



Roots that Strengthen.

Branches that Reach.

Fruit that Flourishes.



Spring 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

High expectations in all things, sprinkled with a sense of fun!

I love our Friday Achievement Assemblies because this is a time to reflect on our week and celebrate the successes we've had in a joyous way.



It doesn't matter what area of school life we are acknowledging, be it attitudes to learning, conduct of behaviour or inspiring personal development; the Achievement Assembly is always a happy half-hour. It is a time when children, staff and parents come together to praise and reward those who have met our expectations to do their best in an environment where there is laughter and fun.

I like using this assembly image every week because it captures the journey that the children go on, either in a single lesson, over the course of a week, throughout the term or as the year goes by.



Playtime



Seeing the children move beyond thinking, "I can't do it", to asking, "How do I do it?", and arriving at the moment of achievement when they can say, "Yes, I did it!" is what we all strive for and love to celebrate here at Standlake

This copy of the newsletter combines Term 2 and Term 3 events because we were unable to get the Christmas addition out last term. So enjoy this bumper addition of achievements and events that have always been sprinkled with a sense of fun.

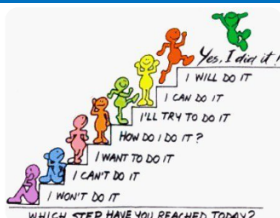
Have a lovely half-term

Andrew Denham

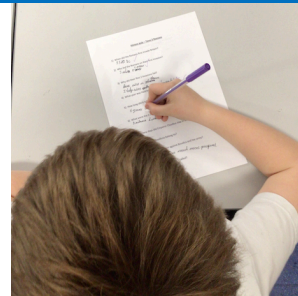


Last Day of Term: It's Tridday!

The first part of the day saw all the children complete **Learning Quizzes** about the learning they have done this term. This helps the teachers identify how much the children have learnt and if there is anything individuals, groups or the whole class need to revisit next term. Next the children completed one or two of the **50 Things to do before you leave Standlake Primary School** activities. The final part of the day was an **Inter-House Competition**. The challenge was to be the House Team that achieved the most records set on outdoor physical challenges and events. See below for the Record Breakers!



Learning Quizzes



50 Things Activities



Inter-House Competition

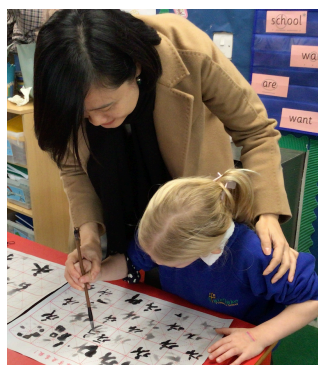


The Record Breakers!

