



ST JAMES

Preparatory School

Year 3 Newsletter: Spring Term, Week 2

What have we explored this week?

Welcome Back! We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the children's energy as they returned to school after their break and we have started the term with vigour and enthusiasm.

In Maths, we are continuing our work on multiplication and division, by learning how to multiply with and without exchange using partitioning. Pupils in Ms Foster's group have been looking at measurement.

In English, we began learning our new model text 'Grandpa's Teeth'. It is a story about loss, so our unit began with our cold task of a story about a time when we lost something valuable.

In Science, we have switched focus towards 'Light and Shadows'. We started the unit by looking at different sources of light and using terms such as artificial and natural to describe them.

Football on Tuesday at Kings House was an afternoon of (mostly!) blue sky and sunshine. The children practised their passing skills and were learning to play as a team.



Our new History this term topic is 'The Normans and Celts'. This will link to our residential trip in early May. Speaking of which, we will be in touch in due course with details of a parent meeting where we will share with you information about this trip, which is scheduled for 7-9th May 2025.

Year 3 were made to feel extra special as the first class chosen to kick-off this term's Cookery lessons. The children loved making 'Not so sausage rolls' and we hope you enjoyed them at home. The recipe is attached, should you wish to make more of them.

Things to Remember

- This weekend's **English homework** can be found in the *English Reading CGP* book (orange and white). The children have been asked to complete the **first part**, based on the text which can be found on pages 16-17. They should answer question set 1 on pages 18-19. They have also been asked to continue learning our model text - 'Grandpa's Teeth'.
- 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**.
- 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.

- **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 colours** - 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 is 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!

