

St James curriculum News

WHAT'S IN THIS TERMS ISSUE?

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of the last term of the year and have plenty to celebrate! This term's value has been courage linked to our curriculum driver of adventure! The children have all been pushing themselves to try new things and have their own mini adventures. In collective worship the focus has been on the 'Space Makers' practice of blessings - thinking about ourselves, our families, our friends, our community & even our foes! Represented by the different parts of a tree.



Books are such an important part of childhood and not just for reading but developing imagination, finding out knowledge and encouraging speaking and listening. I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to join in the Summer Reading Challenge at the Library. I know the children were excited about bringing in their certificates at the beginning of the year to earn themselves a Headteacher's Award!





Spotlight on: The PTA

It has been a truly amazing year for the PTA and they have managed to raise an incredible amount of money, which we are focusing on using to improving our outdoor areas!

Events include:

- 2 very memorable discos (and not just because of the teacher's dancing!)
- A massive Christmas raffle!
- Doughnut Days
- Coin wars
- Rag to Riches
- Bingo
- Ice Cream sales
- A sponsored bounce

And then of course the incredible **'Party in the Park'** - which was the best PTA run event I've ever been to!



Thank
you



The school cannot thank you enough for your amazing efforts that can involve early mornings and even later nights! You really do make a difference to so many child.

Sport at St James



Sports Day



The VAT Sports Awards

Music at St James



iRock



Early Years News

Donaldson Class

wow, what a lovely end to the school year we have had in Donaldson class.

Our topic has been all about holidays and the children have been sharing their experiences, splashing around in our paddling pool and even had an ice cream from an ice cream van on site!

There are mixed emotions this term as the majority of our children move onto school,

We have been helping prepare for this transition by having story times with Mrs Oreffo (Inkpen teacher) going on school visits and talking to the children, letting them know it's ok to be anxious, excited and all of the emotions they are feeling.

We are so proud of each and every one of them and their achievements and wish them all the best for the future.

" although our time has finished,
our smiles will never fade.

We won't forget the handprints left or the memories we made"

Have an amazing summer of laughter and fun!

Donaldson team



Inkpen Class

We have had such a fun final term in Reception with our topic 'Where do explorers go on an adventure?'. We absolutely love our focus text, 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson and have really enjoyed learning about all types of places we could go to explore. Our highlight of the term had to be our 'Beach Experience Day', where we played in the sand, played classic beach games and had a real ice cream truck come onto the school grounds! It's been such an uplifting and interesting topic to end our year on. Inkpen class, you have had such a brilliant year and I hope you have made some amazing memories. I know you are going to have the best time in Year One!



Key Stage 1 News

Rosen Class

This term our curriculum driver has been Adventure and we started the term reading many different adventure stories to grasp what an adventure looks like in a story. With Emma Jane's Aeroplane as our stimulus, we then wrote our very own adventure stories and published them to make, Rosen's Big Book of Adventures for Miss Brown – they were great!

In History we have been learning all about the History of Flight, significant people we have discussed include: The Wright Brothers, Bessie Coleman and Amelia Earhart.

For our end of year celebration and our final adventure together, we went to Hanney Park and had a wonderful picnic together and played in the local park! It was soooooo fun! We even got a cheeky ice pop!



Thank you to everyone in Rosen class, you have been a such a great class! I can't wait to see what you can do as you grow through the school.



Nichols Class

Nichols Class has had a busy and exciting term, exploring a variety of topics, from adventure to history to music.

The term began with a focus on adventure. Students designed their own portals to another world, using their imaginations to create fantastical places. They also read books about adventure including The puffin keeper and Journey.

In history, students explored the beach over the last 100 years. They learned about how the beach has changed over time, both physically and in terms of how it is used. They also interviewed their grandparents about their memories of the beach, and created art projects to represent their findings.

To celebrate reaching 4,000 dojos, Nichols Class went on a trip to the park. They played games and enjoyed the sunshine.

In music, the children learned the song Slippery Fish. They performed the song at the celebration assembly, and their audience was impressed by their singing and dancing



Lower Key Stage 2 News

Roald Dahl Class

Our curriculum driver this term has been adventure and our term in Year 3 has been filled with it, both with the literature we have read and our own adventures at Hill End!

