



NEWSLETTER

Issue 9

Motivate Educate Nurture



It has certainly been an incredible start to the new school year, sharing so many opportunities and experiences, playing and learning together. Over the last seven weeks the children have been engaged and motivated, challenging their learning, being curious and enjoying time with their friends in school. The weather has been mixed. Too wet! Too hot! Too cold! Too windy! Too foggy! But we've continued to be positive whatever the weather and it hasn't stopped the learning in and out of the classroom.

During our first week back to school, the whole school explored the book 'Incredible You'. This wonderful book delves into all the amazing things that we can do and how this makes each and every one of us incredible! Child then recorded what makes them incredible, from riding a bike without stabilisers to being a kind friend and everything in between! Then used peg dolls to make their incredible selves.

Some of the other highlights of the term were the Harvest service (a first for some), forest school, cooking, Poetry off by heart, music, extra curricular activities, whole school celebration assemblies and games with friends at lunchtimes. Ask your child - what have you enjoyed this half term?

It has been a busy six weeks and the children are ready for the break to recharge.

Thank you for all your support this term and we wish you all a lovely half term break.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Matthews

Head of School

Values

Our value this term has been friendship, and it has been lovely to see so many children demonstrating this. This term we have also learnt about democracy which is one of the British Values. This includes showing a respect for public services, which Amazon class did so well when they had a visit from the fire service and learning about how democracy works, as the new School Council members were elected.

Keeping Children Safe

We are running our annual essential safeguarding training for all volunteers who help in school on Wednesday 1st November at 2:30pm - please do come along if you regularly help in school or would like to volunteer. If you are a regular helper and you are unable to make it, please let us know so we can arrange another time.



School Council



We are pleased to announce our new School Council for 2023-2024 has been selected. Congratulations to the new team, who have already started making plans for anti-bullying week from 13th – 17th November, this includes odd socks day on Monday 13th November. This year's theme is **Make A Noise About Bullying** and that is what we plan to do, so look out for details.

Staffing Update

Most of you know me as Mrs Todd, Class Teacher, however; I am now also the new SENCo at Stanton St Quintin Primary and Nursey School. SENCo stands for Special Educational Needs Coordinator. My job will be to oversee and coordinate SEND (including disabilities) for the whole school. This includes working with staff to support children in classrooms, liaising with different agencies, such as the Speech and Language Team and working with parents, helping them understand the multitude of acronyms, agencies and support available to their children. Over the next term, I will be visiting classrooms to get to know the children on our SEND register and working with staff to identify the needs of our children and how we can best support them. School life is very much a partnership between us, the children and our parents, so I might meet with teachers and you to discuss how to help your child over the next year, if needed. I will be working as SENCo one day a week alongside teaching in Amazon Class and I am very excited to be taking on this new role and helping the children in our care even more.



If you need to discuss your child, the best person to talk to is still your class teacher; however, if you wish to contact me, my email address is: senco@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk Whilst I am only working in this role one day a week, this inbox is visible to Mrs Winterburn, who I will be working alongside as she hands over the role of SENCo to me. For any urgent queries, please contact the school office.

Celebrating Roald Dahl Day

This term we celebrated Roald Dahl's birthday with a Roald Dahl themed assembly and activities in our classes, together with Roald Dahl stories and books in our reading areas. We found Roald Dahl on our school timeline to find out that he was born in 1916.

Did you know, the first children's book Roald Dahl wrote was James and the Giant Peach? 🍑



National Poetry Day

A huge well done to every child who learnt a poem off by heart- it was such a treat to watch so many outstanding poetry performances from across the school, making it a real challenge to choose the finalists who performed their poems once again to the rest of the school. Based on the children's pace, rhythm, expression and the unique ways in which the children put their own stamp on their performances, our final winners were chosen. Special congratulations to all of our winners who received invitations to join the teachers for celebratory cake in the staff room next term, fitting in perfectly with our 'All Things School' poetry theme!

Librarians

It has been a delight to meet with the new librarians this term and welcome them to their new home- the library! Our librarians have been tasked to collate ideas for how we can make reading even more irresistible at Stanton School, together with any new book we could purchase for the library. We shall meet again after half term to make a plan of action for all things reading. Watch this space!



New House Captains



Well done to our new House Captains. They have already had lots of great ideas – look out for more details next term.

Points for Term 1

Well done Oak!

Ash – 301

Birch – 305

Oak – 313

Forest School

This term Darling Class and Year 1 have been enjoying Forest School sessions. Thanks to the money raised by FOSS and the very generous donations from parents on the Amazon wish list, we have been able to invest in some new equipment and tools. Learning new skills is an important part of Forest School and the sense of achievement that comes with this is hugely beneficial for children's self-esteem. We have also been taking part in Forest School games, which helps to develop skills needed for teamwork, build relationships but also provides an opportunity for relating the games to what happens in the world of nature.



Next term Forest school will take place on the following dates:

Darling Class – Every Monday afternoon, with the exception of Monday 30th October and Monday 6th November.

Years 3 & 4 will have Forest School on Wednesday afternoons.

We rely on volunteers for Forest School to go ahead, so if you can help on any Monday or Wednesday afternoon, please email Mrs Breen at darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk

Eco Council



This week the Eco Council met to talk about plans for next term. The Eco Council agreed that they would like to focus on Rubbish – including a weekly litter pick to help keep Stanton tidy, recycling food packets at lunchtime, creating jewellery from empty crisp packets and an assembly to tell the school about how we can all do our bit to help.

Sporting Update



On Wednesday, Bonnie, Freya, Angus, Grace and Saoirse went to Devizes Leisure Centre to play the first netball league match of the season against All Cannings Primary School. We started well with Grace scoring early on, giving us the lead. We had some lovely play through the court and got lots of interceptions. We managed to hold onto our 1-0 lead for three quarters, but in the final quarter All Cannings scored two late goals, making the final score 2-1. A huge well done to all of the team for representing the school so well and on completing the first match with smiles on your faces. *Miss Hyde*

Amazon had a fantastic day last week at the Chippenham Partnership Multiskills event at Hardenhuish school. Young Sports Leaders took charge, teaching our children how to complete loads of fun PE activities, with an excellent carousel of games to join in with. The children had fun bouncing balls on a parachute, balancing bean bags on their heads and trying out different obstacle courses. Thank you to our super parent helpers and the Chippenham Partnership for a great morning.



Rhine took part in a hockey festival at Hardenhuish with other local primary schools. They played their games in a great spirit and it was wonderful to see the older and younger students helping each other and working together in their mixed teams.



Term 1 of a new academic year is usually our quietest term, but this year we have hit the ground running by holding our AGM, a non-uniform day and a second-hand sale all in the same term!

Hopefully the children will enjoy using our new coin collector for small amounts of money – accepCng cash in this way allows us to avoid paying credit/debit card fees so that more of your donaCon gets to FOSS. We are also trying card payments for the first Cme so do bear with us if there are any teething problems!

At the AGM back in September, a couple of valued FOSS CommiMee members stepped down – Tonya, who has volunteered for 2 years, and Sarah, who has been part of the FOSS Team for over 7 years. They have both contributed significantly to the faciliCes at the school and experiences of children at Stanton by volunteering with FOSS, and I am sure the whole school community will join me in saying a hearRelt thank you to them both. I will certainly miss their support, enthusiasm and humour when organising and running events at the school.

If you are interested in reading the reports from the AGM, these will be sent out in an email from school, and if you would like to find out more about joining the FOSS CommiMee, please grab one of us in the playground or email foss@stanton-st-quinCn.wilts.sch.uk.

As agreed at the AGM, this year we will be raising money for projects and acCviCes at school to support the Arts and Science and Engineering (STEM). For example, you may have noCced that FOSS have covered the cost of the coach for the whole school trip to the REME museum in November, to take part in a number of STEM-related acCviCes.

AYer Oct half term, we will be planning for our Winter Fayre on Friday 8th December, so please get this date in your diary now! And we will be collaCng orders for whole school tea towels as well which make great seasonal giYs!

So unCl then, have a great holiday and we will be back in touch next term to update you on our plans.

Many thanks, Yvonne and the FOSS Tea



At the end of the last academic year, FOSS transferred £1500 to the new Forest School. Mrs Breen has been busy kitting it out with everything she needs to give every child a great experience in the new outdoor learning area. Here are some photos of where your donations have been used. Maybe your child has already benefited from some of these items in their special outdoor learning lessons? I'm sure they would love to tell you about it.

Thank you so much for taking part in the FOSS events and activities last year which raised this money.



Darling Class Update

What an amazing start to this school year we have had. All of the children have settled in really well and we hope that you have been made to very welcome too. This term our topic has been 'Inside / Outside' and we have supported children in their exploration of their new classroom and the world outside. It would be impossible to cover everything we have done this term in one newsletter, so here are a few highlight

Making friends – one of the most important parts of coming to nursery and school is making friends. This can be a daunting prospect as children come together for the first time and have to learn to share and negotiate in their play. The children have not only shown that they can do this, but they have been helpful and kind towards one another and had a lot of fun too!



Reception Phonics – The Reception children have begun one of the most rewarding journeys they will ever take – that of learning to read and write. As well as forming letters we have been building words and even had a go at our first sentence dictation!

Making a wormery – One of the best parts of the Early Years curriculum is having the flexibility to follow the children's interests. In Forest School the children have been fascinated with the worms that they have unearthed so the children created their own wormery, so that they can see the amazing accomplishments of worms in action.



Stories – We love to share stories in Darling Class and one of our favourites this term has been 'We're going on a bear hunt.' We loved joining in with the repeated refrains and acting it out in the woods (getting chased back to Darling Class was a little scary, but we decided that the bear was just trying to make friends and wanted to play with us. Phew!)

Buddies – We LOVED meeting and spending time with our buddies and can't wait to be with them again.



Exploring our new environments – When the children are not taking part in adult-led sessions, they are able to choose from the activities and resources in the continuous provision. The children have especially enjoyed building with the big blocks, taking on a challenge, getting creative and making up their own games.



Amazon Class Update

What a wonderful start to the year we have had! We are all starting to settle in to our new routines and year groups, making new friends and having lots of fun along the way.



We have all enjoyed our topic this term and we have been so impressed with the children's growing knowledge and understanding of why The Great Fire of London is a significant time in history.

We transported back to 1666 to explore the streets of London and how very different this time was. The children loved learning about how the fire started from a tiny spark in a bakery on Pudding Lane and why the

fire spread so rapidly, destroying a significant part of London. We explored photographs of different artefacts, trying to guess what they were. We were very surprised by the old fashioned fire engine as we

all thought that it was a wooden bath!



We learnt about what life was like in London following the fire and how our capital city changed when it was rebuilt. With this in mind and using our new Talk Rules, we debated whether more good things or more bad things came from the fire, voting with our feet and giving reasons for our views.



We had a very exciting visit from a local fire station who told us all about the fire service now in contrast to 1666. During science, we have been investigating the best material for constructing a house and tested this by setting alight our Tudor houses, made using paper and sticks. We added different materials to see which was the most resistant to flames and observed the results of a fire-break. We have

also enjoyed being Thomas Farriner the baker and following a recipe to bake fresh bread. In art we have been exploring the use of water colours, pastels and other materials to create a fiery background. We created narrow streets of Tudor houses using string printing and charcoal. In PE we have been learning the skills of golf and also Great Fire of London dance. The children were extremely proud of their dance performance which can be viewed on our school Facebook page.



In maths, we have been learning the skills of place value and using different methods for addition. In English, we have loved delving into the book, 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' and writing

diary entries as Vlad the flea, collecting a wealth of vocabulary to bring our writing to life. Finally we took part in celebrating National Poetry Day, learning and performing poems off-by-heart with the theme of 'All Things School'. It was a real treat to watch the children's poetry performances and see their confidence grow as they performed to the rest of the class. Within our English sessions, we explored the poem 'A Tiny Burning Flame', thinking about rhyming, rhythm and pace. We performed this poem as a class and then became true poets,

having a go at writing their own Great Fire of London themed poetry.

We 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 1 click [here](#)

Rhine Class Update

We started the term with learning about the River Rhine and then we created our own River Stones, which are now proudly displayed on the window ledge.

Our topic **WILD** focused on the Stone Age and we had the most amazing immersive experience day, where we travelled back millions of years to the Palaeolithic times - the longest period in history. During the Old Stone Age, people were nomadic and had to go where they could find food. After learning about settlements, we created our own huts, which were easily portable should they need to move on quickly. (Look out for the woolly mammoth!)



Next they created fire using flint, which we know they used as archaeologists have found evidence of tools in a variety of shapes. By this time, the children had worked up quite an appetite so went hunting for wild animals, with some success. However, in the end most preferred to gorge themselves on the delicious berry stew. Following this feast, they enjoyed creating bone necklaces and cave painting.

Then finally we moved into the Neolithic period where people had begun to settle more and become farmers. The children created wattle (woven wood) and daub (mud and straw) walls- a farming technique used to make more permanent shelters. They were quite disappointed there was no animal dung to use so had to make do with mud.

In Computing, children have been working on coding their own game in Scratch. If you ask them to log in they should be able to show you their Scratch account with the game saved.

In Science, the children have been learning about electricity: what is the difference between mains and battery electricity, what materials are good conductors and insulators and how to make their own series circuits. They have also learnt to use the correct circuit symbols to record a circuit on paper. The children have applied their electrical knowledge in a cross curricular topic of making a torch in D.T. The children first looked at what D.T. is and how it differs to Art, they then looked at how designs for things such as bridges, phones and torches have evolved over time. They designed their own torch in pairs for a particular person or function and then had a go at making their own torch with their partner.



Dates for next term

Date	Class	Activity/Event	Notes
Monday 30 th October	Term 2 Begins		
Friday 3 rd Nov	Rec – Y6	Immunisation - Flu	See email for details
Tuesday 7 th Nov	All	Whole school trip to the REME museum	See email for details
Thursday 9 th Nov	All	Bags 2 School Collection	See email for details
Thursday 9 th Nov	All	School Photos afternoon	Individual photos and families PLEASE WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM
Friday 10 th Nov	All	Remembrance Service	All welcome 10:45 am at the graveside, followed by tea & coffee in school
Monday 13 th Nov	All	Odd socks Day	Children can wear odd socks as part of Anti-bullying Week
Friday 24 th Nov	Year 1,2 & 3 Girls	Footie Fun	More details to follow
Friday 1 st Dec	Rec & Year 1	Christmas Multi Skills	More details to follow
Friday 8 th Dec	All	FOSS Winter Fayre	
Tuesday 12 th Dec	Darling & Amazon	Nativity Performance to Parents	2:00pm more details to follow
Wednesday 13 th Dec	All	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day	More details to follow
Thursday 14 th Dec	Darling & Amazon	Nativity Performance to Parents	5:30pm more details to follow
Tuesday 19 th Dec	All	Christmas Church Service	2pm at St Giles
Wednesday 20 th Dec	All	Non-uniform day	
Wednesday 20 th Dec	END OF TERM 2- Children can be collected at 2pm		
Thurs 4 th Jan 24	TERM 3 STARTS		