



ST JAMES

Preparatory School

Year 3 Newsletter: Spring Term, Week 9

What have we explored this week?



Wasn't the Shakespeare Festival such a treat? We were overwhelmed with pride at the confidence and talent that all the children showed on the stage. We are so grateful to you for the time and effort you have put in with them to help learn their lines, which we fully appreciate is a challenge for all children, especially when using Shakespearian language!

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their tag-rugby fixture against Kew College on Tuesday. Although some of the children have only just begun to learn and play the game, they demonstrated a fantastic understanding of the fundamentals of the sport. They also showed good sportsmanship when competing against unfamiliar opponents - well done, all!

In English, we have continued our unit of persuasive writing. We have been learning our model text of 'Dazzling Demon Dentures' and examining its vocabulary, some of which is quite complex! We have also been learning about the purpose of rhetorical questions and how they are used to 'hook' the reader - followed by 'if so' answers to draw them in further.

In Science, we have enjoyed a number of practical investigations to support our unit on *How Plants Grow*. We have planted beans and most recently completed activities to look at how water is transported within plants.

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 question set**, based on the text (Orpheus and Euridice) which can be found on pages 22-23. They should answer **question set 2 on pages 26-27**. Other children have been given an alternative to ensure that all the children have a homework that is tailored to suit them.
- Year 3 PTIs will be held on **Tuesday 18th March**. Please follow this link to book your slot: <https://stjamesjunior.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
- 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**.
- Our *Spring Bulb Competition* is nearing its end. Please may all entries be brought into school by next week Wednesday, 19 March. Many thanks for encouraging the next generation of green-thumbs!
- Year 3 have **swimming lessons this half term**, so please ensure they bring in swimming kit on Thursdays until the Easter holidays. If you would like to collect your child from the pool at **3pm**, please let us know at office@stjamesprep.co.uk
- Although the weather is a little warmer of late, we are still in the middle of a British winter and some pupils do not have a raincoat in school. Please ensure that your children have a rainproof coat in school each day.
- 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.