



# NEWSLETTER Issue 8

Motivate Educate Nurture



It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of 2023!

What an amazing term it has been with so many highlights, as you can see from all the photos.

Thank you to all the staff for making all of these learning experiences possible, we have such a brilliant team! And a huge thank you to FOSS for their fundraising which has enabled we have had the funds to do so many activities above and beyond.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have enjoyed a number of special events, including this year's nativity, 'Bethlehem Bake Off, Winter Music Concert, and creating our amazing hedgehog Willow Sculpture.

Thank you to the whole school community for your continued support this term and for joining us at these events. It may be a busy period, but it certainly is a wonderful one! I know your children have enjoyed all the festive fun and they are excited and ready for their well-deserved Christmas holiday.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

*Sarah Matthews*  
Head of School

## Value of the Term - Respect

This term we have been thinking about how and why we show respect. All the children created a poppy which were then artistically wrapped around a tree next to the graveyard for all to see. A huge thank you to Mrs Tyler for leading this project, the children really enjoyed it.



## Christmas Celebrations

### Christmas Dinner

Strike a pose! Thank you to FOSS for the festive photo props – as you can see we had lots of fun with them



## Christmas Cooking Club

A super end to the term with a few sprinkles. Thank you Mrs Edwards and her mum for running the club this term, the children really loved it!



## Christmas Church Service

We were delighted that so many were able to attend the church Christmas service at St Giles. Thank you to the recorder groups accompanied by Mrs Plowright who played for us and the Stanton choir for their wonderful performance, orchestrated by Mrs Howarth and Reverend Sharon Glead for the opportunity to reflect on peace and what it means. Thank you also to FOSS for the delicious mince pies afterwards, a perfect end to the term.



**NATIVITY**



Darling and Amazon Class performed the most incredible showstopper performance of Bethlehem Bake Off to our friends, families and all those dear to us. It was a sensational retelling of a group of angels, wise men and shepherds who were on route to see the birth of baby Jesus. Whilst on their journey, they stopped at the Bethlehem Bake Off Inn to take part in the prestigious baking competition, to try to win the prize of Celestial Baker. The children made us so exceptionally proud of their efforts; performing their lines, singing and dancing, and filling us with such warmth and festivities at this special time of year.



## Winter Concert

It was a joy to welcome you to share what the children have been learning this term. The event showcased the pupils' remarkable musical talents, ranging from a Christmas mash up, songs composed and performed by the children and an upbeat ukulele set.



The children captivated us with their brilliant individual and group performances. Well done to all that took part and a BIG thank you to our music teachers -Mrs Howarth and Mr Dunn for all her time and effort. A superb performance!



## CHRISTMAS TREE

This year the Stanton Christmas Tree was kindly donated by Prestige Grounds and decorated by the children. Thank you Mr & Mrs Anderson!



## House Captain Update

This term the House Captains organised the Christmas Card Competition and the Winter Bake off.



Points for Term 2 – Well done **OAK**

**Ash – 719**

**Birch – 707**

**Oak – 758**

## Maths Parent Workshop



Thank you to all of the parents/carers who attended our maths workshops. At Stanton we teach maths through a mastery approach. The mastery approach focusses on fluency in early number and a confidence and flexibility with number.

The workshop shared information on these skills and how parents/carers can support children at home with early number.

## Keeping Children Safe



As well as keeping children safe in the “real world,” the online world creates another layer of risks that our young people may be exposed to and keeping on top of changes and developments can feel daunting at times. With context and risks changing all of the time we thought parents may find that information and guidance on how to keep safe online.

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

# It's Christmas Time!

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period. This guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please click on each image below for more information.



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.



**Parents** please contact your school if you would like to attend a parents internet safety workshop or have any concerns.

**Schools** please [contact us](#) if you would like a SKIPS Safety Net session delivered to your parent groups or staff.

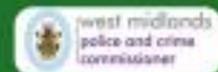
**Skips Educational**

Web: [www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)  
 Email: [info@skips.com](mailto:info@skips.com)  
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142 Newton Road  
 Great Barr  
 Birmingham B43 6BT

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Developed in partnership with



Keeping children safe online

[www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

## ANTIBULLYING WEEK AND ODD SOCKS DAY



This term, Stanton has been 'making a noise' about bullying. The school council shared a play they had made in assembly and reminded the school about our TELL, TELL, TELL

Children in Darling class designed socks, Amazon class created a super sock display with a message to remind us all year round, while Rhine class looked at the difference between bullying and banter.

