



# NEWSLETTER

## Issue 12

Motivate Educate Nurture



This week has been crazy! The children have all been busy bunnies; baking, making and creating. The Easter Egg entries were Egg-cellent and Egg-stremely hard to judge. Well done to everyone who entered, you will receive points for your house. On Wednesday, we came together as a community to think about the Easter story - it was great that so many were able to join us. There have been so many other special times and new learning experiences, I hope you enjoy reading this term's summary.

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to say a very special thank you to all the staff who have made the spring term so memorable, with so many experiences and opportunities for the children, as well as welcoming our special visitors.

We look forward to sharing more of your children's learning with you during the summer term. On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you for all your support and wish you an enjoyable Easter break.

Yours faithfully,

*Sarah Matthews*

Head of School

Next term's value



## Keeping Children Safe

Congratulations to everyone who took part in children's mental health week. We were so impressed with the fun and unique clothes, the superb art competition entries and the brilliant talents displayed at our talent show.

Altogether, you have raised £120.80 for Wiltshire Mind – wow! Well done everyone.



During the week, we also took part in the Wiltshire Council Art Competition, with children submitting their art work on the theme of My Voice Matters. There were a lot of entries from children all over Wiltshire.

Whilst Stanton Children were sadly not amongst the winners, we are very pleased to announce that one of our children's art was Highly Commended. Congratulations to Rosalie for your superb art work!

Wiltshire Council are sending certificates for every child that took part. We will share them in Praise once they are received. Thank you to everyone who entered and well done all of you for thinking about how Your Voice Matters!



## House Points

This term the House Captains have helped to organise pancake races and an Easter competition.

Thank you everyone for taking part. You can watch the pancake races [here](#).



HOUSE	ASH	BIRCH	OAK
TERM 4	404	410	406
OVERALL	1349	1375	1407

## STAFFING UPDATE

Next term we would like to welcome Myles Stapleton to the team. He will be working in Darling Class on Monday and Tuesdays.

## EASTER EXPERIENCE IN CHURCH

Thank you to Rev Sharon and the Gauzebrook Team for our Easter experience in the church and special Easter Service.



Hi everyone,

Thank you all for the donations towards the Easter Egg Hunt and Crazy Hair day. At the time of writing, we are yet to see the Crazy Hair creations in our non-uniform day, but no doubt the children will look amazing! Thank you for helping them look their craziest if you were involved. We really hope your child enjoys the egg hunt on the last day of term. A big thank you to the local Tescos and Morrisons who donated some of the eggs this year, which means more of your donations can go towards supporting the children at school.

Have you noticed the Year 6 Leaver's Hoodies that the children have been wearing? FOSS contributes to the cost of these each year as a special treat for the Year 6s. They always take pride in wearing them.

Our sponsored event this year is Challenge 24 which will start over the Easter Holidays and ends on Friday 3rd May. Please see the email which went home last week for all the details. We sent home a copy of the pledge sheet with the children this week, but just in case it is a bit crumpled at the bottom of a bag, there is a copy attached to the first email for you. We can't wait to hear all about the challenges the children are setting for themselves and how they are getting on. Don't forget to sponsor them (and add Gift Aid if you can) via our Just Giving page to encourage them to carry on: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/challenge24>

Wishing you all a refreshing Easter Holidays,

Best wishes, FOSS



## Forest School

Years 5 and 6 have enjoyed Forest School this term and have had the opportunity to take part in activities inspired by their class topic North Africa.

In the big woods, the children discussed what it would be like to be nomads – when they move to a new area how do they know what is around them? The children used woodland mapping skills to quickly create a wheel that depicted the lay of the land that showed where there was a water source and food. With this knowledge they decided on a good position for their base and worked together to build their dens and tipis. These were beautifully decorated with traditional North American symbols that they had made in a previous week, including the crow, a symbol of wisdom; fire representing cleansing and renewal; hoof prints showing the number of horses taken on a raid; an enclosed fish depicting the embodiment of water which was used to support the survival of their people.

The children have toasted marshmallows and enjoyed smores around the campfire and had a go at using knives, saws and mallets. They have worked and played harmoniously, enthusiastically and let their imaginations run wild.



## Sporting Update

Though not quite the weather we hoped for term 4 has been busy with Darling class enjoying yoga and bat and ball sessions to develop their balance and coordination. Rhine class enjoying both gymnastics and netball on Friday's and Amazon .....

There has been a good response to the healthy lifestyles initiative amongst our school community with many families trying various things and also trying out Street Tag as a way of getting some outdoor exercise.

