

# Darling Class NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM 4 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a great week and are feeling refreshed and ready for Term 4! Hopefully this term will be dryer and brighter and we can spend even more time outside. Towards the end of last term, we welcomed Maya to Reception and starting with us this term, in Reception, is Douglas. We hope you and your families are made to feel very welcome and enjoy your time at Stanton.

**Monday & Tuesday:** Mrs Hunter

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:** Mrs Breen

**Teaching Assistants:** Miss Strathdee, Mrs Barnard

**Topic** – This term our topic is ‘Bon Voyage- Travelling Adventures’.

Spring Term 4	
<b>PSED / PSHE</b>	This term we will be focusing on ‘Keeping Safe’ This will involve us thinking about what’s safe to go into our bodies, including medicines, how we keep safe inside and outside, listening to our feelings and keeping safe online.
<b>Maths</b>	Reception this term will focus on counting, patterns, measuring lengths and heights, capacity and 2D shapes. Year 1 this term will focus on division, fractions, numbers to 100 and time.
<b>Phonics</b>	Reception will continue to apply their knowledge of single sounds and the 2 letter 1 sound /ll/ /ff/ /ss/ /zz/ to bread and write words with 4 sounds (cvcc, ccvc) e.g rent, spot and 5 sounds (ccvcc, cvccc) e.g.
<b>English</b>	Our core texts will be ‘Samson’s Titanic Journey’ by Lauren Graham and ‘Naughty Bus’ by Jan & Jerry Oke. We will incorporate drama to our lessons as we explore what life might have been like on board the Titanic, for people in different circumstances and using short snappy sentences, the children will write a suspenseful recount of that fateful voyage. Reception children will write captions and short sentences, in role as the Naughty Bus, while Year 1 children will build up to writing their own adventure story.
<b>Science / Understanding the World</b>	This term we will be learning all about plants. Over the term we will identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants including trees, we will make careful observations, grow seeds and keep diaries and draw and label plants.
<b>Computing</b>	In computing we will be programming a moving robot called a Beebot. We will be programming it to move it all four directions, following routes and creating our own routes.
<b>History/ Understanding the World</b>	Due to popular demand amongst Darling Class children, we will be looking at the historical journey of The Titanic. We will compare ships from the past and present, role play life on board the Titanic as a First Class and Third Class passenger, as well as studying different types of historical evidence that tell us about the Titanic and its voyage.
<b>Physical Development / PE</b>	<b>Reception-</b> Fun and Games every <b>Tuesday</b> with Mrs Hunter and Gymnastics every <b>Thursday</b> with Miss Hyde. <b>Year 1-</b> Hockey every <b>Tuesday</b> with Mrs Hunter and Gymnastics every <b>Thursday</b> with Miss Hyde.
<b>DT / Expressive Art and Design</b>	Over the term the children will understand how different parts of a vehicles help to make them work. They will practise attaching wheels to axles and chassis and design and build their own vehicle.
<b>RE / Understanding the World</b>	This half term, we will be learning about what Humanists believe and how this affects their actions in daily life. We will then say what we would do to look after the world and show people that we care.
<b>Music</b>	We will be exploring rhythm and patterns, copying them using our voices, bodies and instruments and creating our own.

## Reading

### Reception:

Please continue to read with your child at least 5 times each week and record this in your child’s Reading Record Book and help your child to practice their weekly sounds and high frequency words. All Reception children will be read with once a week and all reading books will be changed once a week.

**Year 1:** Please continue to read with your child each day and help them to practise their spellings and high frequency words.

Spelling tests will take place each Tuesday (unless no spelling have been given for that week).

Whilst your child is learning to read, we ask that you encourage your child to re-read their phonics book until they can read the book fluently. Re-reading the same book for fluency supports young readers to become more confident and engaged in reading. Please briefly record when your child reads by writing your initials on their reading bookmark. This will be judged by your child’s class teacher or teaching assistant. 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)

## Items to bring to school

Children ONLY need to bring in a named water bottle, named book bag with book folder inside, coat and hat. 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 and each child gets a turn, a 'Show and Tell' box will be sent home with one child each day, for them to put something into the box to show to the class the next day.

### **Forest School**

Forest School will continue to be on **Friday** afternoons, with the first session on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**. Being able to explore the natural world, take risks and learn new skills is hugely beneficial for children's confidence and holistic development. 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. Children are asked to leave NAMED waterproof trousers and wellington boots in school.

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

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

Your child's education is a partnership and we look forward to developing a close relationship with you.

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 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 school email: [admin@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@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.

The Darling Class Team