Year Group		Hula Hoop	Beanbags in Bucket	20 Metre Sprint	Netball Shots 7/10	Track Lap	Climbing Wall	Tyre Roll	Monkey Bars	Parallel Bars	Obstacle Loop
1	Boy	-	Oliver 10	Aiden 5.2s	Albie 3	Oliver 42s	Albie 30s	Axel 29s	William 30s	Albie 34s	Patrick 1m45s
	Girl	Sylvie 3s	Beatrice 1	Beatrice 7.2s	Lucy-Marie 1	Lucy-Marie 48s	Lucy-Marie 29.3s	Gracie 1m35s	Sylvie 11s	Lucy-Marie 32s	Gracie 1m24s
2	Boy	Seb 10s	Archie 7	Hayden 6.7s	-	Kyle 51s	River 18s	Hayden 27s	George 10.3s	George 55s	River 58s
	Girl	Robyn 3s	-	-	-	Layla 50s	Layla 33s	Layla 35s	Layla 10s	Robyn 45s	Layla 1m3s
3	Boy	Oliver 17.7s	Finley H 9	Henry 5.1s	Finley H 7	Henry 39s	Isaac 21.7s	Arthur 17s	Gabe 21s	Isaac 1m8s	Isaac 53s
	Girl	Beth 1m55s	Beth 8	Beth 4.6s	Beth 6	Beth 43s	Shannon-Rose 27s	Lena 32s	Eadie 15s	Eadie 52s	Lena 59s
4	Boy	Finley 8.5s	Ezra 8	Kaleb 4.5s	Mark 6	Reilly 38s	Mark 59s	Finley 17s	Finley 10.4s	Finley 2m5s	Finley 45s
	Girl	Miley 14.3s	Miley/Jasmine 1	Annie 4.8s	Annie, Emilee& Sienna 2	Sienna 40s	Tilly 58s	Jasmine 25.5s	Tilly 12.7s	Miley 3m22s	Miley 1m8s
5	Boy	Finn 8.5s	Oscar 7	Oscar 4.4s	Jude 8	Jude 34s	Jude/Frederick 46s	Aaron 20s	Frederick 12s	Frederick 2m26s	Frederick/ Rhys 40s
	Girl	Olivia 1m2s	Vienna 3	Leila 4.8s	Ciara4	Sophia 38s	Sophia 39s	Olivia 22s	Olivia 10s	Ciara 2m2s	Sophia 44s
6	Boy	Freddie 38.5s	Freddie 5	Freddie 4.3s	Freddie 6	Freddie 39.4s	Archie 41s	Archie 21s	Harry 25s	Jacob 23s	Archie 37s
	Girl	Livi 4.4s	-	Grace 4.5s	Chloe 8	Annabella 38s	Annabella 48s	Sammi 21s	Eliza 13s	Eliza 1m	Eliza 40s

Chinese Culture Afternoon

We had a wonderful day experiencing some Chinese culture with our new friends from Oxford Brookes University to celebrate Chinese New Year. After an informative assembly, the children got to practice calligraphy writing, do some paper folding to make hopping frogs and decorate masks like they do for Chinese operas.



Open Classroom

There was a lovely atmosphere around the school when we opened our classroom doors and invited parents and grandparents in. It was an opportunity for families to join in with an activity and look through the work the children had done this term.



Shoe Box Appeal

Our annual Shoe Box appeal was once again a huge success with over 100 boxes being collected. The children enjoyed passing the boxes along the human chain from the school to St Giles church. The boxes will be sent to our friends in the school in Oradea in Romania.



Romanian School Fundraiser

The children organised (with some help from the grown-ups!) stalls and games to raise money for our link school in Romania. It was a very successful and fun event, raising a total of £237!



Boccia Tournament

Well done to our Standlake Boccia Team who took part in the Eynsham Partnership Academy tournament. There were some very tense and close games with all of the children delivering some brilliant shots! They did the school proud.



Remembrance Day

The school community came together for a Time of Reflection at the start of the day and a wreath was laid in our Peace Garden by our oldest and youngest pupil.



Indoor Athletics

Congratulations to Team Standlake who came 2nd in the Eynsham Partnership Academy Indoor Athletics Event. We saw some fantastic sprinting, throwing and jumping. Next stop the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris!



Parent v Teachers Quiz Evening

Congratulations to The High Street 5) quiz team who won the Parents v Teachers quiz night. We had 4 parent teams and two staff teams. It was a lot of fun and a lovely opportunity for staff and parents to have a giggle together.



Cross Country

Well done to the children who took part in the Eynsham Partnership Academy Cross Country event. The weather was truly dreadful but this didn't deter some brilliant running from everyone, with several children coming in the Top 10 of their age group! This meant that our U9 Team of runners qualified to take part in the West Oxfordshire County Final. They were awesome! A special mention also goes to our only female representative who came 14th overall!



New School Pets

The School Council had an exciting trip into Witney to collect our new school pet guinea pigs! Paid for with funds raised from the School Council's Tuck Shop, they are here for children to play with during playtimes and for some children to cuddle when they are sad or upset. We are sure they are going to become very well loved Standlake pets!



Ginger



Oreo



Roots that Strengthen.

