

JYS News

Newsletter: 35~ 18th September 2026

Aspire ~ Respect ~ Enjoy



Reminders

Swimming lessons start on Thursday 24th September at the Westgate Centre. Children should arrive between 8:35am and 8:45am and must register with their teacher by 8:45am. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late. The swimming session begins at 9:00am.

Please do not leave children unaccompanied before 8:35am, as there is no supervision before this time. On swimming days, children should wear their PE kit and can bring an additional healthy snack, such as a flapjack, to enjoy afterwards. Please ensure snacks are nut-free. Thank you for your support.

A huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your incredibly generous donations of second-hand uniform. We've actually been a little overwhelmed by your generosity and are running out of storage space! For now, please pause any further donations and keep hold of them at home. We'll let you know as soon as we have space to accept more. In the meantime, look out for our second-hand uniform rail at school events. Please come and have a rummage! Any donations made for uniform go straight towards supporting the children at school. Thank you for your continued support! JYS Friends

We are currently looking to expand our lunchtime support team. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining our friendly team, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the school office to register your interest or to find out more information about the role.

This Week

Earlier this week, Year 6 were joined by Paul Ullson, a local history specialist, who helped launch our topic on the ancient Maya civilisation. We began the morning by revisiting the questions we had generated at the start of the unit. These questions helped guide our curiosity and focus our learning. Next, we had the exciting opportunity to handle real artefacts from the Maya region. These included obsidian tools, which were sharp and used for cutting, and beautiful emblems made from jade and gold, which demonstrated the importance of status and religion in Maya society. We then explored the Maya writing system, known as hieroglyphics. After learning how it worked, we had a go at writing our own names using Maya symbols. It was challenging but great fun! We also played a traditional Maya game called Bul. Played with stones on a board, the aim is to capture your opponent's pieces by moving them to their base. It gave us a fascinating insight into how the Maya may have spent their leisure time. The workshop brought our learning to life, helping us to develop a deeper understanding of Maya culture and history through hands-on experiences and practical activities.



In our art Year 4 have been learning about primary colours and how to mix them to make secondary colours. We used this knowledge to paint a simple pattern using contrasting colours. These are colours that are opposite each other on the colour wheel.

To finish our lesson we learnt about harmonious colours. These are colours that go well together. We drew a tree and then painted one half in reds, yellows and oranges and the other half in blues, greens and purples.

We had a super morning and earned some pompoms to put into our jar!

Year 5 had great fun in their first practical science lesson, exploring different materials and their properties. We investigated how to separate materials using sieves, magnets and a range of other equipment. The children enjoyed working scientifically, making predictions and testing their ideas through hands-on experiments.



We received the highest award possible for our equal access and commitment to girls football. Gold Award! Lunchtime football, girls football teams, football tournaments and football matches between ourselves and other schools.

We are delighted to introduce this year's School Council members. Congratulations to Rosie, Aiden, Douglas, Sophie, Alice, Eddie, Milo, Willow, Rory, Iris, Alex and Matilda, who were voted to represent their classes. We were incredibly impressed by all candidates who put themselves forward. Their well-prepared speeches and confidence were outstanding. Our new councillors have already met with Mr Harman and are looking forward to their first official meeting as they begin working on ideas to make a positive difference to our school community this year.



House Points

Children earn house points for different things throughout the week, and here are this week's results:

	This Week	Term Total	Year Total
Ash	127	217	217
Beech	112	213	213
Maple	125	213	213
Oak	134	222	222



Important Dates Coming Up

September 23rd - Sports Day

September 24th - First Swimming Years 4 & 5

October 6th - Year 5 Trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace

October 9th - Open Afternoon (Opportunity to View Your Child's Books)

October 12th - Little City Visit Year R and Year 1

October 14th - Year 2 Visit to Dell Quay, Chichester Harbour

October 16th - Flu Vaccinations

October 19th - 23rd - Bikeability Year 6 (L1/2)

October 21st - Parents Evenings

October 22nd - Parents Evenings

October 23rd - Bikeability Year 5

October 26th - 30th - HALF TERM

November 2nd - INSET DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS)