

# Darling Class NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all had a lovely half term and are excited to return. This term we welcome Larissa and Addison to our Nursery, we are very happy to have you and your families join us.

## Topic – Superheroes we know

This half term we are going to be looking at different occupations and celebrating each other, and those we love, as superheroes. As part of our topic we will be visiting the REME museum and also having visits from a local firefighter and vet. We would love to give the children the opportunity to hear from people of other occupations (stay at home mums and dads too!) to tell them a little about how you spend your day. This doesn't need to be any more than a five minute chat to the children at the end of the day, and if you feel that this is something you would be able to do, please do get in contact on the darling class email. We also often have activities, such as cooking and specific crafts, which offer a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to come in to Darling Class to assist with. If you or another family member are interested in helping in this way, please do get in contact. Some of the texts we will enjoying this half term include:



Autumn Term 2	
<b>Communication and Language</b>	This half term the children will have the opportunity to take on roles in different occupations and also to discuss stories around these topics. We will be looking at superheroes with our own family and children will be asked to bring in a photograph or picture of someone who is their superhero, to contribute to a Class book. We will also be after photographs of family member sporting a very different hairstyle to what they have now and using this as an opportunity to explore similarities and differences, widen our vocabulary and get creative at the hairdressers!
<b>PSED</b>	This half term our PSHE topic is 'Valuing Difference'. This topic helps children to recognise that there are similarities and differences between themselves, to celebrate their friends and include them and to understand that people have different cultures and religions.
<b>Physical Development</b>	We will be honing our fine motor skills with regular Dough Disco sessions, Finger Gym activities and using tools in Forest School. In PE Nursery children will be encouraged to use their body to show different shapes and express feelings through Dance as well as building their confidence in Gymnastics to move across climbing equipment and link movements at different levels. Reception children will be working to create imaginative actions in Dance and practise the skills of dodging and sliding.
<b>Literacy</b>	Children will continue to be encouraged to take part in shared reading, discussion of the main characters, make predictions and look at features of non-fiction texts. Mark making and writing will be supported in children's play as they are encouraged to write appointment cards, take telephone messages, write Get Well Soon cards and contribute to a class book about our very own superheroes.
<b>Maths</b>	In Maths Nursery children will be supported as they select 2D and 3D shapes appropriately for different builds, as well as learning number rhymes, identifying patterns and continuing with number recognition, counting and solving simple problems. Reception children will begin the term by sequencing events, including day and night, events of the day and days of the week. We will be exploring different representations of 5, including the different ways these numbers can be constructed and deconstructed and applying this knowledge to solve problems. The final few weeks will consolidate recognition of 2D shapes and their properties and locating 2D shapes within 3D shapes.
<b>Knowledge and Understanding of the World</b>	As well as looking into a variety of different occupations we will also be looking closely at our families, the similarities we share and also the differences. We will celebrate the superheroes in our own family and continue to develop positive attitudes towards others. Children will also be able to take part in STEM experiments, including making their own stethoscopes, researching tooth decay, putting plaster casts on the babies, sorting rubbish and different materials and creating a home for their chosen pet.
<b>Expressive Art and Design</b>	We are looking forward to learning some new songs and rhymes, including Miss Polly had a dolly, John Brown's baby and Doctor Foster to name a few and of course we will be rehearsing the songs for our highly anticipated Nativity performance with Amazon Class. The children will also be able to take part in role play as we change our home corner to a doctor's surgery, hairdressers and vets and the children will be supported in the development of their storylines in their play.

## PE Days

### Nursery – Tuesday and Wednesday

**Reception – Wednesdays** (with Mr Carter) and **Fridays** (with Mrs Hunter).

Please ensure that your child comes into school in joggers or leggings and that your child practises taking off and putting on their socks and shoes independently.

## Forest School

This half term our Forest School sessions will encourage children's imagination and creativity in the natural world.

**Nursery & Reception children:** Forest School will take place every **Monday** afternoon, beginning **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November**.

Forest School will take place whatever the weather, with the exception of high winds or thunderstorms. On Forest School days children should come dressed in layers of clothes suitable for being outdoors (clothes that you don't mind getting dirty) and appropriate for the weather. These must include long sleeves and trousers (no skirts, shorts or dresses), to protect from scratches and bites, including ticks. **Extra socks, hat and gloves** are recommended in cold weather.

We rely on parent helpers to make Forest School possible, without parent helpers Forest School cannot take place. So if you are able to volunteer (even if it is only once a term) please email [darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk) or speak to Mrs Breen.

## NCETM Maths at Home Workshop

A reminder for all **Reception parents** that our Maths at home workshop will take place at **9am on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**.

This is an exciting opportunity to involve you and your child in a Mastering Number programme run by the National Centre of Excellence for Teaching Mathematics. Each child will need a parent or family member to work with them during this workshop.

## Reading

All Nursery and Reception children are encouraged to enjoy books and develop a love of reading and stories. We will visit our fantastic school library each week and children will be encouraged to choose a book to take home to share with you. Library books will be changed on a **Tuesday**. Any Nursery children not attending on a Tuesday will have the opportunity to change their library book on a day that they are in school.

**Reception:** Please continue to practise the new high frequency words and sounds daily, so that your child is able to keep up as we progress. Please try to read with your child at least 4-5 times each week and record this in your child's Reading Record Book. All Reception children will be read with, and have their books changed, once a week. More information about how you can support your child with reading in the Early Years can be found in the school's Reading Policy.

## Items to bring to school

We are trying to minimise what children bring with them to school in order to reduce the amount on children's pegs, which prevents them accessing the items that they need. Children **ONLY** need to bring in a named water bottle, named book bag, coat and waterproof trousers. If your child requires items for toileting, these can be brought in a bag and left on their peg.

## Show and Tell

Children often like to bring in items from home to show to the class, which is a fantastic opportunity to develop children's confidence speaking to the class and oracy skills. To ensure that this is fair we will continue to send home the Silver Box with a different child each day.

## Wish List

If you have any of the following, we would be very grateful:

- Old stamps, envelopes
- Tape and string
- Junk modelling (a constant supply!!!)
- Books around our topics: Doctors and nurses; Hospitals; Vets; Pets; Refuse Collectors and rubbish; Police; Hairdressers; Firefighters; Post Office. We promise to return these to you.

## How you can support your child & contacting us:

- Support your child in his/her learning through practice at home and promoting positive attitudes
- Encourage personal independence by making sure your child has the correct clothing, reading books and water bottles each day and practising taking off and put on their own socks, shoes, coats, hats and gloves
- 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 don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions or queries. The beginning of the day is a very busy time, so if you do have a longer message or enquiry, please do so at the end of the day or make an appointment.

We look forward to a very exciting term together and wish to thank you for your support.

Mrs Breen and Mrs Hunter