

# AMAZON CLASS NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM 4 2024



Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to school for the second part of the spring term. We hope you have enjoyed a wonderful half term.

**Monday – Thursday:** Mrs Anderson

**Friday:** Mrs Todd

## Our Topic

We finish the spring term with our next topic, **'On Safari- African Adventures!'**. During this term we shall venture away from the polar regions and venture to the warmer climates of our world, exploring the African landscape. We shall be comparing the climate, exploring animals, traditions and communities that inhabit these parts of the world. We shall be listening to and creating African music, together with exploring African patterns, artwork and pottery. Here are some of the fantastic books we shall be exploring this term:



Spring Term 3			
<b>English</b>	Writing an innovated folk tale Rain poetry Using ed/ing verb endings Using the suffixes est/er Irregular verbs Reading            Handwriting Phonics and spelling	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Y1:</b> Solving word problems, Multiplication <b>Y2:</b> Solving word problems, Money, Missing number problems, 2D Shape
<b>Science</b>	Living things and their habitats: What would happen if we took omnivores out of a food web?	<b>Geography</b>	What is the climate like in Africa? Is Africa close to the equator? How many people live in Africa and are there different communities of people? What is African culture like?
<b>Art</b>	Ndebele African pattern art African pottery 	<b>DT</b>	Designing, creating and evaluating an African animal mask  How is food grown in Africa? What is Fairtrade? 
<b>Music</b>	Charanga- Hands, Feet and Heart <i>South African style music and freedom songs</i>  Learning the Song- 'Sanibonani'	<b>PE</b>	Gymnastics- Balancing and spinning on points Fundamental movement skills- skipping, jumping, throwing, passing and catching African dance
<b>PSHE</b>	Rights and Respect	<b>RE</b>	Understanding Christianity – Salvation. Why does Easter matter to Christians?
<b>Computing</b>	Programming using Scratch and Managing Online Information		

## Reading, book changing and reading bookmarks

Reading is an incredibly important skill that feeds into every aspect of your child's education, prospects of success and future life. It is therefore extremely valuable when children are supported and encouraged to read at home once a day. We understand that life can be busy, however we appreciate your support by reading daily with your child.

### Your child will bring home the following in their book pouch:

- A phonics book/s (to be read by your child to you)
- A sharing book chosen from the library (to be shared with your child- you may wish to read this to your child)

- A phonics (cat) bookmark given out weekly/fortnightly to practise reading words containing the sound we are learning in phonics
- A word book to practise the spelling of Common Exception Words
- Guidance for supporting children as readers

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.

Please briefly record when your child reads by writing your initials on their reading bookmark. **If we feel that your child is not reading frequently enough at home, your child's class teacher shall discuss this with you, initiating Step 1 of our 'Supporting Your Child with Reading at Home' strategy.**

For support with correctly pronounced sounds, please watch our helpful video on the school website: [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=dVG6QoS\\_9iw&feature=youtu.be](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=dVG6QoS_9iw&feature=youtu.be)

## Home Learning Summary

### Year 1 and 2

1. Daily reading (at least 10 minutes)- please record on your reading bookmark
2. **Reading words on your phonics bookmark (cat bookmark). Your child may also practise writing these words, using their sounds to spell. There are some ideas inside the red spelling book. Children will not be tested on these words in a formal spelling test but through their writing and phonics sessions.**
3. Practise reading and spelling Common Exception Words that are stuck in red spelling books (words we use lots). Children shall be tested on these words once every term to track the progress they are making with the rapid recall of spelling these words.

## Book bags and water bottles

All children in KS1 should have a school book bag and **not a backpack**. Book bags keep our precious books safe. Your child should have their reading pouch in their book bag every day. Children should bring a named water bottle to school but this should be carried separately and not be placed inside book bags.

## Weather ready/PE

Children should have a named coat in school at all times. During colder weather, a named warm hat and gloves are recommended. Children should come to school wearing their PE kit and trainers **ONLY** on our scheduled PE days. During Term 4, Amazon Class will do PE on a **Tuesday and Thursday**.

Please ensure that on all other days, children are wearing the correct school uniform, including black school shoes. Should your child have a sports club after school on a non-PE day, they should wear school shoes to school and bring trainers to change into for their after school club.

## Woods

There is no woods learning for either Year 1 or Year 2 this term.

If felt to be necessary, the best way to contact us is to use the class email: [amazonclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:amazonclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk) We will do our best to reply but we will be teaching in the day so cannot guarantee a response during this time. For urgent messages please call the school office on 01666 837602.

We look forward to another exciting term ahead.  
The Amazon Class Team