

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**



## Autumn 1 Newsletter



*I can do all things through Him who strengthens me  
- Philippians 4:13*

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to hear and see happy, smiling children back in school again. We have missed them! Unsurprisingly, their academic attainment and progress has been affected by the 4 months of lock-down. This, coupled with moving into a new year group curriculum has meant the children are facing their greatest ever challenge in the classroom.



However, it is during times of adversity that we see how people can rise to the challenge and I have observed bucket-loads of **ambition** and **resilience** from the children and staff this term. Ambition to do and be the best they can be. Resilience in character to overcome any difficulties.

At Standlake, we never lose sight of the fact that, despite our own challenges, there are others who are facing even tougher hardships so need our **compassion** to help them. I am delighted that in spite of COVID, we are still doing our Shoe Box Appeal this year and starting what will hopefully be a lasting relationship with a village called Finis, in Romania.



We haven't been able to do all of the usual whole school community activities this term. However, I hope this Autumn Newsletter will show you that we are doing all we can to put the joy of experiences and academic confidence back into our children's education.

Have a lovely half-term break.

Andrew Denham



**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

## Our COVID Catch-Up Response

Parents, perhaps for the first time, are hearing and seeing that their child is not at the academic level they once were. This is particularly hard when so many of you worked tirelessly during lock-down to support your children with their work. Your efforts have not been in vain though because without it your child would be finding life in the classroom even harder right now.

Schools across the country are experiencing the same drop on academic attainment and it is our job, with your help, to get the children back to where they need to be over time. This is what we are doing:

### Step 1

We are addressing any emotional and social concerns that the children may have on their return.

### Step 2

We have assessed the children to get a baseline of their knowledge and understanding.

Year 2 to Year 6:

Reading	Writing	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	Maths
Language in Context & Choice of Language	Teacher Formative Assessment (Marking)	Sentence composition	Number and Place Value
Retrieval		Punctuation	Addition and Subtraction (mental and written)
Inference		Grammatical Terms & Word Classes	Multiplication and Division (mental and written)

Note: Nursery, Reception & Year 1 were informally assessed on their language, phonics & reading skills.

### Step 3

Teachers looked at the assessments and used their informal classroom observations to make a judgement as to who needs the following **A**, **B** or **C** approach:

#### Additional to and different from interventions

This will largely be our Special Educational & Disabilities and 'High Need' children.

#### Booster Groups

This will largely be small groups of children who would benefit from some focused teaching, for short amounts of time, to fill certain gaps in the learning.

#### Class teaching

This will be for the whole class where it has been identified that the majority of the children have gaps in a particular area so can all be taught at the same time.

### Step 4

Start delivering the interventions. These will run until the end of Term 2 when we will assess the children to see how much progress they have made. It is at this assessment point that we are expecting to have a much more accurate picture of how well your child has recovered academically from 'lock-down'.

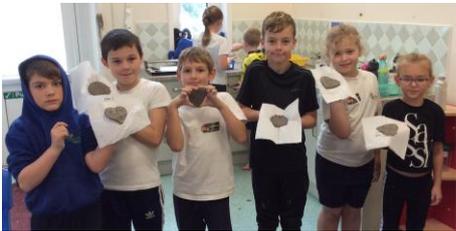
### Step 5

Repeat this process of **Assess**, **Plan**, **Do** and **Review** until such time as we have got your child back to where they need to be.

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

Harvest

Following on from our School Community Zoom Harvest Assembly, the children completed a variety of harvest activities including leaf art, acrostic poems, bread making, Thank You Pumpkins, clay leaves and autumn tree paintings with broccoli!



LET OUR hearts BE FULL OF BOTH THANKS AND giving

give thanks with a Grateful Heart and harvest Love

Plant SMILES Grow GIGGLES Harvest LOVE

Our Values: Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**



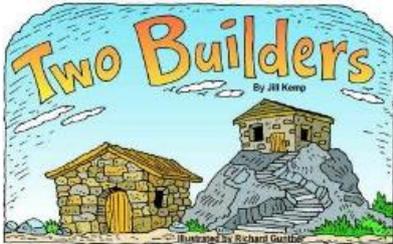
## Our Assembly Topics & Themes this



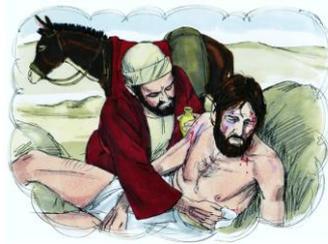
What was the story or theme about?

