ST JAMES
Preparatory School

Year 2 Newsletter: Summer Term, Week 10

What have we explored this week?

This week, our class became super scientists by investigating how germs spread and the importance of handwashing. We used glitter to represent germs, which stuck to our hands with a bit of cooking oil. After a few handshakes, the glitter had spread to nearly everyone—just like real germs do!

The children washed their hands in basins of water, but we noticed the "germs" were still there. Only when we used soap did their hands become truly clean.

We linked this to our learning about Florence Nightingale, who transformed hospitals by insisting on cleanliness during the Crimean War, and Alexander Fleming, who discovered penicillin and helped fight infections.

This experiment—and our bread mould test—taught us how easily germs spread and how important it is to wash our hands thoroughly with soap!

We were very lucky to welcome Barbara from the RNLI to our school assembly this week for a special session on water safety—just in time for the summer holidays!

Barbara taught us how to stay safe at the beach and what the different RNLI flags mean. She also showed us how to float safely in the water if we ever get into trouble, and how to call for help.

She shared four key safety rules that we should all remember:

1. Stop and look before going near the water
2. Stay together – never swim alone and stay close to your adult
3. Float on your back if you get tired or caught in a current
4. Call 999 or 112 in an emergency and ask for the coastguard

Thank you, Barbara, for helping us stay safe this summer!

Things to remember

- Please note that there will be no homework this week as it is a short week. I will send home a summer bingo on the last day of school.

- Moving Up Morning is on **Monday 30th June**. Children will find out who their new teacher for September will be and will spend time with them in their new classrooms. Parents will receive details on the same day.

- Speech Day is on **Thursday 3rd July** at the Royal Geographical Society. Please bring your child straight to the venue for registration at 9:30am. The event will finish at approximately 11:30am and all children need to be collected from the venue.

- **Summer Sunflower Growing Competition**
  Every child in Nursery to Year 6 has received a sunflower seed. Please help your child plant their seed and remind them to water it during the summer holiday. When the sunflower is at its prime, please take a photo of it and upload this to ClassDojo. Judging of the photos (only) will take place the first week back in September. Happy growing!

  - 1st Place Winners: Gold Green Thumb certificate & 200HPs
  - 2nd Place Winners: Silver Green Thumb certificate & 100HPs
  - 3rd Place Winners: Bronze Green Thumb certificate & 50HPs

- Children need to play 2 x 5 minute sessions per week on Times Tables Rock Stars on "garage mode".

- We have set the children up with **Spelling Shed** log ins for them to practise their spelling using the spelling games. The log ins are in the back of their yellow book. Once logged in, go to assignments. There is one assignment for the week's spelling words and the other two assignments will be active throughout the year for the children to practise exception and common word spellings. Please reach out if you have any questions. The use of Spelling Shed is optional.

- **Please note that children must wear a hat a breaktime.** This can be the St James peak cap or the straw hat.

- If you have any questions or would like to inform me of anything, please do not hesitate to contact me via the office (office@stjamesprep.co.uk), via Class Dojo or at the end of the day.