

AMAZON CLASS NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 1 2023



Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to the autumn term and we hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer break. Together with the children we are looking forward to the exciting term ahead, getting to know our new friends and learning lots along the way!

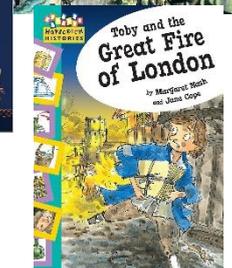
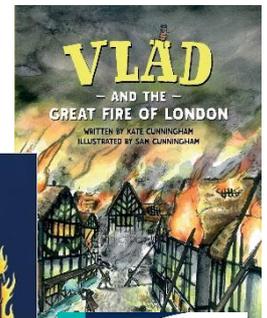
Monday – Thursday: Mrs Anderson

Friday: Mrs Todd

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Robins (AM) Miss Hyde (PM)

Topics

We start this year with our first topic, 'The Great Fire of London'. During the first term we shall travel back to 1666 when the Great Fire broke out in London. We shall be exploring the diary of Samuel Pepys and how London differed all those years ago, together with our fantastic class book 'Vlad and The Great Fire of London'. Using our senses to explore what the streets of London were like, will help us to understand how different things were in 1666. We shall learn about the challenges faced when trying to put out the fire and compare fire engines then and now. Here are some of the fantastic books we shall be exploring this term:



Autumn Term 1			
English	Letter names and letter sounds Capital letters and full stops Diary writing Poetry Explanation writing Handwriting Phonics	Maths	Y1: Number Bonds, Addition and Subtraction Y2: Numbers to 100, Addition and Subtraction methods
History	The Great Fire of London, 1666 When and where did the Great Fire of London start? Why did the fire spread so rapidly? How was the great fire put out? How do we know what we know about this event in history? Who were significant people during this time in history? (Samuel Pepys)	PE	Tri Golf Great Fire of London Dance
Art and DT	Bread making Colour mixing (shades, tints, tones) Creating a Great Fire of London skyline print using a range of materials	Music	'I Want to Play in a Rock Band' Rhythm, pulse, exploring instruments, improvisation
Science	Everyday Materials: What is the best material for constructing a house? The seasons: How does the temperature affect seasonal change?	Computing	Connect: E-Safety Communicate: Using the internet
PSHE	Me and my relationships Valuing Difference	RE	Investigating Christianity and Judaism Being Special Belonging: What does it mean to belong? Special Times Why do we celebrate special times?

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

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 will be given a new reading pouch to be kept in their book bags. Children should bring a named water bottle to school every day but this should be carried separately and not be placed inside book bags. Thank you for your support on this matter.

Learner of the Week, The Golden Box and Reading Ted

In Amazon class we value celebrating children's achievements and allowing them opportunities to share their news and adventures. It can be difficult to always find time for children to 'show' something they have brought in from home and we therefore have 'The Golden Box'. One child is chosen each week to bring the Golden Box home which they can then return with something enclosed for our dedicated show and tell session the following week.

Learner of the Week is awarded to a child who has made a super effort and shown dedication to their learning.

We also have our reading friend, Rufus, who will choose to go home with a child each week who has been spotted reading for pleasure or trying really hard with developing their reading skills.

Weather ready/PE

Children should have a named coat in school at all times. During the warmer weather, children should also come to school wearing sun cream and should bring a named sun hat. 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 the summer term, 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.

Snacks and Water bottle

Your child will need a named water bottle in school every day. Fruit shall be provided during morning break time, however your child may bring a healthy snack to school should they wish. Please ensure any reusable snack pots are named. No crisps, chocolate or other sugary snacks should be brought into school for morning break.

Woods – TERM 1, YEAR 1 ONLY

This term Year 1 shall be taking part in Forest School with Mrs Breen on a **Wednesday afternoon**. On this day, your child may come to school dressed in woods/outdoor clothing: long sleeves and long trousers and layers suitable to the temperature (no shorts/t-shirts please). Children should also bring named waterproof clothing (all-in-ones or trousers and a coat) and wellies.

There is no need to bring a change of clothes, as children shall be coming home in their woods clothing.

If felt to be necessary, the best way to contact us is to use the class email: 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 or Mrs Pennington will be outside in the playground at drop off.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead.

The Amazon Class Team