Our historical learning this half term has been all about the Egyptians, including: what did the Ancient Egyptians discover, who built the pyramids and finding out about what life was like for women and children in Ancient Egyptian times. Throughout all of our learning about the Ancient Egyptians we had to use real life evidence in order to find out what it showed us. I think we have lots of budding historians in Dahl class and even some children who want to be Egyptologists!

As part of our English we have enjoyed the books 'Marcy and the riddle of the Sphinx' and 'The Time Travelling Cat and the Egyptian Goddess'. We used 'Marcy and the riddle of the Sphinx' as inspiration to write our own adventure stories which were fantastic!

I think the highlight of our term has to be Hill End which was an overnight residential. During the two days the children made dens, took part in a scavenger hunt, team building activities and completed and orienteering trail. We were really impressed with all the children during the 2 days away. They showed courage, perseverance and kindness throughout all activities.

Here are some quotes from the children about their favourite parts of Hill End:

Georgia – I still wish we were there!

Poppy – My favourite thing was rolling down the hill!

Cian – My favourite part was singing campfire songs. We sang and roasted marshmallows which was fun.

Ollie – My favourite part of Hill End was building the den since it was fun but also hard work!

Monty – My stay at Hill End was amazing!

Marnie – My favourite part about going to Hill End was the big scavenger hunt because you could see all the wonderful sights.

Oliver P found an antler!



Rowling Class

This term Rowling class have been extremely busy. We've been reading the book The Roman story and learning about what it was like for a child to travel from her hometown in Libya, to Rome, and then on to Britain. As part of the story, we've been writing persuasive letters to convince a character within the story to join the journey. In Maths, we've been looking at angles, shapes and marking points on graphs, which the children have enjoyed. For Science, we've been learning about animals and living things and their habitats, creating food chains and webs. For PE, the children have enjoyed cricket and OAA (outdoor, adventurous activities), which included compass work, treasure trails and using satellite pictures to navigate around the school grounds. The children have worked fabulously this term and have been a pleasure to teach throughout the year. I wish them all the best for year 5.



Upper Key Stage 2 News

Ibbotson Class

This term we have been looking at the Vikings (and not just in history). In English we've been learning how to construct a balanced argument to explore the question "Should museums return the Viking hoards?" We've been reading about Hiccup and his adventures training his dragon on the Viking island of Berk in the excellent "How to Train Your Dragon". During our immersion day, we tried some Viking food including pickled herring and Icelandic cheese yogurt (both with mixed reactions from the children as you can see from the photograph montage to the right).



Our computing topic covering "Selection in physical computing" has been hit with the children. They've been learning to program the Crumble microcontrollers to control and monitor things such as motors, LED lights and switches. The fact your computer program can make a light flash or a motor rotate in the real world is quite exciting and has sparked interest many of the children and was topped off by a Head Teacher's award for their presentation in collective worship.

Shakespeare Class

Year 6 have had a busy last term including a variety of projects. One of their favorite's was the animations they created during computing, which were amazing! They also planned, costed and cooked a school dinner - harder than it looks but they made something delicious! They have had various trips to the park the most memorable with their buddies from Inkpen class. The pupils also wanted to leave their mark and have planned and created a space by the Nursery entrance - the Julia Donaldson inspired painted rocks were particularly effective! Well done Year 6 you have worked hard and achieved some great SATs results. We wish you all the best of luck at Secondary and beyond!



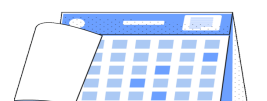
After School Enrichment Clubs

3:20pm-4:15pm

Clubs are £2.50 per session, please book via [Parentmail](#)

This clubs are enrichment opportunities, not childcare

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	 <p>Yr 1, 2 & 3 Art & Craft Where: Yr 4</p>	 <p>Football Who: Yr 5 & 6 Where: Field</p>	 <p>Martial Arts Who: Yr 2- 6 Where: Hall</p>	
		 <p>Dungeons & Dragons Who: Yr 4 – 6 Where: Year 5 Finish 4:30pm</p>		



Key Dates for the Diary

Sept 2023

Wednesday 6th Sept: Start of Autumn Term

Thursday 7th Sept: Welcome & new vision and curriculum sharing with SLT & Governors

WB 9th Oct: Parent's Evenings

Thursday 19th Sept: End of Term

Tuesday 31st Oct: Start of Term 2