

Dear Parents,

We have had yet another very busy term at St James'. The children have transitioned in to Year 4 smoothly and are responding to the challenge very well 😊 We have been doing so much fantastic work in class including:

- English- We have studied the children's classics The Iron Man, Varmints and Farther. We have written letters, explanation texts, newspaper articles, diary entries, instructions and information leaflets.
- Maths – using our new scheme we have been focusing on addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, perimeter, measurements and place value. We have been talking lots about our Maths reasoning and enjoying problem solving too.
- Ancient Egypt has been our history topic and it is fantastic to see how engaged and interested the children have been in the topic. We learned about mummification, ancient tomb paintings, Ancient Egyptian Gods and lots more.
- In our science topics we learned about food chains, the digestive system including making our own poo- which was interesting! We have also studied how sounds are made.
- Abstract Artists was our art topic and the children produced some beautiful pieces of abstract art using paints. They are on display in our classroom. The children explored artists such as Mondrian, Fernand Leger and Wassily Kandinsky.
- Guided Reading happens lots in Year 4 and we have read and listened to a wide range of songs, poems, story extracts and non-fiction texts.
- In our RE we have been learning all about The Bible, finding references for ourselves and understanding what is in the New and Old Testament. Our second topic was focusing on how we can trust God and what examples we can see in the Bible. We began our work on Hinduism this term, learning about the Trimurti and their belief system. It was great to have a visit from Nabhi who told us all about Diwali.
- In DT we made some Ancient Egyptian bread this term and all the children worked together well to make some very yummy loaves.

We were lucky enough to travel to London to visit the beautiful Temple at Neasden Baps Shri Swaminarayan Mandir. It was truly a beautiful place and the children really gained a lot from the visit. We also attended the Advent Service at St George's Cathedral and the children represented St James' very well.

I was also so proud of the children during our own Advent Service. They sang their song so beautifully. What a lovely way to end the term. They have all worked very hard and have made some amazing progress. You are amazing Year 4 😊

I would like to set a little Christmas Homework:

1. Read as many books as possible- if you find any amazing ones I can't wait to hear about them.
2. Eat your favourite Christmas food (mine is pigs in blankets and I'm going to have 50 😊)
3. Watch your favourite Christmas film
4. Make sure on Christmas Eve that you leave something for Santa
5. Have one day that you spend in your pyjamas 😊
6. Have as much fun as you possibly can... you thoroughly deserve it.

Have a lovely Christmas and see you all in 2024!

Miss Atkinson

