



# NEWSLETTER

## Issue 10

Motivate Educate Nurture



As we come to the end of another busy term, it is with great pride that I can look back at the many achievements and successes of the children, in and out of the classroom. They have worked so hard and never cease to amaze us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their hard work this term. They always work with such enthusiasm; engaging and inspiring the children, providing the best education for all. To all parents and families, a great deal of what we do in school cannot be achieved without you and your co-operation, consideration and understanding.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

Next term's value

Yours faithfully,

*Sarah Matthews*

Head of School



Thank you to everyone for your Easter cake donations. We raised just over £100 towards enrichment for next term.

Also a huge thank you to Mrs Pocock for this month's absolutely fantastic chocolate orange cake for the March Cake Draw- it looks delicious!

## Easter Service

We were delighted to welcome so many members of the community to our Easter Service at St Giles. The whole school performed 'The Three Trees' and it was a joy to see the children singing and performing with such passion. Thank you to Rev Sharon Gleed for welcoming us.



## House Captain Update

Thank you to the House Captains who organised pancake races and an easter egg hunt this term.



Points for Term 2 - Well done Birch!

Ash – 319

Birch – 356

Oak – 345



## School Council

Dear Children of Stanton

School Council would like to launch a competition to design a logo which will be used on the School Council display and any letters and notices we send home to parents/carers. These designs will need to be completed and returned to school by no later than Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Could you use the colour blue to link with our school colour? Be as imaginative and creative as you can be.

School council is about giving everyone a voice, working together and helping everyone to contribute to making our school even better so maybe think about this when creating your logo.

Your logo can be any shape and please only use pencils, crayons or felts to design it.

We would love to receive as many designs as possible so please give it a go during the Easter holidays. Please put your name on the back of your design but we will vote anonymously.

We can't wait to see your logo designs.

School Council

## Sporting Update

This term has seen our first competitive netball games for some time, as children from Rhine class fielded a team to compete against other local schools. The team was superbly prepared by Ms Hyde, who is a keen netballer herself, and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves, whilst securing a full range of possible results.

This term has also seen a SSQ first, with the arrival of Mr. Monty to deliver a fencing session to each class! Many students also took up the option of participating in the after school fencing activity and have been enthusiastically thrusting and parrying and showing some nice technique.



Amazon class took part in a Multi-Skills event at Abbeyfield school, picking up children from our federated school Langley Fitzurse along the way. They had a super time and were thoroughly worn out by the time they arrived back for lunch.

Next term, we will be offering a Cheerleading club and today everyone had fun taster session!



Rhine class will be back in the pool developing effective swimming strokes and practising their water safety. On Fridays, both Amazon and Rhine classes will work with a coach from the cricket charity A Chance to Shine, which will help to prepare us for the tournaments coming towards the end

of next term. This coach will be running an after school club on Friday's next term, where she will teach the Rhine children a number of cricket-based playground games and teach them how to become playground leaders. They will then help our younger students to play them. (Participants get a certificate at the end of the term too!) So please sign up for this club running next term after school on Fridays.



Mr Carter – Sports Lead

## Commonwealth Celebrations

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March children travelled to Chippenham to take part in Commonwealth Celebrations. It was a great opportunity to learn about different cultures and faiths.



## Choir & Piano Showcase

What a performance. Children as young as 4 performed for the first time and it was smiles all around. A huge thank you to Mrs Howarth our choir and piano teacher for organising and teaching our children to love and enjoy music.



## Forest School

We have enjoyed being out in the Big and Small Woods this term for Forest School. Being in the woods and outside is extremely valuable. This term, the children have had the opportunity to learn new skills, challenge themselves physically, develop their communication and language and friendships as they have worked collaboratively and played together.

We have also celebrated Earth Day, sharing the story 'I love Earth' by Todd Parr and reflecting on how we use the earth and what we can do to help protect it. The children made celebratory cakes (complete with candles!) and taking their own initiative, created a moss football, mud and stick bird feeders and stick plant holders.



As you know we are currently developing the forest school on site so that it can be accessible for the whole school. A few weeks ago I put out a plea for help with resources and expertise to make our vision a reality. Please don't think that you help isn't needed and that lots of people will have volunteered because sadly that isn't the case. Please do have another look at the list and get in touch with any help that you (or a friend / relative) may be able to give.

## Eco Council



Despite it being a short term, we have had a busy time Eco-wise. At the beginning of the term we had a visit from Paula, from Energy Sparks. Paula spoke to us about our 'Goldilocks Planet' and how we need to work together to help keep earth in a perfect state – not too hot and not too cold. One of the ways to do this is to reduce our food waste. The children in Darling Class looked at ways we can still use food that is not at its best, making fruit crumble and soup, rather than throwing it away.