## Whole School trip to the REME Museum



The whole school had a fun and interactive day at the REME Museum in Lyneham. Each class took part in a STEM challenge - to work as a team and either create a moving vehicle that would move a tank or explore the same forces at work in propulsion that the Royal Engineers used to power the Bloodhound LSR, which set new land speed records. The children also had time to look around the museum, learn about life in the Royal Air Force, some of the missions that soldiers embarked on, the equipment and vehicles they used, and the engineering feats behind the vehicles and machinery. The weather was very kind to us and the children thoroughly enjoyed challenging themselves on the assault course, guided by Army soldiers. Thank you to all at the REME Museum and for the parent volunteers who accompanied us - without you, we couldn't put these wonderful trips together. To watch the video of the day click [here](#)

## National Illustration Day

Last week, we marked the very first National Illustration Day by exploring the wonders created by children's illustrators. We visited the library to delve into our books and find our favourite illustrations to then recreate.

The children talked about their favourite illustrators and what they liked about their chosen illustration. We now have a beautiful Stanton Illustrators display adorning our library corridor.



### Forest School

This term Years 3 and 4 have had weekly Forest School sessions. Working with their class Topic of World War 2, we played games that required team-work and strategy, as well as being a lot of fun. The children also went on a treasure hunt, learning how to use a compass to find the next clue and ultimately the treasure chest! They also had the opportunity to use tools to make a bow and arrow, with some accomplished archery on show. We also had our very first Forest School campfire, with the children whittling their toasting sticks and enjoying an own-toasted marshmallow.



We have also seen some big changes happen to our Forest School area, which the whole school have been a part of. Every child in the school has planted a tree that will grow to become a hedge, which not only partitions the field and Forest school area, but also will support an abundance of wildlife. We also had an amazing opportunity to create the most wonderful hedgehog willow sculpture that will now become a part of our Forest School. Years 5 and 6 spent the first day creating the living willow dome, making the holes in the ground, sawing the ends off the willow and planting and gently bending them to create the dome structure. As we get to Spring this willow will grow and become spiky, like a hedgehog. It also means that we will have our own supply of willow to use creatively. On the second day, all of the children, starting with the youngest, learned how to close weave the willow to create the hedgehog's face. All of the children were amazing in their perseverance and were complimented on their attitude, behaviour and enthusiasm. Now all we need to do is find a name for the hedgehog!



Next Half-Term Forest School will take place for Darling Class on a Wednesday afternoon. If you are able to help on any of these days, please email Mrs Breen at [darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk)

## Sporting Update

Darling class (Reception) welcomed a new PE teacher (Mr. Carter) this term, and they have been learning some gymnastic skills, in particular jumping and landing. They have been really keen to use the apparatus and at the end of the lessons, with some very tired legs, have been ready for a sit down and story to finish the school day.

Here's a few words from Mrs Todd on what Amazon class have been working on: *Amazon class have been learning to aim in our Friday sessions. We have been practicing punting the ball, kicking it with the top of our feet. This has been tricky, as we are very good at kicking the ball, but aiming was a challenge. To test our aim, we played a few games similar to dodge ball, but with kicking the soft ball. It was really fun to have a go.*

*Last week, as the Reception and Year 1 children were away, we were able to be sports mentors for the nursery children. We learnt to aim when throwing and played seated bench ball in the hall with them. We weren't allowed to talk, so we had to communicate silently with our team and help the little ones to score, adjusting our aim and throwing power to help them catch. We really enjoyed helping them learn and would love to do this again soon!*

In Rhine class, the children have been busy with lacrosse on Monday afternoons as Nik Roberts, our national coach, puts them through their paces. On Friday afternoons, the children have been working with our dance coach (Miss Amy) to perform and create sequences to songs of their choice, with fluency and expression as well as describe and evaluate the effectiveness of performances, and giving ideas for improvements.

There have been several sporting trips too. On the 24<sup>th</sup> November, the girls from Years 1-3 took part in a footie fun festival at Abbeyfield School. The children I have spoken to about it said it was hugely enjoyable. On 1<sup>st</sup> December, our Reception and Year 1 children took part in a festive multiskills event again at Abbeyfield school. This got a big thumbs up from all who took part.

