come dressed in joggers/ leggings **every day**.

**Nursery** and **Reception** will have PE together on a **Friday**. Please practise helping your child to take off their shoes and socks and send them into school in joggers or leggings on this day – no skirts, tights or dresses please.

## Reading

Reception children will continue to receive letter sounds and high frequency words on their key ring. Please do practise these, and their phonics scheme reading book, each day with your child and record your reading in their Reading Record book.

Whilst your child is learning to read, we ask that you encourage your child to re-read their phonics book until they are able to read this book fluently. Re-reading the same book for fluency supports young readers to become more confident and engaged in reading. Your child shall be supported to change their book once to twice a week, if they are able to read their book fluently.

This will be judged by your child's class teacher or teaching assistant.

All Nursery and Reception children are invited to change their class choice book each day and their library books once a week.

Reception will visit the library on a Thursday, so please do ensure that your child brings in their library books on this day in order for them to choose a new one.

## Resources wish list

If you have any of the following that you are happy to donate, we would be very appreciative:

- Newspapers – to make flower pots
- Compost
- Vegetable and flower seeds
- Balsa wood
- Sellotape and masking tape

## A reminder of 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 are able to put on and take off coats, gloves, hats and shoes
- 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

The best way to contact us is to use the class email: [darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk)

For urgent messages please call the school office on 01666 837602.

Please do take a look at what we get up to each week, on our Darling Class and Forest School Blogs:

[Stanton St Quintin - Darling Blog \(stantonschool.net\)](http://stantonschool.net)   [Stanton St Quintin - Forest School \(stantonschool.net\)](http://stantonschool.net)

We look forward to a very happy and exciting term together,  
From The Darling Class Team