



Canterbury Tales

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Principal

The term has got off to a calm start and it has been excellent to see the students looking so happy and going about their business with fortitude and positivity. The new students are settling in, as is Mr Mallon, our one new teacher. He is already making his presence felt and the Early Years seems calmer both with a male presence in there and smaller numbers in what is now the Pre-Nursery area. We do, of course, want to grow these classes, to a maximum size of 16 students per class, and with that in mind we have a 'Stay and Play' Open Morning on Saturday 25th January 2025 between 9am and 11am. Do encourage any friends or relatives who may be interested to come along to meet the Early Years teachers and teaching assistants, and experience our learning environment in action.

I am away for the first 4 days of next week, and during that time Mrs Orla Redmond, the Primary Coordinator will be deputising for me. I will, though, be contactable by email as ever. On Friday 24th January, we have our next Friends of King's Group Meeting. This will take place at 2.30pm in the normal place (Maths Room on the 3rd Floor). I look forward to seeing many of you there.



Early Years

This week in Pre-Nursery, the children have had an exciting time exploring jungle themes during circle time. They sang lively songs such as Down in the Jungle and Walking in the Jungle and enjoyed the classic story, Dear Zoo. They also had lots of fun investigating animal sensory boxes. During continuous provision, the children demonstrated their creativity by making zebras and colouring snakes. They also practised their fine motor skills and counting while "feeding the animals in the zoo" by scooping cornflakes and counting bears hidden in soil.

This week in Nursery, the children have delved into the fascinating world of jungle animals. In circle time, they explored a book with a Personal, Social and Emotional theme, focusing on the feeling of anger—what it looks like, how it feels, and ways to handle it positively. During continuous provision, the children got creative by making leaf prints using paint and the pressing technique, completing jigsaws, and crafting jungle vines. In maths, they worked on matching numerals to Numicon and explored the composition of numbers using concrete materials.



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This week, in Maths, the Reception students have been busy selecting, rotating, and manipulating shapes to develop their spatial reasoning skills, with plenty of hands-on activities to challenge their thinking. In English, we've begun reading the new book I Am Henry Finch, sparking discussions about identity and self-discovery. In Topic, our focus has shifted to jungle animals, where students have been learning about specific features and how these creatures adapt to their environments. They've also been expanding their vocabulary, exploring terms like carnivore, herbivore, and omnivore, which has led to some fascinating conversations about the animal kingdom.



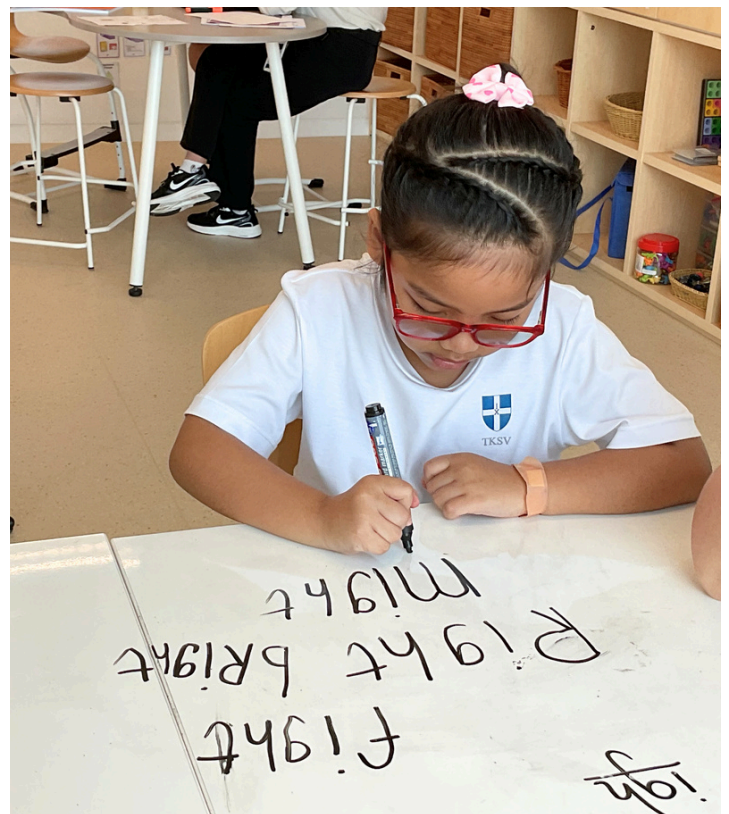
Speaking of symbols, during assembly today, we considered how some of our native Cambodian animals encompass and represent our school values. Lots of interesting discussion took place.

We look forward to a fantastic term filled with learning, growth, and new experiences. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

Primary

We were delighted to welcome everyone back to school after the holidays! It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled back in and how readily they have returned to their studies. Across primary, lots of new units of work have been started this week and already I have seen new posters on classroom walls, as well as lots of work in their books.

As we move forward, we are excited to celebrate the upcoming Chinese New Year. Children have begun learning the Story of Nian and exploring the Chinese Zodiac. Our focus will be on the significance of the Year of the Snake, a symbol of wisdom, intuition, and transformation.



Secondary

Science

This term, our Science Department has been bustling with activity as students across year groups engage in exciting new topics.

In Year 5, students have begun exploring the human digestive system. From understanding how food travels through the body to the role of enzymes in digestion, they've been captivated by the intricate processes that keep us alive.

Year 8 students are diving into the principles of speed, force, and moments. In addition to this, they're exploring the role of pressure in liquids through real-world case studies, gaining insights into the practical applications of these concepts in everyday life. Meanwhile, Year 9 students have been focused on energy conversions, learning how energy is transformed from one form to another. This topic has sparked thought-provoking discussions on renewable energy and sustainability.

Art

This week during our assembly, we explored the tradition of making New Year resolutions, a practice common in many countries. Inspired by our discussions, we decided to create our own New Year art pieces. These artworks are designed to help us focus on our future aspirations, set new personal goals, and reflect on changes we want to make. Our creations will be proudly displayed in our homeroom

