

Newsletter Date  
October 2023

# Stanwick Primary Newsletter



It has been wonderful to see the return of the children to school this term. We have been impressed with the way that they have settled into their new classes and are embracing the new challenges ahead.

In particular, we would like to mention our new Ladybird class who have settled in to school life so well. Our older children have really impressed us with their mature attitude and are proving to be excellent role models for the younger children.

Mrs Neild will be leaving us at the end of this term for her maternity leave, we send her our very best wishes and look forward to seeing her soon. Mr Bosworth will be stepping into Mrs Neild's role in the meantime.

Please make a note that Braiswick photography will be in school on Friday 3rd November to take individual photographs. Please ensure that your child comes into school on that day in their school uniform. Please send your child with their PE kit to change into if they usually have PE on a Friday.

The date for our Christmas lunch has changed and is now on **Tuesday 19th December**. If you would like your child to have Christmas lunch please book this via WisePay as soon as you can, this is a wonderful annual tradition here at Stanwick school and not to be missed!

Earlier this term, we had a Mufti day to raise money for the Nene Education Trust's chosen charity - Kelly's Heroes. We raised an amazing £190.16, thank you all for your generosity.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a safe and happy half term holiday, and we look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 1st November.

## Coming up Next Term

**1st November**  
School opens to pupils

**2nd November**  
Y6 SATS evening

**3rd November**  
Individual Photographs

**7th & 9th November**  
Parent Evenings

**1st December**  
Year 3 Sharing Assembly

**6th & 7th December**  
Christmas Performances

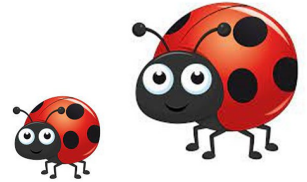
**8th December**  
Whole School Pantomime visit

**19th December**  
Christmas Lunch

**21st December**  
Christmas Party day

**21st December**  
School closes

## Ladybird Class



This term we have been welcoming the new Ladybird class to life at Stanwick Primary School. The Ladybirds are working really hard to develop their independence, build new friendships and develop their confidence and resilience. They have all settled so well! Mrs Taylor-Jacob, Mrs Smith and Mrs Hearn could not be prouder of them all!

Ladybird's have had their term filled with 'firsts' – starting with their very first lunchtimes. All of the lunchtime staff commented on how polite, friendly and independent that the Ladybirds are as they lined up, waited their turn, ate their food and then scraped their own trays – another super proud moment for us all! The Ladybirds are such good eaters and give everything a good try - we were all blown away by how well the Ladybirds can use their cutlery. They have been chopping and cutting and using their knives, forks and spoons so sensibly.

We then had our first PE lessons, we have been learning how to warm up our bodies – playing lots of listening games such as the Traffic Light game and the Cars, Planes and Trains game, which has been firm favourite! We have all been very impressed with how well they are listening and following instructions. We have been developing our balancing skills – learning how to use our arms to support us and how to walk heel to toe across different balancing equipment.

Lots of the Ladybird class have been enjoying attending the running club on Tuesday lunchtime with Mrs Nottage. Mrs Nottage wanted to share how well you are doing and what fantastic listeners you all are! We love your enthusiasm for fitness and keeping healthy!

We have been getting to know each other through our topic 'Me and my community and lets explore' We have talked about our families – we have created 'All about me sheets' with photos of our families, pets and special toys. The Ladybirds have loved sharing these with their new friends and it has been a great way to start conversations and share interests with one another.

Outdoor learning has started for the Ladybird class and they have absolutely loved exploring our back fields and the natural environment that we are lucky enough to have at school. Every Wednesday, we spend the whole afternoon outside. We start our session with a perimeter walk – looking at what has changed, noticing the colour of the leaves or the effects that the weather has had on the natural environment. We spent time learning how to roll the tyres, collect sticks to use in the sand pit- mix up our own mud pies and jump and land safely from the tractor tyres.

We are so lucky to have such an incredible and enthusiastic class!

## Squirrel Class

Wow! What a brilliant first term we have had in Year One. This term our Super Squirrels have really enjoyed learning all about our new topic 'Childhood'. We have explored the stages of life and used these different stages to create timelines. We have travelled back through time to discuss what a family tree is and who we each have on our family trees. This evoked lots of discussion, which the children really enjoyed, especially when it came to working together to create a family tree. We know that the children are all very excited to continue with their topic after half term, where we will be learning what childhood was like in the 1950s.

In our science lessons, we have been learning all about materials. The children have been distinguishing between an object and the material it is made from and consolidating their science understanding through finding natural materials in the environment.

