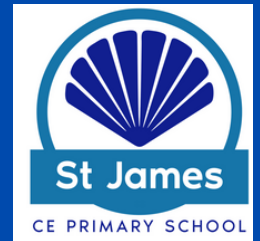


Learning together with courage
and kindness

'For the good of all' 1 Corinthians 12



Term 1- oct 2023

St James curriculum News

WHAT'S IN THIS TERMS ISSUE?

- Spotlight on: SIAMs
- Class News
- Dates for your diary

Dear St James families,

Wow what a first term! There has been so much to celebrate this term I'm not sure how we'll fit it all in. I also can't believe how quickly it has flown by! Thank you so much to the whole St James school community, everyone's support means so much and helps to make our school a wonderful place for all the children to learn in! We really are living our vision:

'FOR THE GOOD OF ALL' 1 CORINTHIANS 12

LEARNING TOGETHER WITH COURAGE AND KINDNESS

COMMUNITY - 'one body, even though it is made up of different parts' 1 Corinthians 12:12

COURAGE - 'love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail' 1 Corinthians 13:7

KINDNESS - 'and those parts that we think aren't worth very much are the ones we must treat with the greatest care' 1 Corinthians 12:23

For further information on this and lots of other exciting school information please visit our new look website - <https://www.stjamesprimaryhanney.co.uk/>





Spotlight on: SIAMs



I'm so pleased to share with you our fantastic SIAMs report and say a massive thank you to the amazing pupils, staff, parents, Governors and members of the VAT central team, who supported the process so brilliantly. We have received a judgement 1 - which celebrates 'that St. James Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school'

Highlights from the report include:

"The vision underpins the decision making of leaders. This inspires and supports all pupils, enabling them to feel cherished and successful."

"There are strong partnerships which enhance the vision of the school, supporting the wellbeing of children and adults. These provide a secure foundation for leaders when making courageous decisions"

"It is clear there is a shared determination to ensure the vision has an impact on pupils' abilities and character."

"In line with the vision, all leaders consider the wellbeing of pupils and adults as a matter of great importance"

"Such care is an example of the vision at work, helping all reach their potential."

"Individual pupils who require specialist activities are guided to learn and valued for their uniqueness. Leaders promote inclusion and equality for all pupils, reinforcing the vision of all being part of 'the one body.'"

"The school benefits from the strong relationship with the parish of St. James the Great. The clergy team provides weekly 'Open the Book' inclusive worship that shares a variety of Bible stories. As a result, pupils are able to name their favourite stories and how they relate to being kind."

"Through engagement in the trust's Character and Citizen Award, pupils develop a knowledge of themselves and how they can be courageous advocates. Pupil leadership is strongly encouraged, which develops kindness between ages. For example, new reception children delight in seeing their 'Year 6 Buddy.'"



"St. James Church of England Primary is clearly a place where all are cherished to enable them to flourish. The vision of 'being one body' provides all with the strongest possible foundation."



Please see our website for the full report
<https://www.stjamesprimaryhanney.co.uk>

Early Years News

Donaldson Class

We've had a wonderful start to the year in Donaldson Class! We started with some brilliant colour experimenting linked to our book 'Mixed'. We've been on lots of outside adventures and discovered the wonders of nature! We all love relaxing and doing yoga together using our imagination to travel all sorts of different places. We've tasted lot of different healthy fruit and vegetables some of which we liked more than others! Everyone loves to sing along to our counting songs - watch out for those cheeky monkeys and ducks! We have also started our phonics: listening carefully, copying sounds and enjoying rhymes.



Inkpen Class

Our first term in Inkpen Class has been incredible, the children have settled really well. They have got used to the new routines and expectations of being in Reception really quickly. They have enjoyed exploring the classroom and outdoor area.

This term, our key question has been 'What makes a good friend?', we enjoyed reading the book Meesha makes friends and used this to think about what we can do to be a good friend to everyone in class.

The children have loved starting outdoor learning this term and have made bird feeders, magical wands using natural materials and use natural materials to make artwork.

Next term we are answering the questions 'What can we find in the woods?' and using the book 'We're going on a bear hunt' as inspiration for our learning.



Key Stage 1 News

Rosen Class

Wow, our first term in Year One has come to an end – well done to all the children who have quickly settled into their new classroom routines – it has been a fantastic term!