We also had took part in the National Campaign 'Waste Week'. The children were shocked to learn about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch that is larger than France! The focus of Waste Week this year was reusing things that we no longer need. The children were fantastic, bringing in a toy or game that they no longer wanted and swapping it for something else. A brilliant way of preventing unwanted toys ending up in landfill sites and the children have suggested that this becomes a regular event.



*Hi everyone,*

Hi everyone, I can't believe it's Easter already! We weren't able to run our Easter Egg hunt this time, but over the last two terms we have raised over £600 from the Break the Rules Day, Matchbox Challenge and the

Story Sweet Shop. Thank you to you and your children for taking part in our events and donating money to our lovely school. We are planning some events for the next two terms, but in the meantime, I want to highlight how you can fundraise at home for free using <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofstantonstq/> - it's easy to use and so far we have raised £199 with 24 people being signed up. This is FREE money coming to our school - amazing! Just think what we could raise with more parents and friends signed up. You can earn money for Stanton through your weekly shop, your insurance, your holiday bookings, so many different things - please do have a look at the website as it covers so many daily items that we all buy. It would be great to come back after Easter with more supporters. Get signed up now!

Thanks, Yvonne and FOSS.

*Best wishes, Yvonne and FOSS*

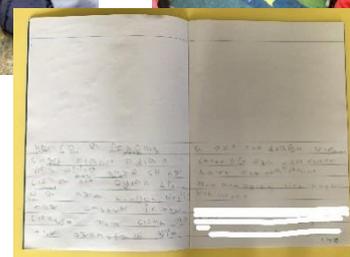
## Darling Class Update

We have had a wonderful time together this half term. Here is a little of what we have been up to...

In Maths we have been exploring Shape, Space and Measures, and putting our new found measuring skills to good use in our shoe shop and even in the woods, comparing and measuring the lengths of worms (ever so gently of course!) We have also been working with patterns and shapes and have enjoyed our first exploration of tangrams.



In Literacy we began the term learning to orally retell the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. This is a fantastic way to develop our story language and the Reception children then went on to create and write their own version, showcasing their imagination and creativity.





In Expressive Art and Design we are continuing to explore different media, think creatively and follow our ideas with our creations and also work collaboratively on a piece of art. The value of a cardboard box cannot be underestimated and we thank you for responding to our continuous plea for boxes and toilet rolls!



We have been honing our communication and language skills in our role play areas; having tea parties and visiting the shoe shop. There are entrepreneurs in the making in Darling Class with some children setting up a shoe cleaning service to boot!

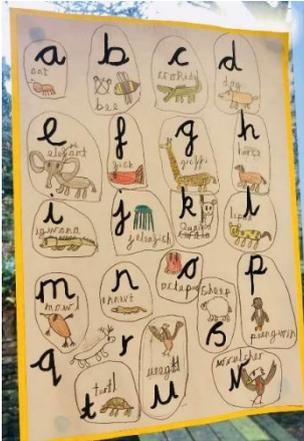


This term we held our second Stay and Read event in Darling Class. The children were very excited to show parents and grandparents what they have been doing and to spend the afternoon making and testing designs to protect an egg as it rolls down a drainpipe, design character masks and make plant pots and plant seeds.

On Thursday we went on a trip to a local farm. Luckily it stopped raining so we made the short walk, jumping in some puddles on the way! We were shown around by Melissa who told us lots about farming and how to look after sheep. We were lucky enough to see a lamb being born which was amazing! We saw lots of sheep and lambs in different barns and were allowed to give one lamb a bottle of milk. It was such a fun morning and we all had a great time.



## Amazon Class Update



It's been an animal

extravaganza this term in Amazon Class! We have transformed into animal explorers, learning about different animals habitats across the world and closer to home. Our new class pet, Yang the panda at Edinburgh Zoo, has inspired us to learn more about this endangered species whilst watching our new friend each day on the Panda Cam. Did you know, pandas spend up to 16 hours a day feeding on bamboo?

We launched our topic by testing our knowledge of animal names by creating an Animal A-Z with beautiful illustrations and an array of interesting animals that the children were able to recall. We all found U a little tricky but this opened up our learning about urials- a type of wild sheep with relatively small horns! We then explored the collective nouns for different animals with great interest, finding out lots of unusual names, such as; a crash of rhinos and an army of caterpillars.



As a class of animal enthusiasts, we decided to explore the life and work of another animal lover- Sir David Attenborough. We explored how animals use their colour in the wild by watching some of David's fascinating documentaries.