The Rainbow Challenges have been very popular this term and we have been amazed at the independence the children are showing. They are really engaged in their learning and really enjoying the range of challenges each week. From Funky Phonics, Marvellous Maths, where they are deepening their maths knowledge, to letting their creative juices flow at the Creative Station with their amazing sketches of the Gruffalo, which links in with their English topic. They have also had lots of fun printing and mixing paints whilst exploring their art topic.

Squirrels have loved their English lessons based on character descriptions, using The Gruffalo as their stimulus for their fantastic writing. They have been using an incredible range of adjectives to describe the Gruffalo, whilst also using this knowledge to then explore how the Gruffalo would move through the forest. We have been blown away with their creativity and eagerness to be inventive with their writing.

In maths, we have been learning about place value within 10. It has been lovely to see the children's confidence grow as we have moved through the topic. They have been able to count on and backwards within 10, compare numbers within 10 and even use mathematical vocabulary such as, less than, greater than and equal to, more confidently. More and more children are having a go at our 'blue box challenges' which is wonderful to see. Squirrels have shown great enthusiasm and determination in our maths lessons!

Squirrel class love their daily reading for pleasure time, where they are currently listening to "The Boy Who Grew a Tree" with Mrs Evans and a fantastic range of picture books with Miss Miller. All the children are fully engaged and listen beautifully whilst the story is being read and then we enjoy a fabulous book talk afterwards. We will continue with our fortnightly library visit after half term, which has become a highlight of the week!





## Fox Class



Welcome to Fox class! We are so proud of the children and how well they have settled into Year 2 and the fun and independence that this brings. It has been so lovely to continue being a part of your children's education journey and we are loving every second! The children have really

embraced being the oldest children in KS1 and have been excellent role models to the younger children in the school. A personal highlight for us all this term was the harvest assembly. As we are now in Year 2, it meant that we ran the assembly, introduced all the songs, and even learnt a poem! We really embraced this responsibility and wowed all the adults with our confident speaking and singing.

We started our term off with a wow day for our new topic 'Movers and Shakers'. The children enjoyed creating a spaceship using tyres on the field and walking on the moon with 'Neil Armstrong'. We drew wonderful pictures of Neil Armstrong and read the Mary Anning and Rosa Parks Little People books. This was a wonderful day and was full of smiles, memories and great learning experiences! Throughout our history lessons we have learnt about a locally significant historical person William Barratt, categorised significant people in the past and compared Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We really enjoyed discussing what makes a good role model and why some historians categorise Christopher Columbus as a good role model and others a bad role model. The Foxes have LOVED this history topic and cannot wait to continue it at the start of next term.

The children have adored their science lessons learning about the things humans need to survive. We've been very creative using playdough, paper plates and enjoyed taking part in lots of experiments including testing different exercises and using oil to show why soap is important! Foxes are such a creative bunch and, as always, have thrived in our art lessons this term. Our new sketch books have been a real hit and we have loved mixing primary colours to make secondary colours. A highlight for us all was working on our value of the term - teamwork and creating art on a large piece of paper on the playground. We mixed the colours together and used sticks and leaves to create our masterpiece!

In English, we have written amazing instructions. We enjoyed learning about adverbs, time conjunctions and command and question sentences and using these in our writing. We then made planets out of clay, glitter and sequins and had so much fun! Miss Holmes was so impressed with our planet instructions and the effort we put in. We have also read 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and become immersed in all things space and aliens! Foxes always love when it is time for maths. They have shown a brilliant understanding of numbers to 100 and have wowed us with how much they have remembered from Squirrel class. The children showed great perseverance in flexibly partitioning numbers and enjoyed doing this practically. Foxes have also loved counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and enjoy joining in with the space-themed videos!

What an amazing start to what I know will be another wonderful year with a brilliant group of children. Miss Holmes and Mrs Carter are so excited to spend another year with you all! Let's keep up the great start we have had superstars!



## Hedgehog Class



Year 3 have had a great start to the year. They have been working incredibly hard and are settling into the new routines of Key Stage 2. We have loved our topic 'Through the Ages', beginning with our Wow day where the children thoroughly enjoyed investigating everyday life in the Stone Age, building shelters, cave painting and probably our favourite part, building a fantastic biscuit Stonehenge.

In English the children have written some very informative non-chronological reports using everything they have learned in their Topic lessons and produced some wonderful playscripts based on "Stone Age Boy" which gave us the opportunity to get outside for some Stone Age drama. The class have enjoyed reading 'Stig of the Dump' in their Guided Reading sessions and have worked on a variety of skills to understand and question the text.

In science we have been learning about the importance of nutrition for humans and other animals. We have learnt about the role of a skeleton and muscles and identify animals with different types of skeleton. Hedgehogs have looked at nutrition and what is needed for a good diet and really enjoyed looking at the food groups and where each of them belonged.

