ST JAMES
Preparatory School

Year 5 Newsletter: Summer Term, Week 6

This week in Year 5

It has been another busy week at St James. In between usual lessons, the children have been sitting their end-of-year assessments over the last two weeks. I am looking forward to discussing their progress, amongst other things, at the parent-teacher interviews which will be taking place on Thursday 12th June.

On Tuesday morning, the whole school was treated to an assembly by Dame Anya Hindmarch. She spoke passionately about her difficulties while at school and how, despite these, she has gone on to lead such a successful, rewarding life. The children were fascinated by her (often scathing!) school reports and especially enjoyed seeing and feeling her DBE medal.

In the middle of the week, we had a visit from a children's author, Rachel Morrisroe. She spoke about her new book, *Felix and the Future Agency*, and hosted an interactive game for everyone to take part in. Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 were joined by children from St Barnabas and St Philip's Primary, as well as children from Larmenier & Sacred Heart, so there was a lovely, energetic atmosphere throughout the event.

Well done to the four children from Y5 (Laura, Jacob, Lily and Andrea) who represented the school at Thursday's regional ISA Athletics event. All of the children did the school proud with their efforts. Particularly well done to Laura, who won her 75m race and has therefore qualified to compete at the ISA National Athletics Finals!

Things to Remember

- Photos from the residential trip to Mendip Activity Centre can be viewed here: Year 5 Mendip Photos 2025 **(This now includes some photos of archery and axe-throwing which have been recently uploaded!)**

  The password is MendipY5!

- There will be a Book Look for all classes on Wednesday 4th June at 8am.

- Parent Teacher Interviews for Year 5 will take place on Thursday 12th June. Please book your appointment on SchoolCloud.

- The children have got some additional homework this half term, including a few creative writing options, a comprehensions pack containing four comprehension activities, and lots of tasks set on Atom. I understand that some families will be going away on holiday but, where possible, it would be really beneficial for the children to do some work this week.

A note about PSHEE

To coincide with our PSHEE topic of 'Changing Me' over the next half term, we will also be discussing the NSPCC's Talk PANTS rules in our lessons. During these discussions we will aim to teach our children the following important safety skills without giving explicit information or telling scary stories. These are the PANTS rules:

P: Privates are private.

A: Always remember your body belongs to you.

N: No means no.

T: Talk about secrets that upset you.

S: Speak up, someone can help.

The lessons empower children, in an age-appropriate way, to recognise their rights to their own bodies, say no to touch that is unwanted, and tell someone if they feel uncomfortable. The lessons include activities which help children understand:

- Appropriate and inappropriate touch
- Their right to say no to things that make them feel upset or uncomfortable
- The names for parts of the body
- Who to turn to if they ever feel upset or worried

If you would like to know more about the NSPCC's campaign, including a short film and parent guide to help you continue the 'Talk PANTS' conversation at home, more information can be found at:
nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.