On 6<sup>th</sup> December, Miss Hyde took two teams of Rhine class netballers to Devizes leisure centre to play the 2<sup>nd</sup> netball league match of the season against Dauntsey's. It has been great to see the numbers of after school netballers increasing (almost by the week) and this is in no small part due to the enthusiasm of Miss Hyde who is a keen netballer herself.



Next term, Rhine will be returning to the swimming pool for one of their PE's sessions on Tuesdays, while Friday afternoons will be touch rugby. We also have a number of children rehearsing hard and participating in the Chippenham School's Dance Festival at the Neeld at the beginning of February.

**FOSS UPDATE**

Hi everyone,

it's been such a busy term of fundraising for FOSS. We raised £340 from selling the whole school tea towels which were very well received. And our Winter Fayre was incredibly successful, raising over £800 for the school. It was so lovely to see so many families coming to join in the fun and trying all the games and crafts that we had put together. We spend a lot of time carefully considering our events and what to offer so it's very rewarding to see everyone enjoying themselves.

FOSS donated money to the school this term to cover the cost of two coaches for the whole school trip to the REME Museum, as well as paying for the construction of the wonderful hedgehog sculpture in the Forest School area. All the children were able to work together and take part in this activity - a wonderful example of the unique things the school can do with money raised by FOSS. It will be a lovely legacy at the school for years to come - I can't wait to see the spikes come through in the Spring!

We finished off the term with tasty mince pies after the church service, where selling secondhand uniform raised a further £14. Please do keep donating uniform which is in a good, clean condition. And we finished the term with a popular non-uniform day! After Christmas we have an exciting raffle to win a Dyson V15 hoover worth nearly £700. Just perfect timing for a spot of spring cleaning, so I hope you're feeling lucky! More details on how to enter to follow next term.

As always, thank you for your support of our events this term. From everyone on the FOSS team, we wish all the staff and families at Stanton a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and hope you have a restful holiday.

See you in 2024!

Best wishes,

Yvonne,

Chair of FOSS.

**A fantastic donation from  
The James Dyson Foundation  
to continue our Winter fundraising**

**Win a  
V15  
RRP: £699.99**

**Draw will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

**V15 must be collected from Stanton St Quintin  
Primary School, SN14 6DQ by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

**Good luck! And thank you for supporting  
Friends of Stanton School**

Charity Number: 1094763

## Darling Class Update

This term has flown by and we have had a wonderful time exploring our topic 'Superheroes we know'. As always there is too much to cover in one newsletter, and hopefully you have been keeping up to date through our Class blog and Facebook, but here are a few highlights...

We have been very fortunate to have some amazing superheroes come to visit our class this term, including Amber the vet and Davina the firefighter. The children were fascinated to learn about the jobs they do and the visits certainly inspired some dramatic role play and animal rescues!



Role Play Writing – Writing that takes place in children's play is very meaningful for the children and setting up writing opportunities in different areas of the classroom has prompted some fantastic mark making and application of the phonics knowledge that they are mastering.



The children were invited to take part in a multi-skills morning at Abbeyfields. Wearing crowns, the children worked in teams, practised their ball skills and had a whole lot of fun.



In maths we have worked a lot of recognising 2D shapes by their properties, finding shapes in the environment and demonstrating and using positional language as we moved around different apparatus.



This term we had our first school trip. This is a big adventure for anyone, but especially at this age. The children were amazing and so enthusiastic as they took on the backpacker challenge around the museum, the STEM activity to create a vehicle that was able to carry a tank and tackled the army obstacle course.



This term we have been doing a lot of thinking and talking about safety – how we keep safe at home, in school, online and when we are out and about. The children put their knowledge into practise as they set up a road network complete with road safety signs.



## Amazon Class- Term 2, We're Off to London!

Amazon Class have enjoyed another fantastic term of learning during our term 2 geography-focused topic, 'We're Off to London!' Following on from our topic last term, we have been thinking about how London differs now to London in 1666.

We have enjoyed exploring the four countries that make up the United Kingdom, learning about their capital cities and the waters that surround each country. We have learnt that the continent we inhabit is called Europe and used lots of different geographical terms to explain our learning, such as; continent, country, oceans, seas, channels, island, monarchy. We have also learnt about the difference between human and physical features and can give examples of these from around the UK. Using 'Paddington's Guide to London', the children were inspired to create their own London Guides, detailing all they have learnt about their favourite London landmarks.