How does it reflect our values?

What can we learn and do from the story?



The House on the Rock



The Good Samaritan



The Widows Offering



Jonah & the Big Fish



Joseph & his Brothers



Daniel and the Lions



School Council



Mental Health



Sign Language



Black History Month



Rosa Parks



Martin Luther King



Safer Internet

Our Values: Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**



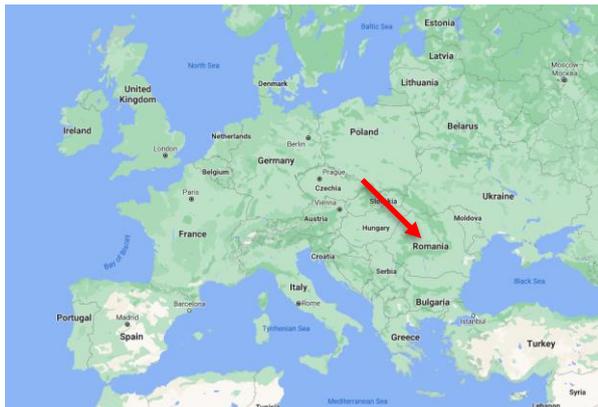
## Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

St  
E  
Standlake  
Primary School



In one of our assemblies Mr Denham asked, 'Who is our neighbour?'. In the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus gives the answer that it is anyone who needs our mercy (help).

As a country, we are facing many challenges at the moment, but we shouldn't forget that there are some who are having an even harder time than us. This is why we are still going ahead with our Shoe Box appeal. Only this time, we are going to send our boxes directly to a village called Finis (pronounced 'finish') in Romania, who we hope to be developing a relationship with over the coming years.



To ensure that our boxes get to the right place we are asking all families to wrap their boxes in the same paper. Our boxes will be going on a lorry with hundreds of others, so the charity needs to be able to identify them easily. We (the school) will provide the wrapping paper you need to use, after half term.

In the meantime, we are asking that families start gathering the items that will need to go in the boxes. A leaflet explaining what can go into boxes has come out with this newsletter.

If families are happy and comfortable to do so, we ask that the children put a picture of themselves (A4 size) in with the boxes and a very brief message, in their neatest handwriting (!), sharing their first name (not surname), age and three things about them. Children will need to bring their boxes into their classroom on **Friday 6th November**. We are currently in discussion with a film cameraman who is hoping to record the journey our boxes make from the classroom to Finis and film the children receiving them.

**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

### Murphy Class

This term in Murphy Class our topic has been 'Marvellous Me'. We have enjoyed painting self-portraits as well as creating pictures of our friends. During story time, we have been reading the Funnybones series where the skeletons go on lots of adventures. Our favourite book has been 'Skeleton Crew' where the skeletons go on a boat holiday. This inspired us to create our own boats using corks and lollipop sticks. We had lots of fun testing to see if they would float. Using our key texts as a base, we explored creating our own stories using our Tales Toolkit where we selected a character, a setting, a problem and a solution to create a story. We have become fantastic authors...ask us to tell you a story!



### Donaldson Class

In Donaldson class we have been enjoying our topic of 'When I grow up'. We have been talking about and creating some really lovely pictures reflecting what we would like to be when we grow up. This term we have also been fantastic mathematicians and participating in lots of practical maths activities. We have jumped along numberlines, done lots of running races in P.E and made lots of number models! Last week we went on an adventure out and about in Standlake and we even played Pooh sticks on the bridge, which was great fun!

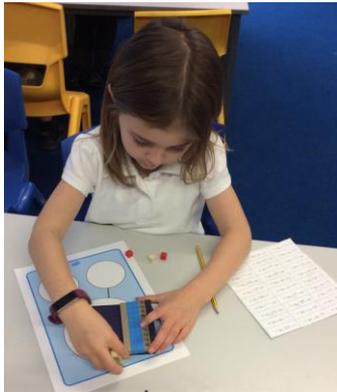


**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

### Blake Class

This term in Blake class we have really enjoyed our karate classes. We have learnt new stances and to count to 5 in Japanese. It has been great fun exploring different everyday materials in Science and doing experiments each week to find out which materials can change shape and describing each's property. We have also looked at the importance of recycling and how we can help with this from home. This term we have done a lot of practical maths and we have investigated how to make 100 using lots of different number bonds.