We started the term by going to the local woods to launch our writing text, Goldilocks and The Three Bears. Over the term, we have worked incredibly hard understanding the story in great detail in order to retell the story in small groups. We then performed these to the class 😊

In geography we have been learning all about where we live and we went for a local walk to investigate the village of Hanney. We took lots of photos and in our English lessons we learned how to write captions & labels which then allowed to create a photo exhibition for our parents. A great writing purpose which resulted in lots of great writing! 😊

These are just a few examples of the children's hard work. All the adults are looking forward to what next term will bring!

Happy Half term from all the Year One Team!



Nichols Class

We have had a great start to Year Two, well done to all the children who have wonderfully settled into their new classroom routines – it has been a brilliant term!

We started the term with our construction challenge building towers from spaghetti and marshmallows to introduce our writing text, The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig. Over the term, we have worked incredibly hard understanding the story in great detail ready to create our own innovated stories. Nichols class were very passionate about their writing, and especially excited by making their stories into puppet shows for Year One – we have all been so proud! 😊

In Geography we have been thinking about 'where would you choose to live?' We investigated different local villages, towns and cities and curated maps of the different areas. Year Two demonstrated lots of brilliant knowledge and shared some very insightful responses to where they would choose to live.

Science has been a particular highlight for many, including lots of experiments testing the properties of different materials ready to report our findings to the Three Little Wolves.

These are just a few examples of the children's hard work – we cannot wait to see what next term will bring.

Happy Half term from Miss Brown and Mrs O'Connor!



Lower Key Stage 2 News

Dahl Class

This term Dahl Class have been having fantastic fun with their Science unit on light and dark, including what total darkness means. They playing with their shadows creating weird and wonderful shapes, as seen in the photos below. The children were really interested in learning about how Hindus use Murtis as part of their religious practices and asked some very thoughtful questions. They did a wonderful job on their art unit this term based around the work of Henri Matisse and shared it with the whole school during a celebration collective worship. Ms Grice has loved having the class and I know she will miss them now that Mrs Baker is back.



Rowling Class

This term year 4 have been busy setting back into a new school year. They have been working hard with writing this term, by developing their understanding of setting descriptions. Within this, they have been beginning to learn fronted adverbials as well as expanded noun phrases. We have also been enjoying the book 'The Train to Impossible Places', which they children have thoroughly enjoyed. In Maths, we have been focusing on our understanding of place value going into thousands, as well as beginning the formal method for addition and subtraction with exchanging. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed computing this term, being able to create and design their own vector drawings on the computers. They enjoyed being able to design and create penguins, robots as well as signs for our classroom environment. Within Science, we have been exploring electricity, building and creating our own circuits, as well as understanding about different conductors and insulators and how switches work. Finally, PE has been all about Netball and Gymnastics and we've designed our own gymnastic routines based on balancing.



Upper Key Stage 2 News

Ibbotson Class

This term has had a very watery theme. We've been engaged in some courageous advocacy, writing formal letters in English to protect the ancestral lands and water sources of the Ojibwe tribe from oil pipelines. We have studied rivers in the classroom, in the school sandpit and by actually visiting two local rivers to further our geographic understanding.

As scientists we have explored forces, and in the process covered gravity, air and water resistance. We also had a fantastic taster for our next term's space topic with a wonderful day out at the European Space Agency on Harwell Campus.

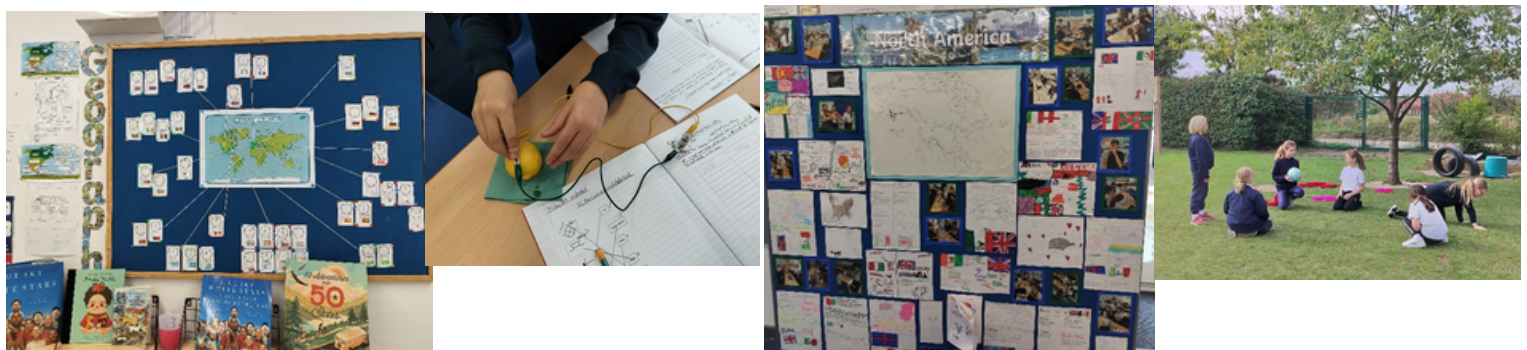


Our amazing fiction reading book, *The Boy in the Tower*, has kept us all on the edge of our seats, desperate to find out how Ade and Gaia will escape the terrifying Bluchers!