In Maths, Hedgehogs have been learning about place value and we have recently moved on to addition and subtraction. In our maths lessons we have demonstrated determination and perseverance when attempting challenging problems! We have been partitioning numbers up to 1,000 so that we really understand the value of each column.



Homework has been AMAZING with high standards. We have seen such a range from posters, diaries, quizzes to recorded newspaper reports. We have loved the biscuit and clay Stonehenges and even some impressive Stone Age tools. As a class, we have enjoyed hearing the children's experiences of making prehistoric shelters and paints, instructions on how to wash a woolly mammoth and some well researched information about Cheddar Man. Keep up the fantastic work!

Mrs Corp and Mrs Bird are really proud of our awesome class and are looking forward to carrying on our fantastic learning next term.





## Badger Class



Wow! What a start to our new school year for Badgers. I have been so proud of how all of the children have settled in to their new classroom and new routines. We have had so many fantastic learning opportunities with our first topics, it is a tough job squeezing it all into a short newsletter.

What I can say, is that all of the children have really embraced our History topic 'INVASION' and have loved learning about the Anglo-Saxons. We have used role-play, group work and buddy work, to get to grips with how the Anglo-Saxons came to settle in Britain and the children have created some fantastic diaries entries from the perspective of Anglo- Saxon invader. I have loved hearing about some of the places and events that the children have been to, outside of school, which has been linked to this topic.

Our topic 'FOOD AND THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM', has enabled the children to get hands on and creative! They have carried out an experiment to understand which liquids are best for our teeth, have designed and made their own healthy bread rolls and built a messy human digestive system with household objectives.

We have been so lucky to have the NMPAT team in to lead the African drumming sessions. The children are really engaged and cannot wait to be able to share their amazing performance with you towards the end of next term!

I think what has impressed me the most, is the children's dedication and desire to complete homework and bring it in to show and tell. They have been so proud of their masterpieces! I would like to thank you all for supporting this, as it really does help to keep them engaged in the topics and consolidate their learning.

Keep up the amazing work next term 'Brilliant Badgers'!

## Owl Class

Year 5 have come back with a BANG! They have been so busy and really enjoying every minute!

In English, we have been writing Narrative stories which involved their character being transported back in time to ancient China. Their creative and descriptive writing blew me away!

In Maths we have been refreshing our skills of mental addition and subtraction and applying these to multistep problems. In some case this has been quite challenging, but the children have shown the school value of perseverance and resilience, which has really paid off.

The children's favourite topic so far has been science, as we have been investigating forces and mechanisms. This included an experiment with gear changes and distance where the children could bring in their bikes.



Everyone worked brilliantly in teams and we all gathered great evidence to support our investigation.

We have also been making parachutes and pulleys in class to test other theories about mechanical advantage.

In Art, the children have been looking at landscape drawings and using focus points such as perspective and the horizon to create pictures based on what they could see from the school field.

Finally, the children have loved the opportunity to use the school library every week, where they have been exposed to several other books and genres, which all the children have taken full advantage of!

Well done Year 5! Keep up the hard work.



## Eagle Class

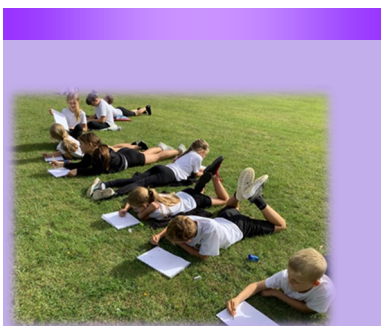
It has been a brilliant start to the school year for our new Eagles! We started the year by appointing our Junior Leadership roles following the children writing letters of application and then being interviewed; what a great experience for the children. Congratulations to all the children – they handled the process very well and it was lovely to see the children being pleased for their peers as well as themselves.

Another exciting part of the term has been getting to know our buddies and their families. Eagles have enjoyed helping out in the lunch hall and showing the new Ladybirds how to collect their lunches and helping to 'tidy up' (play!) in the Foundation classroom during lunchtime too. We have also spent time reading books with our buddies and more recently, we joined the Ladybirds for their first outdoor learning session of the academic year. What a treat! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our topic for the Autumn term is 'Maafa' and the children have found it incredibly interesting. We have particularly enjoyed our reading book, *Freedom*. Recently, there was an audible groan when the children were told to close their books, as they were so keen to read on! Although our topic has been quite sad to study, we have still found it interesting and the children have been very sensitive as we have spent time discussing the decisions people made in the past and their impact on life today.

In Science, we have studied the circulatory system and the children enjoyed some practical lessons, pretending to be blood flowing through the body, heart and to the lungs to get oxygen. We also enjoyed making representative blood samples! In music this term the children have been enjoying learning songs that link to our topic and we have been busy rehearsing them ready for our Sharing Assembly. It has also been lovely for some of the children who are learning an instrument to share their talent with the rest of the class.