### Dahl Class



In Dahl class, we have been learning all about the Stone Age. This has included making some pretty impressive model roundhouses at home, which have brightened up our classroom this term. We have had fun investigating clay – both in science, as part of our topic about rocks and soils, and in art, where we have been developing our range of techniques. We have been learning to play the glockenspiels in music and have made tremendous progress in starting to read Russian. It's certainly been a busy term!



**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

### Morpurgo Class

This term in Morpurgo we have had a very busy. We have been learning all about: Ancient Greece, air and water resistance and commitment. We have started our music lessons with Mr Grey & are all learning to play the cornet. Our focus has been on beat & rhythm so far and we can't wait to start playing a few tunes. We have been learning all about poems & performed a chosen poem to the class. We are going out with a bang this term & ending our topic with a



### Shakespeare Class

Inspired by our class text 'Pig Heart Boy' *Blood, Bones and Body Bits* was the title for Shakespeare class' topic this term. Our discussion, debate and written balanced arguments about whether animals should be used to benefit humans have been fascinating and we have enjoyed learning about the significant ongoing impact of doctors and scientists throughout history. Our science lesson dissecting pigs' hearts was a particular highlight (for most of us!).



**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

## Achievement Book

*The following children have shown particularly impressive words or actions this term...*

### MURPHY

Layla for being kind and caring to others

Robyn for coming in with a smile and being kind and caring to the younger children

River for being kind and caring

Martha for working really hard in class and demonstrating a good understanding of how to look after ourselves

### DONALDSON

Oliver for consistently trying hard in his work and being kind to his friends

Nancy for superb concentration and for putting great effort into her learning this week

Chardonnay for excellent enthusiasm and concentration in her learning this week

Ella for showing such enthusiasm and a positive can-do attitude towards her learning and always with a smile on her face!

### BLAKE

Elias for always looking after those around him

Finley for improved effort and concentration in class

Kitty for being kind and caring to others

Mark for excellent enthusiasm and concentration in his work



### DAHL

Ferris for putting in maximum effort and producing some amazing homework

Jack for working well independently and completing his work

Kyrah for always trying her best, contributing ideas and having a super positive attitude

William for his fabulous attitude, perseverance when things got tricky and some great gym work!

### MORPURGO

Freddie for always trying his best all day, everyday!

Anna for completing some amazing and creative homework task

Marley for persevering in PE and having a good week

Ava for always showing compassion and being a great role model to her peers

### SHAKESPEARE

Brodie for thoughtful and mature contributions to discussions

Francesca for being helpful in the classroom and being determined to continue working hard, even with a broken thumb

Athena for being an all-round star, particularly in maths

Indianna for her excellent focus and 'can do' attitude in all her learning this week

**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

## Star Writers



The following children have shown some great writing skills this term...

### MURPHY

Arthur for great recall and use of story language  
Mari for a fantastic self portrait and writing her name independently  
Robyn for writing a superb caption under her picture  
Archie for trying really hard with 'squiggle while you wiggle'

### DONALDSON

Arthur for excellent sentence writing and retelling of 'Funny Bones'  
Reggie for excellent concentration and focus in his writing this week  
Arlowe for fantastic sentence writing and for being so enthusiastic towards his learning  
Lena for her fabulous sentence writing and explanations this week on how we can look after the world

### BLAKE

Lily for a brilliant letter  
Tilly for using interesting adjectives in her character description of Mr Tumnus  
Sienna for amazing adjectives in her chapter writing  
Reilly for fantastic use of commas in a list

### DAHL

Scout for fantastic presentation and handwriting  
Ciara for trying her best with her writing  
Oscar for a good imaginative story & use of vocabulary  
Rhys for working really hard with Mrs Menzel this week at descriptive writing, including similes



### MORPURGO

Sammi for a great summary in RE and for being focused in our first write  
Kate for persevering when she found an activity difficult  
Milo for a great similes poem  
Rosie for some great vocabulary in her writing this week

### SHAKESPEARE

Kassia for a fantastic diary entry  
Sam List for fantastic improvement in the neatness of his work  
Sophie for an excellent quantity of writing produced and improved sentence structure  
Luca for applying his understanding of prefixes

