



ST JAMES

Preparatory School

Year 3 Newsletter: Spring Term, Week 4

What have we explored this week?

Although the inclement weather meant we had to change the plans a little, House Football was still a great success, and the children enjoyed representing their house in a series of matches. Congratulations to Canterbury on their win!

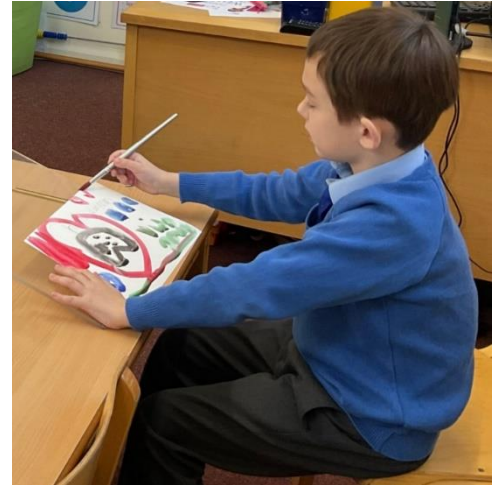
In Maths, we have begun a new unit all about measurement. We have enjoyed measuring lots of things, understanding the differences between millimetres, centimetres and metres to measure and record accurately. Pupils in Ms Foster's group have been looking at comparing and ordering fractions.

In English, we have been innovating on the model text by writing diary entries as different characters in the story. The children have enjoyed showing their understanding of the plot by exploring the emotions of the characters.

All of Year 3 are loving their Buddy Time! We are alternating weeks and this week it was 3PW's turn to spend time in the Nursery.



3J are enjoying their Religious Studies lessons and have been learning about Judaism, Moses and 'The Ten Commandments'. In this lesson, the children decided which commandment was the most important to them, explained why, and then created a beautiful water-colour poster which represented their choice.



Things to Remember

- For this weekend's **English homework**, some of the children have been asked to continue working in the *English Reading CGP* book (orange and white). They have been asked to complete the **second part**, based on the text which can be found on pages 16-17. They should answer question set 2 on pages 20-21. Other children have been given an alternative to ensure that all the children have a homework that is tailored to suit them.
- Our **Spring Bulb Competition** has launched! Children are encouraged to grow a bulb (or 2) at home and bring them in to school on Wednesday, 12 March when the first round of judging will take place. There are plenty of house-points and 'Green Thumb' certificates to be won - happy growing and good luck!
- The children have brought home scripts for the upcoming Shakespeare Festival. We have been looking at the text and practising during Drama lessons. Each child has been given lines to be learned off by heart over the coming weeks for their homework. Please support the children in learning their lines in response to the cue line before it.

We are practising:

- Speaking with a "clear voice" (not mumbled - slow is better)
- Speaking out - finding their "big voice"
- Saying their lines with an "acting voice" - lots of expression to keep the attention of the audience. So aim for a "CLEAR, BIG, ACTING VOICE"!

The performance to parents is on Thursday 13th March at 9am; you will be sent a letter with information on how to reserve your place in the next coming weeks.

- Year 3 are **not swimming until after February half term**, so there is no need for them to bring in swimming kit on Thursdays until then. Please note that **Games** on Tuesdays (unless we inform you otherwise) is now starting a little later, which means that if you wish to pick-up your child directly from Kings House at the conclusion of the lesson, please do so **at 3pm**.
- Save the Date: On the afternoon of Friday 14th of February the school will be holding Grandparents and Special Friends Afternoon. Details will follow soon but, in the meantime, please save the date!
- Year 3 are progressing well in **Sanskrit**. At present, for any homework set they are asked to continue systematically with the exercises in their text-books. These exercises allow them to practise what they have been learning in class. They should not spend more than 15 minutes on homework. Parents do not need to help at all. If pupils are finding it difficult, they should have a go and then put it away. The Sanskrit teacher will help the next day. The most important thing is for them to enjoy what they are doing, and to bring their book back to school!
- We have reminded the children that Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) forms part of their weekly homework schedule on a Tuesday and a Thursday. Ms Foster has

stipulated that **TTRS must be played in Garage Mode only** for 2 x 5-10 minute sessions. If you have any questions about our online platforms, please do get in touch via the school-office. Login details for this platform and others have been stuck in their spelling books.

- Please ensure you are listening to your child **read aloud** as much as possible - ideally on a daily basis, filling in the yellow reading record. *Oxford Reading Buddy* login details have also been stuck in their spelling books.