What a busy but wonderful start to the school year; we are so excited to see our Eagles grow and mature as the year goes on.



## Sunshine Club

It has been so lovely to see some of our Ladybird class join us at breakfast and after school club, they have settled in so quickly.



With Halloween fast approaching, the children have been busy decorating our Halloween display board, we have been very impressed with their creativity!

With Christmas coming, could we please ask that if you are having a sort out, please think of Sunshine Club. We would love to re-home any old toys, games etc. Please no puzzles though as we have those in abundance.

Our numbers are rising rapidly and for many sessions, the club is at full capacity. If you haven't booked the session, we will have to turn your child away, so please remember to book your child/children in advance.

Thank you  
Sunshine club team 🌻

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the holiday, please contact Mr Bosworth on **07851 259332**.

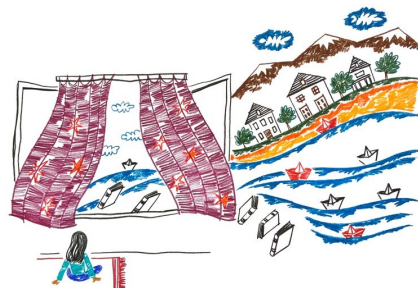
Alternatively, for other external safeguarding organisations, please [use this link](#) or contact;

- **MASH:** (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) – Telephone **0300 126 7000** – select 'Option 1'
- **Designated officer**– Telephone 01604 362993  
email: [LADOConsultations@NCTrust.co.uk](mailto:LADOConsultations@NCTrust.co.uk)

Other information or support can be found here;

[Parenting and relationship support - Families and carers \(nctrust.co.uk\)](#)

[Hanni and the Magic Window | Childnet](#)





## *School Calendar 2023/2024*

### **October**

20<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 sharing assembly – 3pm – parents/carers of year 6 invited to watch

20<sup>th</sup> – School closes for half term

31<sup>st</sup> – Training Day

### **November**

1<sup>st</sup> – Back open to pupils

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3:45pm – Year 6 SATS evening

3<sup>rd</sup> – Individual School Photos

7<sup>th</sup> – 3:45pm onwards – Parent/Carer Evening 1

9<sup>th</sup> – 3:45pm onwards – Parent/Carer Evening 2

### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> – Year 3 sharing assembly – 3pm – parents/carers of year 3 invited to watch

6<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – KS1 Christmas Performance

6<sup>th</sup> – 6pm – KS2 Christmas Performance

7<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – KS2 Christmas Performance

7<sup>th</sup> – 6pm – KS1 Christmas Performance

8<sup>th</sup> – Whole school pantomime visit

19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Meal

21<sup>st</sup> – Christmas Class Party Day

21<sup>st</sup> – School closes for Christmas break

### **January**

3<sup>rd</sup> – Training Day

4<sup>th</sup> – School opens to children

23<sup>rd</sup> – Explorer Dome visit to school for all year groups



# *School Calendar 2023/2024 continued*

## **February**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 1 sharing assembly – 3pm – parents/carers of year 1 invited to watch

16<sup>th</sup> – School closes for half term

26<sup>th</sup> – School opens to children

## **March**

7<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day Breakfast and activities

11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 residential

15<sup>th</sup> – Year 2 sharing assembly – 3pm – year 2 parents/carers invited to watch

19<sup>th</sup> – 3:45pm onwards – Parent/Carer Evening 1

21<sup>st</sup> – 3:45pm onwards – Parent/Carer Evening 2

28<sup>th</sup> – Closes for Easter break

## **April**

15<sup>th</sup> – School reopens to pupils

23<sup>rd</sup> April Year 5 swimming begins

26<sup>th</sup> – Mini Marathon event

## **May**

6<sup>th</sup> – Bank holiday – school closed

10<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 Sharing Assembly – 3pm – year 4 parents/carers invited to watch

13<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 SATS week

19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> – Year 5 and 6 residential

24<sup>th</sup> – Family Fun Afternoon – 1:30pm – 3pm – all families invited

24<sup>th</sup> – School closes for half term

## **June**

3<sup>rd</sup> – School reopens to pupils

3<sup>rd</sup> – Year 1 Phonics window opens

3<sup>rd</sup> – Year 4 Times table check window opens

21<sup>st</sup> – Year 5 sharing assembly – year 5 parents/carers invited to watch

## **July**

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July – Transition Days

10<sup>th</sup> – 9:30am – Sports Morning – parents/carers invited to watch

12<sup>th</sup> – End of year reports come out to parents

15<sup>th</sup> – 3:30pm – Parent Report Discussions

16<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Graduation – 2pm Foundation parents/carers invited to attend

19<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 end of year Assembly – 2:30pm – year 6 parents/carers invited to attend

19<sup>th</sup> – School closes for summer