**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

## Marvellous Mathematicians



*The following children have shown some excellent maths work this term...*

### MURPHY

*Seb for super number work*

*Ava for fantastic shape work*

*Martha for great comparison work when comparing numbers*

*Robyn for fantastic number bond work this week*

### DONALDSON

*Eadie for her great effort in her maths, especially when using a number track!*

*Sienna for fantastic mathematical language when comparing numbers*

*Beth for fantastic engagement in maths, especially in her mathematical reasoning when using number lines*

*Henry for working really hard especially when using part whole models and applying an add sign to make number sentences*

### BLAKE

*Sophie for great effort with number lines*

*Luis for brilliant column addition*

*Annabel for her excellent work on number bonds*

*Rosie for her super work making equal groups*



### DAHL

*Josh for his quick recall*

*Alfie for being careful and accurate in his maths work*

*Charlie for his amazing mental maths!*

*Benjamin for excellent independent work on addition and subtraction*

### MORPURGO

*Niall for great reasoning!*

*Laycie for trying really hard in maths every day and always aiming for the next challenge*

*Harry for amazing effort and for pushing himself to move on to higher tasks*

*Yilin for great perseverance and determination when she found something*

### SHAKESPEARE

*Eddie for clear explanations of his reasoning*

*Athena for outstanding calculation using negative numbers*

*Henry for excellent, accurate and neat work on long division*

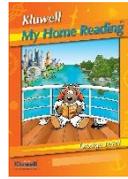
*Zoe for great resilience on maths*

**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**



## Reading Success



The following children have read over 25 times since the start of the year...

**MURPHY:** 25 reads: Sebastian, Arthur, River, Mari, Ava, Robyn and Martha

**DONALDSON:** 25 reads: Oliver, Henry, James, Reggie, Beth, Lena, Arthur, Eadie, Arlowe, Nancy, Sienna and Ella.

**BLAKE:** 25 reads: Alexander, Rosie, Lily, Fin, Luis, Ezra, Sienna, Ella, Fynley, Elias & Sophie.

**DAHL:** 25 reads: Scout, Fredrick, Ferris, Benjamin, Finn, William, Oscar, Josh, Aaron, Olivia, Rhys, Freddie, Leila, Mara-Jade and Ciara

**MORPURGO:** 25 reads: Grace, Archie, Freddie, Darragh, Kasper, Milo, Lucy, Rosie, Annam Niall, Abigail, Emily, Emilia, Grace Walker, Louie, Kate and Yilin

**SHAKESPEARE:** 25 reads: Fynley, Alec, Diego, Brodie, Jack, Mae, Amanda, Holly, Sam, Sophie and Kassia.

## House Points Reward

St John's earned the most House Points in Term 1, so they got a special treat of ice-cream and a chocolate flake as a reward. Children earn House Points for following our school values and rules. Well done to Martha, Arthur William, Sophie G, Amelia & Kassia for being 'The Chose One's!'



Our Values: Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty

## Governors Page

Dear Parents and Pupils,

### What do the Governors do?

It was with great interest that Jenny Macdonald (Vice Chair) and I read the parent and pupil surveys that were completed in July. We are very grateful to all of you who have completed these, as it helps us understand your concerns and worries. It is also reassuring to read the many positive comments with regards to the running of the school and staff engagement, especially during these strange and unprecedented times. In addition, we noted that some of the parents would like to know more about what the Governors do, so here is a brief overview. That said, if you would like to know more, then please do not hesitate to contact either myself, Jenny or one of the other Governors.

In essence, the Governors are a “critical friend” to the Head teacher, Mr Denham. As volunteers, we are involved in setting the strategic direction for the school, making sure that we continue to strive in our ambition to become an outstanding school. We give an objective overview of the running of the school to ensure high standards of education for the children. We do this by providing constructive feedback, discussing the future direction of the school, whilst also providing valuable support to Mr Denham and his staff.

The Department of Education states that Mr Denham, as the Head Teacher should “give account, accept responsibility and work proactively with those responsible for Governance (i.e. the Governors)”. Therefore, when we meet as a Governing Body, Mr Denham provides us with documents covering the following:

- - Plans for the school's development
- - Risks and concerns – especially in these uncertain times,
- - Information on the children's academic progress and their wellbeing
- - The finance budget and how the money has been spent
- - A review of the school policies e.g. Behaviour, Health and Safety, and Safeguarding – to name just a few.

continued...

