



ST JAMES
Preparatory School

4N Newsletter: Spring Term, Week 1

This week in 4N...

We have had a great start to 2025 in Year 4, with lots of enthusiasm and new areas of learning to explore. In Geography, we have begun learning about Volcanoes and the children have been fascinated by the story of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD. Their diary entries about a day in Pompeii were very descriptive.

In Science we have begun to learn about sound and the children took part in a range of experiments to explore how sound works as vibrations in the air. The children also learned how sound travels better through some materials than others.

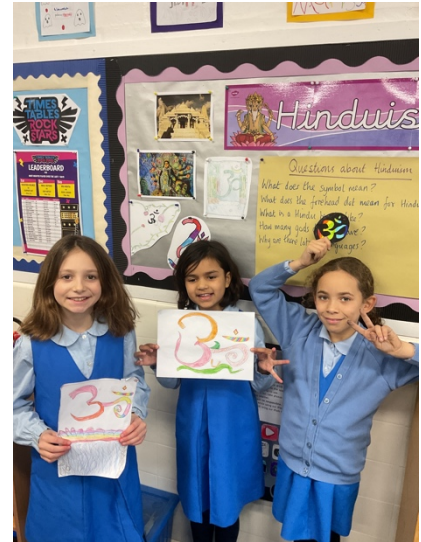
Our RS topic this half term is Hinduism and the children have made some very lovely illustrations of the Sanskrit letter Ohm, having reflected on the idea that it represents the universal and how everything is connected for Hindus.

In a few weeks - on Monday 27th January - we will be visiting a Hindu Mandir in Alperston to learn more about how Hindus worship. Mrs Jessup and Ms Gir will be joining us on this trip so that we can connect our learning with Sanskrit. You can see more information about the trip below and if you have any questions then please let me know.

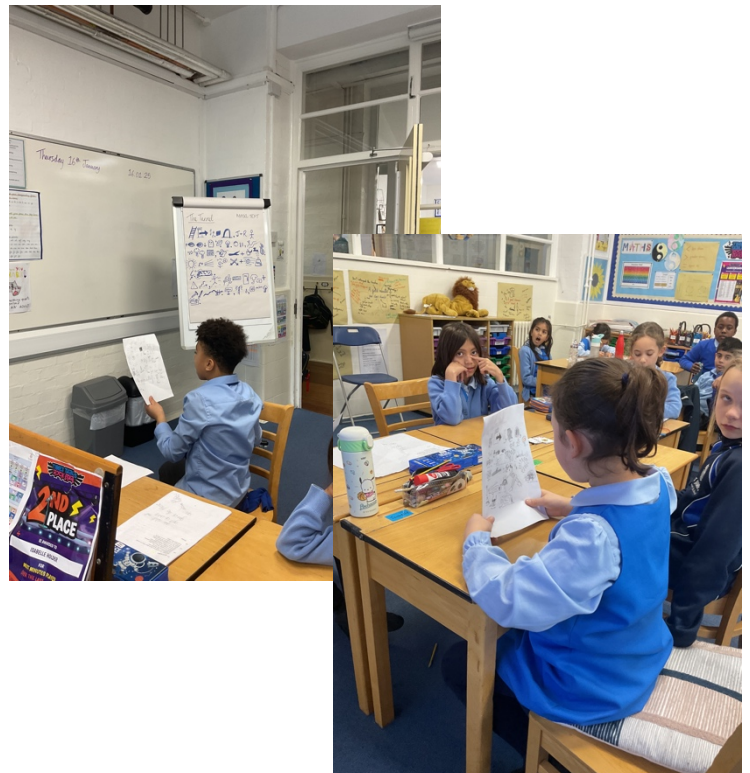
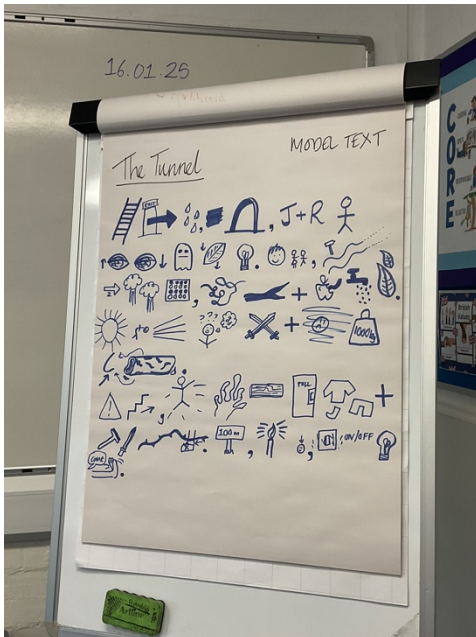
Our Maths learning has continued to focus on Multiplication and Division this week, with the children exploring scaling numbers by 10 and 100. Ms Foster is now teaching some of the Year 4s Maths - both groups will be covering the same objectives and the groups are expected to change as we cover different topics.

The children have impressed me with their learning of this term's model text in English. Our Talk for Writing unit this half term is all about writing a descriptive setting for the opening of a story.

The children created some beautiful artwork inspired by the letter Ohm.



Year 4 have been reciting the model text in English.



Things to remember

- Houses Feel Good Friday - Friday 24th January

On Friday 24th January, we will be having our first Feel Good Friday of 2025 with a colourful houses theme!

All children in the Prep School are invited to come to school in their house colour - no uniform! They should bring a donation of £1 or more to our school charity for the year - Under One Sky - if they would like to come in non uniform. Donations of hats, scarves, coats and gloves are also warmly welcomed for Under One Sky.

Reminder - Canterbury is green, Salisbury blue and Winchester red.

We will also be having the first 'Great Houses Bake Off' and all children are invited to bake something in their house colour. If they want to take part, children should bake 3 small cupcakes/cookies/biscuits in their house colour. These should have no nuts and a clearly labelled list of allergens, along with their name and class on a label.

All entries will get 10 house points and the winners for each house and overall will get lots more!

On the day, the children will also be having a playtime with their house and having a house meeting.

We are looking forward to celebrating together!

- Trip to Alperton Mandir on Monday 27th January - we will be visiting this Hindu place of worship for our RS learning. Children will have an early lunch at school and then leave at 12 to spend the afternoon touring the Mandir. They will be back to school by home time and we will be travelling by Tube. If you have any questions then please let me know.

Year 4 Homework Timetable 24 – 25 (~30-40 minutes every day)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Spelling 20 min	English 30 min	VR / NVR 20 min	Maths 30 min	Comprehension/ Writing 30 min
TTRS 10 min	Sanskrit 15 min	TTRS 10 min	Sanskrit 15 min	Oxford Reading Buddy 10 min

Children need to read their scheme reader book every night and log this in their reading record.

Spellings for Monday 20th January -

Spelling Shed 

Challenge words

naughty

knowledge

favourite

famous

material

experiment

remember

complete

continue

February