Y5/6 have competed this term in a school's tag rugby competition at Chippenham rugby club. Whilst they didn't win many games this time, they enjoyed the experience and playing as part of a team. Some of the team told me they were also particularly pleased to receive a hotdog at the end of the tournament!

Next term (surely) the sun will be shining and we can enjoy the field more regularly for our PE sessions



### Match Report

*Written by Angus and Grace*

It was a fantastic trip to the Chippenham secondary schools for the netball tournament on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March, the year 5's won two matches and lost two matches.

At the end, all of us crossed our fingers and hoped that we would get into the finals, but sadly we did not. The teams that did, included: Monkton Park and another team we are not sure of. It was cold but we kept moving and cheering on our team when we were subbing off. We played against a team who have been our rivalries since the Cricket Tournament a couple of years ago and we lost by 1 point. We were sad but quickly got ourselves together. We won a

match against Kings Lodge, and we won one - zero. In another match, we could not count how many points they got! "They were amazing! Great play from them." We said afterwards. We all enjoyed it very much. Thank you to Emily for taking us there and back in her van, Luna (Emily's dog) is so cute! Also, a great big thank you to Miss Hyde, for teaching us netball and for organising this trip for us.

*Sonia thought it was: "Nice and it was really fun because people were kind, my favourite position was GK (goalkeeper)."*

*Elodie thought it was: "I enjoyed being in the position GS (goal shoot) because I had the choice to shoot into the hoop."*

*Megan thought it was: "Fun and exciting and my favourite part was being in the C (centre) position because I got to get the ball a lot."*

*Angus thought that it was: "Amazing because it was set up well and the adults there were really supportive my favourite position was GD (goal defence) because I liked to stop people scoring goals."*

*Grace thought it was: "Really fun and cool because the adults were supportive, my favourite position was GS (goal shoot) because I love to shoot."*

*Saoirse thought it was: "It was very cool but very cold, my favourite position was GA (goal attack) because I scored a goal."*

*Ethan thought it was: "It was fun, but I did not like getting hit in the mouth. My favourite position was GS (goal shoot) because Angus and I kept passing the ball, trying to score a goal, eventually we did, and we prevented the other team getting the ball."*

Thank you, Miss Hyde!

## World Book Day 2024



World Book Day 'SSQ style' was enjoyed by children and adults alike! Enjoying reading takes place every day at Stanton School, but World Book Day is always an exciting day to celebrate books and the joy they bring. A huge thank you to our team of librarians and staff for making the day so exciting for everyone. You can watch a video with some of the highlights [here](#).

## STANTON CHOIR SING AT MALMESBURY ABBEY

This term our amazing choir, led by Mrs Howarth, performed at a professional public concert in Malmesbury Abbey with Orchestra Pro Anima, (led by violinist Michael Bochmann MBE). This was a wonderful opportunity for our young singers, not only to hear and see professional players in performance but also to perform in a public concert. A big thank you to Mrs MacKenzie and Mrs Edwards for accompanying the children, we couldn't have done it without you. **You can watch a video of it [here](#).**



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE



## Darling Term 4, 'Superheroes we know'

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

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.



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.



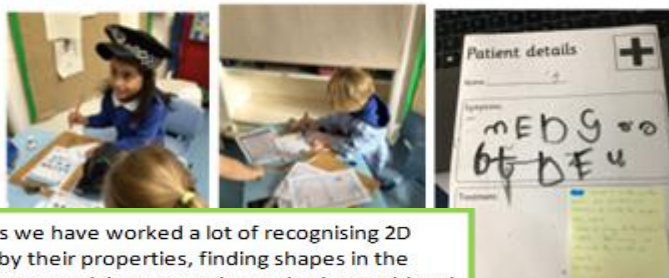
We have been very fortunate to have some amazing superheroes come to visit our class this term, including Amber the vet and Davina the firefighter. The children were fascinated to learn about the jobs they do and the visits certainly inspired some dramatic role play and animal rescues!



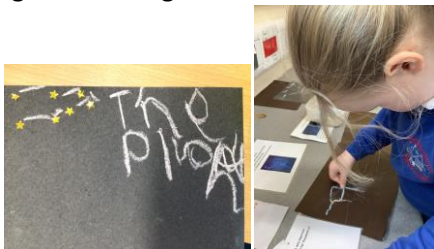
The children were invited to take part in a multi-skills morning at Abbeyfields. Wearing crowns, the children worked in teams, practised their ball skills and had a whole lot of fun.



