

Art

Our Art focus this half term is **Drawing**



Our key artist is **Paul Cezanne**.

We will be focusing on how to simplify objects into basic shapes and use colour to create depth in our drawings.

Home Reading

Children will choose an age-appropriate text from school to read at home—this needs to be brought into school everyday.

Children should read at home for at least **20 minutes each evening** and record it in their green reading journals. These journals will be checked daily, so please ensure your child brings it to school every day.



Homework

Homework will be uploaded to Google Classroom weekly, including the spelling words they will be assessed on.

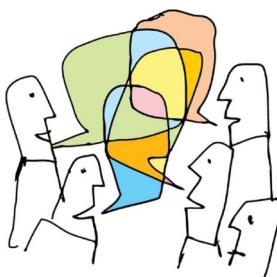
Children are expected to engage with TTRS on a regular basis, with help to prepare for the upcoming MTC.



Oracy

We will continue to work on our ability to express ourselves verbally through our next Oracy Day.

This will take place on Friday 6th February and once again, we will welcome our parents and carers into class to participate in our class presentation.



We will use the feedback provided by parents and carers to improve our speaking and listening skills, as well as showcase our geography learning from this half term.



St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Year 4, welcome back to SJSJ!

Happy New Year!
We hope you all had a wonderful break and are ready to face the Spring term!

2026

Adults working in Year 4

Miss Al-Sahar
Miss Uddin

History

This term we will be basing our learning on the exciting historical time period
The Vikings and Anglo-Saxons!



We will enhance our understanding of history by exploring the question -
'What happened when the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings settled in Britain?'

We will be expanding our historical knowledge by travelling back to 449AD, when the Anglo-Saxons started to invade Britain.

We will then explore how the Vikings began to settle and find out about what life was like during this time period.

PE

PE will take place every **Thursday**.



The focus for this half term is: **Gymnastics**. Be reminded that children are to come to school in their PE kits to allow them to maximise their learning time.

Science

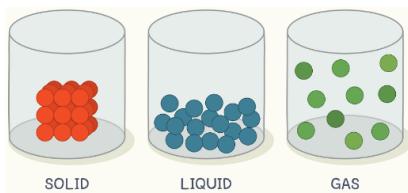
In science, our topic is '**States of Matter**'.

We will identify different matter and how they can be used in our daily lives.

Our key question is -

Does water just exist as a liquid?

We will study how temperature affects solids, liquids and gases, as well as the following processes of change: melting, freezing, condensation and evaporation.



HOUR OF CODE

Computing

This half term in computing, we will be developing our **coding skills** using the programme **Hour of Code** to create, manipulate and debug algorithms.

RE

In RE, we will be focusing our learning on the faith of **Hinduism** and explore the question - **'What do Hindus worship?'**



We will be learning about different Hindu Gods, Hinduism worship at home and about key festivals in the Hindu calendar such as Diwali.

Key dates

Tuesday 20th January—Trip to Swaminarayan Temple

Thursday 29th January—Trip to the Science Museum

Friday 6th February—Year 4 Class Assembly
Friday 6th February—Debate Day

PSHE

Our values theme for this half term is -

'Dreams and Goals'.

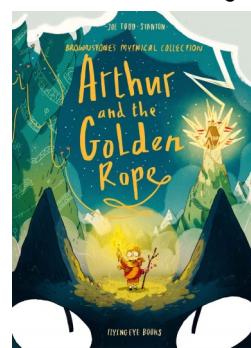


We will be setting personal goals, identifying our strengths, and understanding the steps needed to achieve our dreams.

We will explore the importance of perseverance, motivation, and supporting others.

English

We will be reading '**Arthur and the Golden Rope**' - by Joe Todd-Stanton.



We will begin by writing a introduction to present the main character and the setting of the book.

This will be followed by a travellers leaflet, and finally a diary entry.

In our grammar lessons, we will be focusing on:

- 'Show me, don't tell me' descriptions
- Fronted adverbials
- Speech
- Preposition phrases

Maths

This half term, we will be focusing on the following fundamentals:

Multiplication and Division

- Recalls $X \div$ facts to 12×12 (including $X \div$ by 1 & 0 and X 3 numbers
 - together).
 - Uses short $X \div$ methods.



This half term we will be focusing on our **6 and 7** times tables. It is really important that the children continue to practise these regularly at home, using **Times Tables Rockstars** for **5 minutes daily**.