The variety of stuff we've packed into this term is incredible and the children have embraced their learning with courage and enthusiasm. From the trip to the Wantage literary festival to tag rugby, photo editing, place value in maths, exploring Brahman in RE, gymnastics, looking at and singing about our place in our community, the term has been a huge success!

Shakespeare Class

In English, Year 6 have been studying William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* – the children have enjoyed acting out the story and performing *The Witches Song*. We have focused on setting descriptions and how we can add detail to our writing through expanded noun phrases, relative clauses and parenthesis, as well as including figurative language (similes, metaphors and personification) to engage our reader. In Maths, we have recapped our understanding of place value and looked at the four operations, developing our fluency and applying these skills to a variety of problems. We have also discussed the importance of using a range of different strategies and reasoned about which one might be the most efficient. We have explored electricity in Science, building on previous knowledge of how circuits work and trying to decide which fruit made the best fruity battery! The children have enjoyed our Geography topic of North America: we tasted some American food and drinks, used atlases to plot key features such as countries, rivers and mountain ranges, explored time zones in different parts of the world and why they occur, and compared Mexico to the UK. In Computing, we have designed our own webpage and in PE, we have learned and adapted the Haka, as well as completing our Sports Leadership unit, designing playground games for younger children.



Parent Dates - Autumn Term 2

Date	Information
30 th October 	INSET Day Teacher INSET. School closed for children.
31 st October 	Flu vaccine Full details are on the NHS consent letter. These will take place in school.
3 rd November 	School Disco Please purchase your ticket through Parent Mail (no wristbands this year) 4.30pm - 5.15pm: Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 5.30pm - 6.30pm: Years 3 - 6
4 th November 	Community Day 10am - 3pm Please join us for our indoor community day in school. We will be starting our refurb of the hall!
8 th November 	English parent workshop: 2.45pm & 6.00pm Our English team will be presenting our St James English curriculum and answering any questions.
9 th November 	Y6 parent residential information meeting 5.00pm - 5.30pm in the Hall.
13 th – 20 th November 	Christmas Shoebox Appeal Drop-off week A wonderful opportunity to support the Samaritans charity and help give children across the globe a better Christmas. If you would like to take part, you donate £5 and collect a leaflet from the Office.
17 th November 	Children In Need Children are invited to <u>make a donation</u> and dress up in something spotty!
27 th – 1 st December 	Year 6 Residential Year 6 are away at Yerworthy Lodge for a week of making memories!
4 th – 8 th December 	SEND Review parent meetings Parent teacher meetings to review ISPs and set outcomes for Term 2 & 3.
1 st December 	Jack and the Beanstalk Panto Years 1 - 4 will be travelling to the Oxford Playhouse for some pantomime fun.
3 rd December 	Family Advent Service 9.30am at St James Church.
8 th December 	Christmas Carol Performance Years 5 & 6 will be travelling to Creation Theatre at Longwall in Oxford for this Christmas classic.
8 th December 	Fun Run for Helen and Douglas House 11am on the school field. More details to follow.
6 th & 7 th December 	Reception & Year 1 Nativity 2.30pm in the Hall. More details to follow.
11 th – 15 th December 	Year 5 Swimming Intensive Week Please ensure children have their swimwear with them in school every day this week.
13 th & 14 th 	Christmas Lunch 13th December: Reception, Years 1, Yr2 & Yr 6 14th December: Years 3, 4 & 5 Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on their Christmas dinner day.
13 th December	Donaldson Class Christmas sing song 2:30pm
13 th December 	Christingle Service 4pm at St James Church – Please come and join us at St James Church. Children from Years 4-6 will be invited to sing or read. Details to follow.
15 th December 	Festive Film Club: 3.20pm - 5.00pm Children are invited to stay at school and enjoy a festive film. If you would like your child to attend, please donate £5 (which will go towards a light tea and refreshments).
18 th December 	Rock Performance 2.15pm: Parents of children who attend Rock are invited to their performance in the hall.
19 th December 	Years 2 & 3 Carol Concert 2.30pm in the Hall. More details to follow.
20 th December 	Last day of term – School ends at 12:30