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.



Look Up! We have shared numerous fiction and non-fiction books about the night sky, as well as some of the myths and legends surrounding the naming of some of the star constellations. We had a go at creating some of these ourselves.



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.



## Amazon Class- Term 4, African Adventures

We've had another super term of exciting learning experiences in Amazon Class as part of our 'African Adventures' topic. Our focus on the continent of Africa has been a great way of comparing the warmer parts of our world with the cold climates we explored last term.

Delving into the vibrant culture of Africa has sparked lots of interest and curiosity- learning about the 54 countries that make up Africa and the many features and landmarks; focusing in on the country of Kenya; taking a virtual tour of the African Savanna and spotting the Big 5;



exploring the Maasai Mara tribe and their traditions and learning

about how foods are grown and produced on the African lands. We particularly enjoyed learning about Fairtrade produce and sampling chocolate containing different percentages of cocoa beans!

In art, we have explored the symmetrical patterns used within Ndebele artwork and how this is used to decorate homes and buildings within certain parts of

Africa. We then had a go at creating our own impersonations of this style. We also sampled with watercolours to create stunning sunset backdrops upon our animal silhouettes. After learning about the age-old tradition of African women carrying large baskets of food, water and other produce on their heads, we created oil pastel artwork. We finished off our African Art unit this term by creating aboriginal patterned pottery.



We have all thoroughly enjoyed completing our D&T African Masks project this term, starting by exploring the different purposes and features of masks, before designing and making our own African lion masks. We used many different skills, including; planning, designing, cutting, sawing, decorating and evaluating.

In English, we have been adventuring through the modern folktale of Lila and the Secret of Rain written by David Conway. We have learnt how to use a range of different grammar features



and writing techniques, such as; expanded noun phrases, similes and the power of three to bring our own writing to life. We planned and wrote our own innovated folktales with lots of exciting ideas for how Lila could make the sky rain over the barren African plains.

Other memorable learning this term includes; African dancing, gymnastics with Miss Hyde, learning about animal habitats in science with Mrs Todd, World Book Day fun and Easter activities at the end of term. A super end to the spring term. **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 Term 4, North America



On 14<sup>th</sup> March, Rhine class visited the American Museum in Claverton nr, Bath. Our first activity was a very informative presentation about Native American culture and history with the museum's educational guide. Afterwards, the children had a break in the well-manicured gardens trying and mostly succeeding in not standing on too many of the plants as they burnt off some steam. Next was a tour around the ground floor of the museum with some hands on exhibits to explore and even a trip into an authentic western saloon! After considerable excitement, it was time for our packed lunch followed by a session

where the children got to handle authentic period artefacts and try and guess their functions. The final part of the day was perhaps the most eagerly anticipated: the gift shop! The children spent quite a long time (ask the bus driver) pontificating over what souvenirs to buy and then even longer trying to pay for them. Many thanks to Mr Woods, Mrs Cole and Mrs Phizacklea for accompanying us and making our trip possible and more enjoyable.

This term Year 5 & 6 have been learning about the Underground

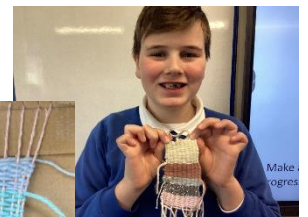
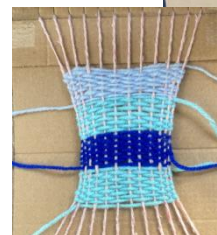


Railroad but it has nothing to do with trains. It was a secret organisation that existed in the America that helped escaped enslaved people from the South to reach places of safety in the North. The children were excited to discover they use a secret language and codes.

English for Year 3 & 4 this term has been mainly focused around our book (The Fossil Hunter) about the famous palaeontologist Mary Anning. We first wrote a practice explanation of how volcanoes are formed and erupt and then used that text to write explanations about fossils. The children have also produced a biographical presentation on Google Slides about Mary Anning's colourful life. Complete with audio recording of them reading their text.

A link with our work on fossils has been to our previous term's topic of rocks and soils and also this term's science on inheritance and evolution. The class have learned about the Theory of Evolution as proposed by Charles Darwin and considered inheritance, adaptation and natural selection as the key drivers behind the theory. The children have looked at examples contained in the fossil record.

In art, inspired by the artist Shan Goshorn the children developed their weaving skills on a homemade loom - some very impressive work.



It was also with anticipated delight that the Year 6's received the hoodies, just in time for Bikeability.



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

