

Darling Class NEWSLETTER SUMMER TERM 2 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter our last term of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to say how lucky we feel to have spent this year with your children. It has been a joy to watch them learn new skills, progress in their learning and mature in their personal and social skills. Here's to a wonderful Summer Term!

Monday & Tuesday: Mrs Hunter

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: Mrs Breen

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Major & Mrs Harwood

Topic – Seaside Fun!

The seaside and coast offer an abundance of exciting learning opportunities that span all areas of the curriculum, whilst allowing scope for children's imaginations to lead the way in their learning and play. We also have our seaside trip to Weston-Super-Mare to look forward to, and we will send out good thoughts for the weather to be kind to us!

Spring Term 1	
PSED / PSHE	In PSHE this term we will be thinking about and discussing how we grow and change as we get older. We will cover topics such as how we can stay healthy, the needs of babies and what we can do now that we couldn't do as a baby. We will be discussing bullying and people we could get help from. We will also be thinking about the parts of our bodies which are private and who we can talk to about our private parts. We will be talking about our transition for September and reviewing the highlights of this year.
Maths	We will be exploring lots of areas in Maths this term. Reception will be focusing on halving and sharing, odd and even numbers, mass, volume and capacity, money and data. Year 1 will be covering mass and space before undertaking an end of year revision of all areas and then addressing any areas highlighted in the assessment.
English	The first text we will be using this half term is Stella and the Seagull, by Georgina Stevens. From the text, the children will learn about actions they can take to help and protect nature and write about these in the form of posters, instructions and a short guide. They will also discuss emotions of the characters, act and write in role. They will also write their own narrative based on the key events in the book. In phonics, Reception will be continuing to expand their recognition of 'two letter one sound' and applying these in their reading and writing. Year 1 will continue to learn some new sound spellings and consolidate what they have learned over this past year.
Science / Understanding the World	We will be continuing our unit on plants this term, continuing to watch our plants grow and updating our plant diaries to show what is happening. We will compare a wide range of plants including garden and wild plants, fruit and vegetable plants and trees. We will finish the year looking back at all the topics we have covered.
Computing	Computing this term will see us having lots of fun exploring moving robots called Beebots! We will learn how to press buttons to programme them to move in different directions. We will plan routes using sequences of commands and solve some directional problems!
History / Geography Understanding the World	In history we will be looking at changes within living memory, revealing aspects of change in national life, in the context of going to the seaside – what was it like going to the seaside 100 years ago. The children will be asked to find out what seaside holidays were like for their grandparents and compare this to their own experiences of going to the seaside. Year 1 will look at historical sources to compare and contrast. Following our Class trip to Weston-Super-Mare we will look more closely at physical and human features of the coast and seaside.
Physical Development / PE	PE this half term will be Object Control and Athletics...and of course...Sports Day preparation! We are also very fortunate to have been offered 'balance bike training', which will take place the first Monday back for children in Reception.
Art and DT / Expressive Art and Design	This half term we will do a mix of Art and DT. In DT we will be following instructions to make pinwheel sandwiches, nutritional boats and designing a seaside picnic. In Art we are looking at work by the artist Amiria Gale and using his work as an inspiration for their own pencil drawings of shells. We will also be looking at artists who have created art from ocean plastic to raise awareness of the damage that is caused to ocean life. For this we will be asking for donations of plastic – bottle tops, bottles, sandwich bags, plastic wrapping, rubber bands.
RE / Understanding the World	We will be learning about Islam as a world religion and how it was founded and some of its celebrations; including Islamic New Year, the Day of Ashura, the celebration of Mawlid al-Nabi, Ramadan, Eid-Al-Fitr and the Hajj. We will look at some of the similarities and differences between these celebrations and the celebrations we have learned about in other world religions.
Music	'Your Imagination' is our music topic this term which will see us listen to and appraise songs, play games to warm up our voices, learn to sing new songs and then perform them. We will be focusing on beat, rhythm and pitch.

P.E

PE days will be **Mondays** and **Thursdays**. On PE days we ask that all children come to school wearing PE clothing (joggers or shorts, school t-shirt) and footwear (trainers, no lace ups) for PE to ensure that they can fully take part. Please help your child to practise taking off and putting on their socks and shoes independently.

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 recognition and spelling of high frequency words.

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. Please briefly record when your child reads by writing your initials on their reading bookmark. 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.

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

Year 1 Phonics Screening

A reminder that all Year 1 children will sit the statutory Phonics screening assessment during the week of June 9th.

Forest School

Forest School will continue to be on **Friday** afternoons, with the first session on **Friday 13th June**. 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. 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. So, if you are able to volunteer (even if it is only once a term) please email darlingclass@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk or speak to Mrs Breen.

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. Sunscreen will need to be applied to your child before they arrive at school.

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.

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 class email: 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