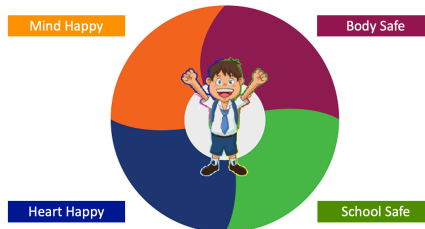
Branches that Reach.

Fruit that Flourishes.

Wonder Wednesday

Our weekly Wonder Wednesday assemblies are written to ask a 'Big Question' about local, national or international topical events that are taking place. This term's themes have been...

How do we keep you happy and safe in school?



What is the difference between Bullying & Unkindness?



How can we be like the Good Samaritan?



What is Inter-Faith Week?



How can we stay safe near a road?



What is COP 27?



What are our Human Rights?



How can we achieve our dreams and goals?



People Who Inspire Us



What is Safer Internet Day?



WORLD
BOOK
DAY

2 MARCH 2023

As part of our drive to maintain, promote and engage pupil interest in reading, Standlake School will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March.

All children are encouraged to bring one of their favourite books to school, dressing up as a character from their chosen book. We also invite parents to come to school in the morning dressed as a book character; we would like you to join us for our book character parade before school.

Throughout the school day, the children will be participating in exciting activities to promote this year's theme: You are a reader!

We look forward to seeing you and your child(ren) dressed up for the special day. Thank you for your enthusiasm and co-operation.

Christmas at Standlake...

The end of term the autumn term was a busy time with The Nativity Play, Christmas Service, Christmas Lunch and FOSS Party Boxes and the Christmas Fayre. Here are a few pictures showing the fun and enjoyment the staff, children and parents had...



Roots that Strengthen.

Branches that Reach.

Fruit that Flourishes.



Mrs Harrison writes: **Murphy Class** ...

This term, we have been having lots of fun going on some Roarsome Adventures! We started the term by learning the story We're Going on a Bear Hunt and exploring all the different places in the story. We then travelled to the Polar regions, where children learnt about the animals who live there and how it might be different to where we live.

We then focused on dinosaurs for several weeks. We began by going on our own dinosaur hunt and finding out about when dinosaurs lived and what it was like. We discussed how we know about dinosaurs through fossils and bones, and the children were very excited to touch some real fossils! We have learnt lots of new vocabulary this term, such as extinct, carnivore, herbivore as well as being able to name different parts of dinosaurs. We have used lots of wonderful texts to support our learning such as Dinosaur Roar- where we explored opposites, Dear Dinosaur - where we wrote letters to the dinosaur at the museum and Cave Baby - where we have found out about other prehistoric animals and created our own cave art. To draw our topic to an end, we used the structure from the story at the beginning of term and created our own class book - We're Going on a Dinosaur Hunt. Please do pop in and have a look at the book if you haven't had a chance to already!

Last term

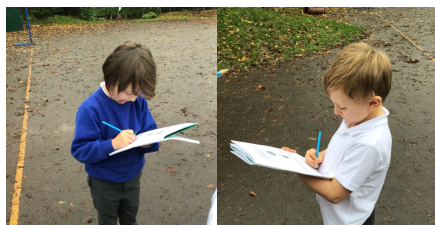
Mrs Pullin wrote: **Murphy Class** had an amazing first term! Children learnt about people who help us in the community. We were so fortunate to have Mr Brangwin in with PC Ben to tell us how police officers help in the community, and we completed an investigation which resulted in Mr Denham in handcuffs. Children also enjoyed developing their vocabulary while playing in the fire station and doctor's surgery.

In forest school, children became little explorers! Den making was one of the highlights where Mrs Pullin's team and Mrs Kinchin's team raced against each other to make the best den. Mr Bassey came in and taught us all about gymnastics, practicing to balance, move safely and link movements together. The term was all about fine motor skills and exploring colour when completing art. We practiced using scissors safely and did this when making crowns and masks, just like what 'Supertato' wears, who is in our class text. Children in reception made a strong start in their phonics, learning about 20 sounds and beginning to blend simple words with confidence. Children learnt how to match and sort materials and we have been exploring numbers up to 5.

Roots that Strengthen.

Branches that Reach.