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

*In our role as “critical friends” the Governors scrutinize these documents and discuss with Mr Denham the reasoning behind them and the suitability of the decisions made.*

*In addition to this, each Governor has a particular area to oversee and examine. Examples include looking at the provision of Maths and English and also the teaching of children with special educational needs. This is achieved by visiting the school during term time, having discussions with the designated member of staff and listening to their feedback and concerns. The Governor then reports back to the Governing body and Mr Denham, and their findings can be discussed*

*In these challenging times it is particularly important that the entire school community works together as a team, to support and protect each other. As Governors we have been extremely impressed with the work and dedication of all the staff at Standlake, who have worked tirelessly to provide a safe and exciting environment in which to work and learn, despite all the constraints that have needed to be in place. We also recognise how challenging some of these constraints have been on parents, especially when leaving and collecting the children from the school gates. The Governors endorse the school's important policy of social distancing in order to ensure the safety of our community.*

*Over the next year our focus is to support Mr Denham and the staff, to ensure the children are given the best possible opportunities to make up the gap in their teaching and learning which has resulted from the closure of school.*

*Finally, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools, recently wrote “more than ever we need diverse boards of Governors, that better reflect the communities they serve”.*

*With this in mind, if there is anyone in the community who you think would like to be involved in the Governance of our vital local asset – our school, then please make them known to Mr Denham or one of Governors. Being a school Governor is an important and exciting role to play in the community.*

*Thank you.*

*With best wishes*

*Karen Armeanu (Chair of Governors) and Jenny Macdonald (Vice-Chair)*

We want our children to be **AMBITIOUS**, **RESILIENT** and **COMPASSIONATE**

### Other Information

#### TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

##### AUTUMN TERMS 2020

**Autumn Half Term:** 26<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
**Term 2:** 3<sup>rd</sup> November - 18<sup>th</sup> December (1.15pm finish)  
**Christmas Holiday:** 21<sup>st</sup> December - 4<sup>th</sup> January

##### SPRING TERM 2021

**INSET DAY:** 4<sup>th</sup> January  
**Term 3:** 5<sup>th</sup> January - 12<sup>th</sup> February  
**Spring Half Term:** 15<sup>th</sup> February - 19<sup>th</sup> February  
**Term 4:** 22<sup>nd</sup> February - 31 March  
**Easter Holiday:** 1<sup>st</sup> April - 16<sup>th</sup> April (1.15pm finish)

##### SUMMER TERM 2021

**Term 5:** 19<sup>th</sup> April - 28<sup>th</sup> May  
**Summer Half Term:** 31<sup>st</sup> May - 4<sup>th</sup> June  
**Term 6:** 7<sup>th</sup> June - 20<sup>th</sup> July (1.15pm finish)

#### Live Achievement Assemblies

Every Friday at 9.00am we have a Achievement Assembly to recap on our week and celebrate the things children have done well. You and extended family are very welcome to join us on the following ZOOM link:

**Meeting ID: 898 8077 7624**  
**Passcode: 500575**

Children who get a special mention in the assembly will have their names published on the Achievement Assembly page of our website.

The assemblies are recorded and can be found on the Achievement Assembly page of our website.

#### School Office

We would like to give our heart-felt thanks to Mrs Rodgerson who has supported us in the school office while we have looked to arrange a long-term solution to office staffing. Her cheerful personality has been much appreciated. Thank you!

From Term 2 Mrs Barker will oversee and manage the Standlake and Stanton Harcourt offices and be assisted by Mrs Oliver at Standlake (starting on Term 2).

#### Communication

Most of our communication to you will be via ParentMail and our school website. Parents are able to contact the class teachers in the following ways:

Outside of the classroom at the start/end of day  
Leaving a phone message or sending an email via the office that will be passed on.

We will endeavour to get back to you within 24 hours but please be patient if it is a little longer.

*We will only be using class emails if the 'bubble' or 'whole school' is in lockdown. Teachers will not be responding to them outside of these times so please use the processes above.*



[www.standlakeschool.co.uk](http://www.standlakeschool.co.uk)

BE BOLD  
BE BRAVE  
BE COURAGEOUS  
Joshua CH1 v9

CE  
Standlake  
Primary School

BE AMBITIOUS  
BE RESILIENT  
BE COMPASSIONATE  
Standlake OX29 7SQ

**Our Values:** Love Forgiveness Compassion Tolerance Thankfulness Honesty