



The Stondon Lower Newsletter

Reading challenge



The new academic year is well and truly under way and so is our **Reading Challenge competition!** Reading across both Stondon and Shillington is a key focus this year. Our reading challenge hopes to enthuse and encourage passionate readers. As usual, each class will be vying to be the class who has read the most throughout the week with the hope of winning the 'Triwizard Cup'. This year the competition is going to be even more competitive as we are challenging Shillington. Each class here at Stondon are going to be competing against the classes in Shillington to see who is the ultimate class of readers. Who doesn't like a bit of healthy competition?

The children need your help with this quest and to be successful!

The more that the children read within a week the further around the reading challenge board the class travels! Children are encouraged to read every day to an adult at a convenient time that suits you. This includes our older children. Quite often when children have learnt to read, the importance of reading with an adult is lost. However, it is still very important that children have the opportunity to discuss what they are reading with an adult as this develops their comprehension about what they have read. Questions to support these discussions can be found on page 122 in the school diaries.

Additionally, this year, to promote reading, we have a reading focused assembly every Wednesday during which children volunteer to read a passage from their books. I find nothing more rewarding but to see children proudly sharing their reading and their love for it! We also encourage you to read to your child. If adults share a love of reading, children will emulate this even more. Therefore, we are looking for any volunteers that would be willing to read in assemblies too. You could record and send us a video or read live in our zoom assembly. If you are interested, please let me know via the office.



Finally, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful PTA for helping us to purchase some new reading books for the children to enjoy. They are already popular with the children and we are hoping to be able to buy even more books to add to them.

KS1 entrance

From Monday 19th– Thursday 22nd October we will be having some matting laid through the school field from the Hillside Road gate. We hope that this will make access through the field easier over the winter months. Next week workman will be in the field laying the flooring but will cease work during drop off and pick up times to ensure access for Parents.

We are aware of the trees overhanging in both The Pastures and on the recreation path. As the trees do not belong to us unfortunately it is not as easy as us just getting them cut back. We have been in touch with both CBC and Stondon Parish Council but so far have not had much luck in getting the issue resolved. We will continue to try to find out who is responsible for the maintenance of these trees, if you think you could help us investigate this further then please contact Mrs Greenman.

Normally we do not allow dogs on site but understand that the one way system may cause some inconvenience for some families. If you do bring your dog with you when collecting your child can we please ask that it is kept on a lead when walking through the school field, the gate to the recreation ground will be opened at the same time so please exit straight on to the rec and wait for your child the other side of the fence. Your child's teacher will be able to see you and will send your child through the gate to meet you.

Thank you

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated money to The Need Project as part of Harvest. So far we have raised an amazing £271.

There is still time to donate if you can. The link for the Virgin Giving page is below:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ShillingtonStondonFederation>



Robin Class News

After we finished 'Where the Wild Things Are', we started 'Anansi the Spider'. Since the story is very unique and exotic it has become very popular very quickly. The children appeared to be impressed with all the vibrant colours and patterns. Next week, we are going to perform a part of the story and individual children will retell the story to the whole class (ask your child if she/he wants to retell you the story). In Maths, we have completed learning about numbers up to 5. Next week, we are going to learn about sorting, focused on noticing similarities and differences in collections of objects. In Phonics the children have finished learning Set 3 sounds (g, o, c, k) and I will introduce Set 4 (ck, e, u, r) next week. Since the children have started 'segmenting and blending' you might want to support your child through playing a little game, e.g. you say the sounds c-a-t and ask your child to blend them to make the word 'cat'. I think all the Robins will have another very busy week next week as there are lots of activities lined up such as 'Anansi the Spider' role-play, creating spider masks, carving pumpkins and making potions. We are also going to talk about the seasonal changes the children might have noticed.

Puffin Class News

Another busy 2 weeks have gone by for our lovely Puffins. In maths we have practised number bonds within 10. In English pupils have finished studying Stanley's Stick and have been practising writing sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and the correct punctuation. We have continued learning about mammals including humans.

In French the pupils are now able to say their name and have started saying their age. Ils sont fantastiques!