Fruit that Flourishes.



Donaldson class: Miss Morton writes,

This term, we have been using our historic skills to learn about The Great Fire of London. We have used primary sources to learn about the events, why it spread so quickly and how Samuel Pepys was so significant during the time. We used our knowledge of this event to practise our writing. After reading *Vlad and the Great Fire of London*, we practised using our phonics to spell longer words and put them in sentences as well as identifying adjectives and nouns. In Art/DT we used pastels and black paper to create a visual piece that represents Pudding Lane in 1666.

We have been making fantastic progress in Maths this term. We have learnt about time and money. Not only have the children been able to build on their fluency of time and money but also discuss why it is important to learn about these subject areas in Maths. This term, some children have started Times table Rockstars – well done!

In Science, we have been reminding ourselves and learning about different materials and seeing how solid objects may change. We've used play dough and objects around the classroom to investigate this. We discovered most solid objects can twist, stretch and bend.

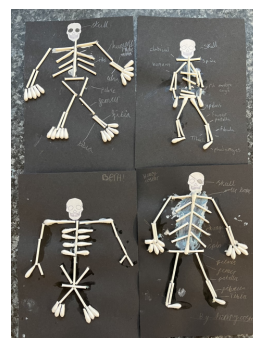
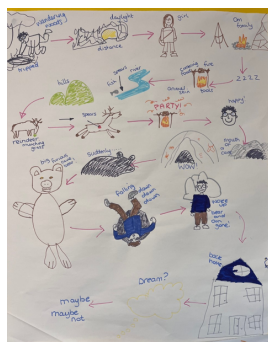
Last term we enjoyed learning about *Explorers* in History this term. We used primary sources to discover how Neil Armstrong impacted space travel and how Amelia Earhart influenced other women to explore the world. We finished the term by discussing one of our key questions '*What would we explore in the future?*' From exploring the ocean to Egypt where we could identify hidden artefacts. I definitely think we have some future explorers in Donaldson Class.

After reading *The Great Explorer*, Donaldson class wrote some fantastic descriptive sentences, adjectives to describe the setting and sentences that sequence the story from start to finish. I was proud of the resilience shown in making their handwriting clear and using their phonics to spell tricky words.

There was some great progress shown in Maths. We learnt how to use our number bonds to practise multiplication and division sums. At first, we found this quite tricky but now we are experts and can make equal groups to represent multiplication and division number sentences.

In Science, we learnt about plants and trees. During our lessons, we walked around the school identifying different plants and trees and discussed what they might need to survive, especially during these colder months. Donaldson Class are looking forward to looking after their own class plants in the Spring term and use their new scientific knowledge to help look after them.

We had another exciting term in Art with Mrs Mitchell. We have learnt about Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama to develop our skills on colour mixing. The children created and painted spots of primary and secondary colours to create a 'spot-tacular' masterpiece! We also created whole class Art pieces. I have been impressed with the children's communication skills in creating this to ensure we are all happy with our learning.



Dahl Class: Mrs Conroy and Mrs Fleet write, this term: The children in Dahl Class have been learning about the Romans this term. We learned about the invasions of both Julius Caesar and Emperor Claudius. We also explored Boudicca's role in British resistance and carried out research about Hadrian's wall. Some of us were very creative at home by making models of Roman buildings.

After discovering pictures of a range of Roman artefacts hidden beneath a pile of ash on our playground, we read the story 'Escape from Pompeii'. Through this text, we learned about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79 which covered this Roman city with clouds of ash and lava. Our setting descriptions showed how we are all becoming more ambitious with our word choices and we have been working hard on varying our sentence structure. For our main piece of narrative writing, we told the story of our own characters escaping from Pompeii; we grabbed this opportunity to use our imaginations!

In Maths, we have been developing our addition and subtraction strategies, learning about measurement including perimeter and we have risen to the big challenge of learning to tell the time.