Exploring the story

from Peru by Michael Bond has been a true delight for the children and adults alike! The children have been captured by the story of this mischievous bear who travelled to London as a stowaway, meeting the Brown family and enjoying many wonderful adventures across London. This classic story inspired the children to



write their own Paddington Bear stories, exploring their own ideas for how Paddington Bear could get into mischief whilst visiting one of the many London landmarks. The children are very proud of their stories indeed!



In Science we have been learning about seasonal change, planning and creating experiments to monitor temperature and weather change. In Art, we have been exploring the work of artist Andy Warhol and his use of the Pop Art style. We gave our opinions of some of his most famous pieces and then imitated this style and used of repeated imagery to create our own Paddington Bear pop art artwork.

Our London Day was a huge highlight of this term when London came to Stanton. During the day we enjoyed taking part in a London landmarks hunt within the school groups, stepping into a huge map of London to direct our friends around the city and creating our very own 3D London maps. We created our own little Paddington Bear models, complete with suitcase and sandwich, and enjoyed retelling the story of The Naughty London Bus in the outdoor small world area.

Throughout this term, the children have been busy learning their lines and practising their performance of The Bethlehem Bake Off. We focused our oracy this term on learning how to project our voice to be heard, together with the use of precise articulation to be understood by others. We brought our learning of these oracy skills into our performance, making for an outstanding show that we hope you enjoyed watching just as much as we enjoyed performing.

We couldn't be prouder of Amazon Class's achievements this term.

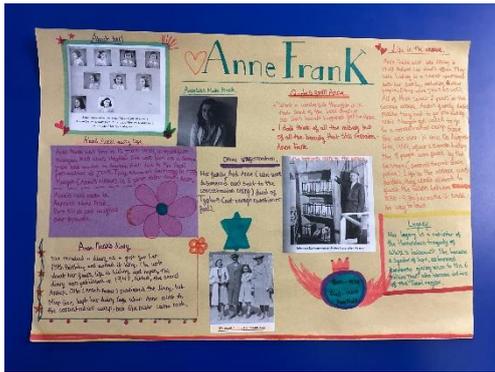
Please visit our blog to find out more about the exciting things we have been learning about during the term: [Amazon Class Blog](#).



of Paddington Bear: The Original Bear



## Rhine Class Update



In English, Year 3 and 4 have been using the Lion and Unicorn book by Shirley Hughes to explore the experiences of evacuees during WW2. They wrote short diary extracts, character studies and slowly built up some of the grammar and punctuation skills required to write an extended evacuee story of their own; the results of which were very impressive.



In Year 5 and 6 the children studied the Life of Anne Frank. They learnt about her diary, life and legacy. We then created posters about what we discovered, organising them into different areas with pictures and quotes from her diary.

In History, we have been learning about how and why War 2 started, which countries were involved and debated whether appeasement was a good idea. We used sources of evidence to find out about the Battle of Britain and studied photographs of the Blitz. Using techniques and ideas from Henry Moore's Shelter art we tried to capture the feelings of the people using the underground stations as bomb shelters.



Finally, we looked at how propoganda was used and created our own propoganda posters about an issue that was important to us.

This term's Science topic has been 'Sound.' The children have learnt about the difference between volume and pitch and how sound is created by vibrations that travel in waves. They have explored how different instruments create pitches and presented their learning in the form of their choice from Power Point presentations to posters and even songs!

In RE, we have been learning about the Christian Holy Trinity and the Baptism of Jesus by John. We have seen how it still influences Christians today through, art, prayer, the Gospels and practices such as Baptism or Christening. Music lessons have seen the Y5 and Y6 children studying the ukulele, which they demonstrated beautifully at the winter concert recently. As a class, we have been working with the genre of rap and in particular the song 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air', comparing and contrasting it to other Rap songs and pinpointing the pulse and rhythm as well as singing/rapping and playing along with our recorder at different points. Yes, Rap and the recorder!

For Computing, we have been polishing our word processing skills with the children busily typing, cutting, pasting and hyperlinking. We have also been learning more about online image and identity as part of our online safety education.