

SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION

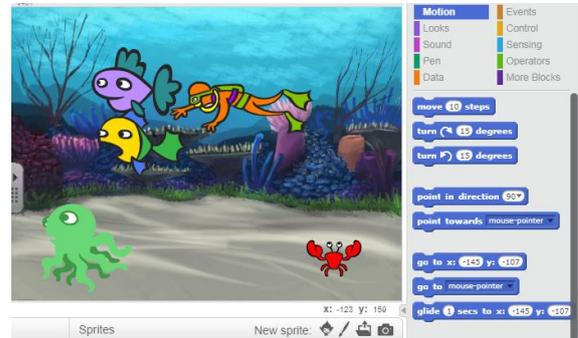
Friday 9th November 2018

*Thriving together in Love, Life and Learning***Perseverance – Reverence – Trust – Forgiveness – Fellowship – Joy****Computing & Information****Technology**

This week, we celebrated some of the computing work the classes have been completing this year. Students from Year 3 presented videos they created of photographs they took whilst on a local area visit. On the trip, they looked at local buildings and monuments as they begin to investigate urban development and examples of artwork that have been added to celebrate the environment and community.



Year 4 students were using Scratch to create animations of underwater life and presented some of their animations where they had to use code to make each of their creatures move.



Year 6 presented posters they made about search engines, whilst Year 5 presented artworks and maps they had created using particular editing and research skills after a unit about e-Safety. Presentation of our computing work happens every half term as we take pride in the development of our ICT skills across the school.

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is Anti-Bullying week where, across the school, we will be completing a variety of activities looking at the definition of bullying and the different forms it takes. As a part of our Anti-Bullying Charter, the students will be creating posters and talking about how our school values help to stop bullying at St. James & St. John.

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Parents' Afternoon Tea

A big thank you to those who attended the Parents' Afternoon Tea, which was kindly hosted by the PFA. It was nice to see the community take the opportunity to drop in and keep our school community humming with warmth and enthusiasm.

Christmas Card Competition

The Royal Lancaster Christmas Card competition is once again open this year with entries due by Wednesday 14th of November. Entries are to be handed to class teachers.

Spelling ideas!

As a part of weekly homework, students are given spelling word lists to practise and learn. There is not one single tried and tested method for learning the spelling of words that suits all children. As a part of the school's approach to spelling practice, regular ideas for spelling activities will be provided as a means to vary the way children practise

their words and as a way to broaden the understanding of the different types of ways we learn the spelling of different words.

Here is a game the students of Year 5 have been trialling whereby they practise the spelling of words that have no or difficult patterns, rules or root-word origins that assist in the spelling of them.

You will need:

- the word
- a cork
- a growth mindset



Hold the cork between thumb and forefinger.

Hold it horizontally above a table or flat surface.

Drop the cork, trying to have it land on the circular face.

Say one letter of the word each time until you land the cork on the circular face.

eg. The word is B A L L. Hold the cork in position. Drop the cork, saying the letter B. Repeat until the cork lands on the circular face,

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saying the letter each time. Then, say B A each time you drop the cork. Repeat until the cork lands on the circular face. Then say B A L and repeat until you have managed to spell the entire word. Then, repeat the process until you land on the circular face again where you say the final word BALL. This is a way of learning spelling that suits learners who have difficulty spelling when writing. It is also fun and can be turned into a competition of sorts between parents and children. If you have any questions about this activity, see Mr Peters and keep an eye out for a parent session we will be holding identifying a variety of techniques to practise spelling at home.

Reporting Absences via email

For reporting absences through email, please now use the following email address:

attendance@stjstj.co.uk

School Term and Holiday Dates for the 2018/2019 Academic Year

AUTUMN TERM

Monday 3 September - Friday 19 October 2018

Monday 12th-Friday 16th November

Anti-bullying Week

Friday 7th December

PFA Christmas Market

Tuesday 18th December

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 19th December

EYFS Christmas Show for Parents

Thursday 20th December

Year 1, 2 & 3 Christmas Show for parents 10am and 2pm

Friday 21st December

Whole School Nativity Service at St John's Hyde Park 10am

Friday 21st December

Last day of term – school closes to children at 1:30pm

Christmas Holiday

Monday 24th December – Friday 4th January

Monday 7th January

First day of the Spring Term

THIS IS NOT AN INSET DAY!

Please note that this is the one half term of the year that will not start with an INSET DAY and the children will be expected in school on Monday 7th January.

Monday 7th January

Whole school Epiphany Service
St. James's Sussex Gardens 2pm