Next week, we are going to start additions and a new book called 'Gruffalo Crumble and other recipes': this promises to be very tasty!

Kestrel Class News

This week in Kestrels we have been working on our number bonds to 10 and 100. We have used this knowledge to help us complete addition and subtraction calculations in our Maths lessons. In English we have been using time connectives such as 'next', 'then' and 'after that' to help us to write a range of different instructions.

In Science we have continued our work on habitats, this week focusing on how different animals and plants depend on each other. This will help to prepare us for our work on food chains next week.

We are coming to the end of our Kenya topic and have been finding out about the Maasai Mara tribe that live there. We even made our own Maasai Mara tribe necklaces!

Toucan Class News

This week we have come to the end of the story that we have been looking at—The Paper Bag Princess. We have re-written the story from the dragon's point of view and developed our knowledge of writing in the first person using pronouns.

In Maths we have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction of a 2-digit number with a 3-digit number, focussing on adding and subtracting multiples of ten crossing hundreds. This has tied in well with our times tables this week which have been the 10 times tables and the class have done a great job of learning the division facts for these.

In Art we have been designing our very own stained glass windows. We created a design in our Art books using pencils and felt tip pens and then created a final version using paints. They all look very effective!

Hummingbird Class News

This week, we have been writing our plan and have begun to write our three part story based on Arthur and the golden rope. We have been thinking of interesting vocabulary to capture the readers' interest, talked about our fronted adverbials, paragraphs and played fun dictionary games. We are doing a super job and Mrs Laugere is very excited to read them.

In maths we have been working on subtracting with 3-digits and then 4-digits with no exchange. We are feeling very confident and happy with our progress in maths and we have also been introduced to new vocabulary; the minuend and subtrahend!

We have a surprise coming home in the way of early Xmas card designs and have been learning all about climates and global warming and thinking about what we can do to help.

PTA Christmas Cards

This week your child has brought home with them the amazing design they have created. IQ Cards can print this design onto high quality Stationery including Greeting Cards, Postcards, Gift Wrap & Sticky Gift Labels. On the reverse of their design please can you fill out the order form – check your child's name is spelt correctly and is exactly how you would like it printed onto the products & clearly fill in the quantity of each product that you would like to order.

Your payment must be made to the PTA with the order as per the instruction sheet. Please make cheques payable to 'Stondon Lower PTA' or contact us at stondonlowerpta@gmail.com if you would like to make a payment by bank transfer or have any other questions.

We do have some additional sheets in school, if you would like any extra for siblings to create designs at home then please email in to the school office and we will send one home for you.

All order forms with payment must be returned to school by Friday 23rd October.



Hot dinners after half term

Over the last few weeks we have been working on a plan to reintroduce hot dinners.. We have been discussing this with Luton Catering who supply our meals and are planning for this to happen after half term. Menus with allergens will be sent out to you shortly.



This week Stondon celebrates

Writer of the week

Reception– Teddy
Year 1– Toby
Year 2– Eddie
Year 3– Kaine
Year 4– Flynn

Stondon Superstar

Reception– Dylan
Year 1– Ava
Year 2– Lola
Year 3– Ranveer
Year 4– Kai

Team Points

Spitfires– 96
Lancasters– 125
Tiger Moths– 87
Hunters– 134

What's coming up.....

Diary Dates

Date and time

Event

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Friday 23rd October 9.15am | Parent assembly and PTA AGM |
| W/c 9th November (Dates TBC) | Parents Evening (virtual appointments) |
| 12th November | Individual photographs |
| 20th November | Flu Immunisations |

Term Dates 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Monday 7th September 2020 - Friday 18th December 2020

(Half term: 26th - 30th October)

(Inset days: Thursday 3rd September, Friday 4th September and Monday 2nd November)

Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5th January 2021 - Friday 26th March 2021

(Half term: 15th-19th February)

(Inset day: Monday 4th January)

Summer Term 2021

Tuesday 13th April 2021 -Thursday 22nd July 2021

(Half term: 31st May- 4th June)

(Inset day: Monday 12th April)