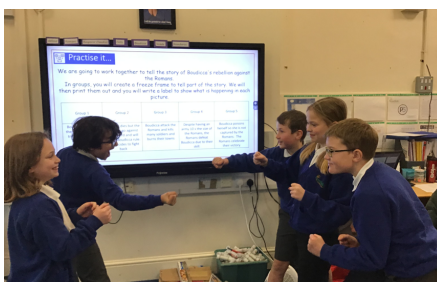
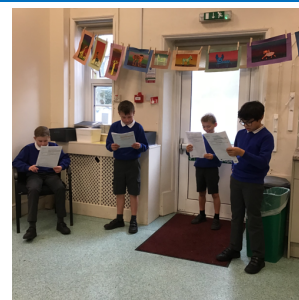
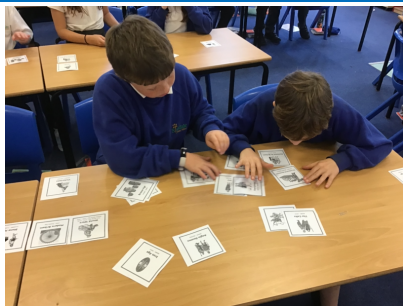
We have all enjoyed our Science lessons this term. We have learned about the purpose of teeth and how we can look after them. Our activities for exploring the functions of the different parts of the human digestive system were great fun!

Last term, our topic was The Stone Age. We learnt that there were 3 main periods during this time: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic ages. We studied the food and dwellings in each of these periods. We linked our art to The Stone Age and created our own cave paintings, jewellery and Stone Henge pictures. We have also been very impressed with the models that the children have created for their home learning this term.

In Science we developed our knowledge about animals including humans. We identified different food groups and even has a go at planning our own healthy packed lunch. Some of us thought we could eat quite a lot at lunch time. We sorted animals into carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. Finally in science we found all the names of the main bones in our body and created our own skeletons from cotton buds.

We all enjoyed reading *The Stone Age boy* in English. We made our own stories about where we fell, down, down, down to an imaginary place being as creative as we could. We also enjoyed finding out about what an archaeologist is and then writing an advert for a new job.

In RE, we learnt all about Noah and his covenant with God. We even had our own wedding ceremony including bride, groom, bridesmaids, and groomsmen. They all took their roles very seriously.



Morpurgo class: Miss Bridgeman writes, this term we have been studying the Romans. We have looked at the three invasions by Julius Caesar and Emperor Claudius and thought about why they failed initially and then succeeded. We had fun re-enacting Boudicca's rebellion against the Roman and then developed our historical skills by conducting research into the Roman army. We used our research to help inform our writing in English when we wrote a job description for a legionnaire or auxiliary soldier.

This term we have studied the book 'Revolt against the Romans' which nicely ties our history work on the Romans back to our work on the Celts at the end of last term. The children let their imaginations run wild as they wrote a new chapter to the book, adding in a new and exciting incident.

In science, we have been studying the human body, focusing on nutrition and the skeleton. We began by learning about the 7 nutrients that humans need before moving on to look at how we could use this to design a health meal. When we learnt about the skeleton and bones, the children really enjoyed making their own (almost life size) skeletons and labelling them with all their knowledge.

In maths this term, we have been learning about decimals and formal written methods for multiplication. We have had a big focus on timetables this term and Mr Brown can often hear us singing our 6 times table song from the next classroom (sorry Mr Brown!).

The children have been learning to sew this term in DT with Mrs Lee and although they have found it challenging at times, they have all showed perseverance and the outcomes are fantastic!

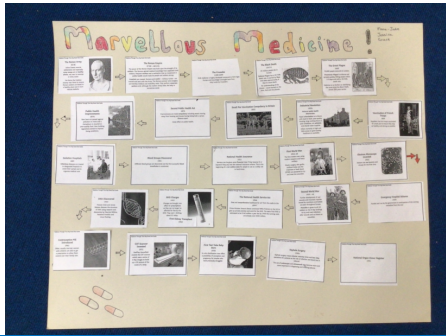
Last term, we studied the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We looked at each age in turn and thought about how society changed during this time. We focused on developing our skills as historians, researching historical sites like Skara Brae. The children linked their work in History to both their English and their Art.

