

Stanbridge Lower School



Class Letter - Year 4

Spring Term 1 2022

Learning News

This half term we are learning about *Where We Live*. We will be exploring the history and geography of Leighton Buzzard and Stanbridge, and learning about Mary Norton, author of *The Borrowers*, who lived in Leighton Buzzard. In science we will be learning about sound, and this will link to our art lessons where we will be creating soundwave art. In our RE lessons we will be learning about the beliefs and traditions of the Sikh community, and in PSHE we will be exploring aspects of living in the wider world such as budgeting money, why we need rules and laws, and how to look after our environment.

We are very lucky to be having ukulele lessons this half term. These will be on Tuesdays, and will be taught by a teacher from Inspiring Music.

In English lessons our main book study is the much loved children's classic '*Charlotte's Web*' by E. B. White. We will start off looking at the effectiveness of the opening sentence where the children will discuss what it makes them wonder (questions it makes them ask) and whether it makes them want to read on further (Suspense? Intrigue?), justifying their answers with evidence from the text. We will also look closely at new vocabulary and the children will consolidate their understanding and ability to use a dictionary and determine the correct meaning depending on the context in which the word is used. As we continue reading the book every day we will discuss each part of the story using VIPERS questions. Our main focus this half term will be writing to entertain and the children will continue practising their punctuation such as commas to demarcate clauses, full stops and the use of question marks. As we look at settings and character descriptions the children will continue to learn how to use descriptive language devices such as similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, personification, powerful verbs and adverbs.

In Maths, we will be continuing our learning about multiplication and division, learning methods for multiplying 3 numbers, building on our understanding of commutativity, identifying factor pairs for a given product, and developing our knowledge of informal and formal written methods for multiplying and dividing 2- and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number, with and without remainders. For multiplying, we will be learning to use the short column method and for division we will be using our knowledge of place value, partitioning and times tables as well as our understanding that division is splitting an amount into equal groups. We will then move onto learning about area, understanding that area is the amount of space taken up by a 2D shape or surface. We will begin calculating area by counting how many squares make a shape, before moving on to making shapes with a specified area and comparing shapes based on their areas. Finally this half term we will begin our block on fractions, revising our knowledge of unit and non-unit fractions, before learning to count in fractions, find equivalent fractions, and add and subtract fractions, both with other fractions and whole numbers and quantities.



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Gaps in Learning

English:

- Capital letters at the beginning of sentences and for names.
- Remembering full stops at the end of sentences.
- Using phonic knowledge to spell longer words.
- Remembering spelling rules, for example adding -ed to a regular verb to turn it into a past tense verb (jump → jumped) or altering the root word e.g. doubling the consonant of more complex verbs (beg → begged, step → stepped)
- Reading written work to check it makes sense.
- Spelling homophones correctly e.g. there/their/they're, where/wear, been/bean.
- Proofreading and editing written work independently.
- To understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by drawing simple inferences with evidence such as inferring characters' feelings.

Maths:

- Automatic recall of key addition facts (shown in the table) and corresponding subtraction calculations. Automatic recall means quick recall from memory with no working out needed.

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0+0	0+1	0+2	0+3	0+4	0+5	0+6	0+7	0+8	0+9	0+10
1	1+0	1+1	1+2	1+3	1+4	1+5	1+6	1+7	1+8	1+9	1+10
2	2+0	2+1	2+2	2+3	2+4	2+5	2+6	2+7	2+8	2+9	2+10
3	3+0	3+1	3+2	3+3	3+4	3+5	3+6	3+7	3+8	3+9	3+10
4	4+0	4+1	4+2	4+3	4+4	4+5	4+6	4+7	4+8	4+9	4+10
5	5+0	5+1	5+2	5+3	5+4	5+5	5+6	5+7	5+8	5+9	5+10
6	6+0	6+1	6+2	6+3	6+4	6+5	6+6	6+7	6+8	6+9	6+10
7	7+0	7+1	7+2	7+3	7+4	7+5	7+6	7+7	7+8	7+9	7+10
8	8+0	8+1	8+2	8+3	8+4	8+5	8+6	8+7	8+8	8+9	8+10
9	9+0	9+1	9+2	9+3	9+4	9+5	9+6	9+7	9+8	9+9	9+10
10	10+0	10+1	10+2	10+3	10+4	10+5	10+6	10+7	10+8	10+9	10+10

- Rapid, automatic recall of learnt times tables (x2, x3, x4, x5, x6, x7, x8, x10 to date), and corresponding division facts.
- Automatic recall of doubles and halves to double 20.
- Secure understanding of place value equivalence, e.g. 10 ones = 1 ten, 10 tens = 1 hundred, and how this applies when the amount of tens, ones or hundreds changes, for example 30 ones = 3 tens etc.
- Applying key facts to larger calculations, e.g. knowing $20 \times 3 = 60$ because $2 \times 3 = 6$, or knowing $700 - 300 = 400$ because $7 - 3 = 4$ without calculating.
- Applying knowledge of calculation methods to word problems, especially multi-step problems, consistently and accurately, drawing on knowledge of key facts.

Good News

Children have been working on their Pegasus targets since setting them at the beginning of the autumn term, and will be reviewing these with Miss Godwin and setting new ones.

Children have really enjoyed learning about India in the last half term, in particular using



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	<p>Modroc to create a sculpture of an elephant, which got very messy! We will finish making these in the first week of this term, painting them with colourful patterns to replicate our learning about the Indian elephant festival Hastimangala.</p> <p>Some of the children have enjoyed taking our class pet Oreo the badger home for the weekend, and recording what he gets up to in his diary. He's looking forward to making more visits this half term!</p>
Homework Updates	<p>Homework is due on Thursday every week. Please make sure your child has their Maths folder, English Spelling book and reading book and record every week on this day.</p> <p>Homework revises concepts we have covered in class to consolidate learning and extend it further, so it is vital that your child completes their homework every week. If your child is struggling with a particular week or activity, please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Turney so we can provide support for your child.</p>
Swimming	Swimming sessions begin on 13 th Jan - 24 th March. A letter has been sent home with details of these lessons. Please return your permission slip and travel contribution as soon as possible.
PE Kits	<p>Children will need a swimming kit consisting of swimming trunks for boys and a one piece costume for girls, a towel and swimming cap in a plastic bag for swimming sessions on Thursdays.</p> <p>Our other PE day will remain a Monday, when children will need shorts and t-shirt for gymnastics lessons.</p>
Library	Children will be able to visit the school library every Monday to choose a book for them to read for pleasure.



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