In English this term we have been exploring non-fiction writing, reading animal fact files and learning about one of the rarest monkeys on our planet- the Golden Snub Nosed Monkey, to write our very own animal fact files. We are very proud of our writing!

We have also been exploring 'Just So Stories' by Rudyard Kipling and thinking of our own Just So Story titles such as; How the Pig Got His Snout.

This term we also celebrated World Book Day and came together as a school of book lovers when visiting the Story Museum in Oxford. We loved exploring books with our friends, wearing our book hats, enjoying exciting story retellings, meeting Sophie Cleverly, going on a story trail and so much more! We continued our celebration of reading by inviting our grown-ups into Amazon Class for our second stay and read afternoon, enjoying activities linked to 'A Bear's Guide to Beekeeping'.

In art, the children have been learning the skills of still life sketching, practising their skills to sketch snowdrops before moving on to observe 'Surprised' by artist Henri Rousseau. The children created their own interpretations of this tiger artwork. In PE, we have been trying out some animal dance to the soundtrack 'Hakuna Matata' - a wonderful pride of dancing lions! We have also enjoyed many multi-skills sports days at Wiltshire secondary schools to develop our teamwork and physical skills.

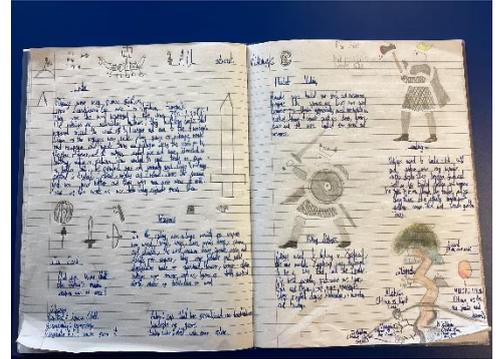
Please visit our blog to find out more about the exciting things we have been learning about during the term: [Amazon Class Blog.](#)

## Rhine Class Update



As always, an incredibly busy term in Rhine class with the children working so hard and enthusiastically. Our topic work and English has followed on nicely from last term's study of Anglo-Saxons. This term the focus has been Vikings and the children have learnt about many aspects of Viking life including their mythology

and domestic arrangements. We used as our inspiration for writing, a book called 'Viking Boy' by Tony Bradman. The class were hanging off every word as we worked through this book and really connected with the main character through writing diary entries as him. The book cleverly teaches us about the Viking mythology, as the main character meets Valkyries, Gods and Giants on his adventure. This led on to some amazing Viking fact files.



Our Science this term has been biology based, with the topic area being Animals Including Humans. The children have recapped what skeletons are for and looked at vertebrates and invertebrates. They have learnt the types and functions of teeth. They have learnt that animals need to get nutrition to remain healthy, and reviewed the food groups. They have looked at food chains and got to grips with the terminology such as producer and consumer and have also explored the human digestive system and explained the process through its many stages (no surprises, they particularly enjoyed learning about the last stage!)

In Computing, the children have each designed and coded a quiz and explored how to add different effects. They should be able to show you at home these quizzes in their scratch accounts (some are extremely hard!!)

Year 5 & 6 impressed us with their ukulele skills as they shared their learning from this term. Lots of concentration needed.



Please visit our blog to find out more about the exciting things we have been learning about during the term



Well done to our Year 6 children who took part in Bike ability this week, they were a credit to the school showing perseverance, enthusiasm and attentiveness. This was a moment when the sun was shining!

## Dates for next term

Date	Class	Activity/Event	Notes
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Term 5 Begins</b>		
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Rhine	Lacrosse Club	3pm-4pm
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Darling (Reception only) & Amazon	Gardening Club	3pm-4pm
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Rhine	Class trip to Westminster Abbey	Please see email for details
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Rhine	Swimming lessons start (weekly)	Please wear PE kit
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Y2-Y6	Football Club	3pm-4pm
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception – Year 6	Cheerleading Club	3pm – 4pm
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Rhine	Coding Club	3pm-4pm
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Amazon	Gymnastics Club	3pm-4pm
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Rec – Y6	Last Fencing Club	3pm-4pm
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> May	All	May Bank Holiday	School closed to all children
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May	All	Coronation Bank Holiday	School closed to all children
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> May– Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6	End of Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessments	Please see separate letter for details
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May	END OF TERM 5		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>TERM 6 STARTS</b>		
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	All	Sports Day	More details to follow
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	All	End of year reports to parents	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Rhine	KS2 Performance to parents 4:30pm	More details to follow
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Leavers assembly 9:30 am to Year 6 parents	More details to follow