A highlight for the class was making cave paintings with Mrs Lee, who transformed our classroom into a prehistoric cave! The children also had the opportunity to practice carving by scraping designs into soap– our classroom smelled very nice after this activity!

During English, we looked at the classic novel, Stig of the Dump. The children enjoyed becoming journalists and reporting on Barney's prehistoric discovery! Following this, we looked at writing play scripts. Morpurgo class certainly enjoyed our drama lesson and quickly got into character! They used their drama lesson to help them understand what actors need from a script.

In Maths, we made fantastic progress in our understanding of fractions and decimals. Although we found it tricky to begin with, we have all shown great perseverance and some of us have even mastered finding equivalent fractions!

In Science, we looked at 'Animals, including humans'. We learnt about the organs involved in the digestive systems and their role in the digestive process. The children particularly enjoyed our model of the digestive system using bananas, orange juice and a pair of tights! We then compared the teeth of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and looked at how their teeth are adapted to their diets. Finally, we studied food webs – looking at a range of different examples and even creating our own!



Shakespeare class: Mr Brown and Mrs Abraham write...

Last Term, Blood, Bones and Bodies was our topic title, helping us to understand the history of medicine and some of the incredible discoveries of scientists and doctors throughout the years. Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale, Sir Alexander Fleming and Dr Joseph Lister all featured, before we finished our topic considering the advances we have seen in medicine.

Our thought-provoking class text, *Pig Heart Boy*, inspired writing of different genres, including balanced arguments about the use of animals in medical research; informal, persuasive letters to a friend considering a pig heart transplant; and writing part of the narrative from a different character's perspective.

Our science learning was also linked to our topic, as we looked at the circulatory and digestive systems. The highlight (for most of us!) was dissecting pigs' hearts. Our maths learning also continued apace, as we worked on calculating with the four operations, fractions, decimals and percentages. In RE, we considered the two 'greatest commandments' in the Bible and asked ourselves, from a Christian perspective, 'What would Jesus do?' in different circumstances.

This term **Shakespeare class** have enjoyed learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. As we have learnt about where they came from, how they lived and key events during their era, we have seen the legacy they left and used our new-found knowledge of this period to create e-books. In science, we have learnt about the properties of materials. Through investigating what properties different materials have and why they are important, we have been able to suggest what products they could be then used to create.

Cressida Cowell's amusing *How to Train your Dragon* has been our class text, which has inspired our non-chronological reports, character descriptions and instruction texts. In maths, we have focused on fractions and percentages, whilst our RE learning has helped us to answer the question *How do Muslims show commitment to their faith?* by looking at the five pillars of Islam.

In art, Mrs. Abraham has shown us how to use textiles to create our own depiction of the Bayeux Tapestry; Miss Bridgeman continues to be impressed by our improving clarinet skills; and we are grateful to cricket coach Joe for teaching us the fundamentals of the game.

Key Dates for Term 3

20th Feb: Term Starts

27th Feb-3rd Mar: Year 6 Residential

1st March (1.00-7.00pm): Oxfordshire Dance Event. New Theatre

2nd Mar (am & pm): World Book Day (Whole School)

6th -11th March: Assessment Week

6th Mar (3.45pm): EPA Netball Tournament (Y5&6)

14th Mar (9.15am): National Childhood Measuring Programme
Height & Weight (Rec & Year 6)

16th March (am): Y3&4 EPA Dance Festival

w/b 20th Mar: Parent Meetings (Whole School)
SEND Pupil Reviews

28th Mar (1.30pm): IRock Concert

29th March (3.45-5.00pm): EPA Tennis Tournament (Y3&4)

30th Mar (9.00am): Easter Service (Whole School)

31st Mar (am & pm): It's Tri Day & The Last Day (finish 1.15pm)

31st Mar (1.15pm): FOSS Easter Fete

1st-16th Apr: Easter Holidays

**Term dates for the rest of the year and 2023-2024
can be found on our school website under the Parent Page**

