



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Friday 8th March 2019

Dear Parents

This week our academy really has been a hive of activity! Visits, sports events & outdoor learning activities have all contributed to the quality outcomes which have been produced by your children this week. It is our aim that all of our children get as many real-life and diverse experiences as possible throughout their primary years in order to bring their learning alive and make it memorable.

We were also, once again, very proud of our children as we opened the doors to 48 schools at our Reading Showcase as part of the English Hub. The educationalists who attended were in awe of our children's amazing attitudes, concentration and perseverance in learning. Our English Hub is certainly helping to drive our standards further and we are very proud.



Mrs T Swinburne

Executive Headteacher



Message from our Co-Heads of School

Mental Health Workshops

Next Tuesday is the first of our parent workshops on Mental Health specifically focussing on Anxiety. The session will be led by a CAHMS trained expert and will look at how you, as parents, can help your child with worries or anxieties that they have. The session will be held at school on **Tuesday 12th March at 6pm**. Please see the attached information leaflet for more information,

Educational Visits

It has been great to see so many classes going on visits recently with Reception and Year 3 both going on trips this week to Cannon Hall and the Sinai Synagogue in Leeds. These trips really do allow our children to further enhance their learning and allows the children to have experiences that they will then remember forever.

Year 3 Gallery

Due to availability of the village hall, the Year 3 Gallery for parents will now be held on Monday 18th March at 2pm. We do hope you will be able to join our Year 3 class to see the amazing work they have completed for their topic of "Community".

We really hope you enjoyed our fabulous World Book Day parade this morning. Have a fantastic weekend!

Kind regards,

Miss Brook & Mr Palin

www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

Follow us on twitter @JCAWakefield



A fantastic World Book Day



What a magical day, celebrating the world of books! The children started the morning with a book parade, had a lovely assembly, with story telling & completed book reviews. We set up a special book review recording studio in our outdoor classroom for these. The children loved looking at the vast array of story worlds that have been created. Thank you so much to all of you for supporting this memorable day.



Highlights of the Week from Twitter



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 23h

In our KS2 assembly today we really enjoyed hearing Miss Firth tell the story of The Snail And The Whale ! Also, congratulations to our KS2 Times Table Rockstars this week! [#readingforpleasure](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Mar 5

A brilliant educational morning visiting the Sinai Synagogue in Leeds, Year 3 demonstrated fantastic inquiry skills and extended their prior learning around Judaism [#JCACurriculum](#) [#Judaism](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Mar 5

Year 4 have enjoyed an exciting survival day imagining being stranded in the rainforest inspired by our class novel Explorer by Katherine Rundell. We needed 4 essentials to survive: water, food, shelter and fire. Thank you to Eden's Forest for an amazing day. [#JCAOutdoorlearning](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Mar 5

Thank you for visiting us @WDCofSanctuary so Y5 can understand how you are helping refugees. We asked Mahmoud about his experiences as a refugee, making links to our topic story by @OnjaliRauf and we're so grateful for the lovely present, reminding us to welcome everyone! [#BeKind](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Mar 4

Reception class had a wonderful time today @CannonHallFarm learning interesting facts about the animals on the farm and the 'circle of life' [#EYFS](#) [#JCACurriculum](#)





Key Stage 2 Cross Country – West Yorkshire Competition



The KS2 children that qualified from the previous competition represented Wakefield at the West Yorkshire Cross Country event at Temple Newsam on Wednesday 6th March. In extremely tricky conditions, our children ran very well against over 100 other runners from across West Yorkshire. We are now awaiting the official results from West Yorkshire Sport!

Well done to: Nicholas, Freya, Jessica, Lucy, Tegan, Adam B, Oliver, Isaac, Benji, Erin, Matilda, Amelia B and Scarlett.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 1

What a busy two weeks back into the new half term! Year 1 have set fantastic expectations in their learning and have been striving every day!

In Literacy, we have introduced our new core text, 'The Robot and The Bluebird' and began by immersing ourselves into the story. There is a beautiful theme of belonging and making others feel special, which coincides with our topic 'What does it mean to belong?'. This week we have been focusing on developing exciting vocabulary in speech bubbles for the characters.



In Maths, we have finished our unit of measuring length and height and we have now moved onto measuring mass and capacity. This week, we have spent a lot of time measuring and weighing in the outdoor areas. We have been applying our understanding of using scales to measure mass using nonstandard units.

In Art, we have introduced our artist inspiration 'Andrew Davidson' and we have started studying his illustrations of 'The Iron Man' to inspire our sketches of robots for our published final Art piece.

Year 2

In Literacy we have revealed our core text for the next few weeks 'The Ugly Five'. We have read and discussed exciting vocabulary



and created our own sentences, using these words, to describe animals from the story. We are working towards writing our own poem featuring some of these animals.



In Maths, we have started looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We have had several outdoor learning lessons finding and creating 2D shapes and have used mirrors to identify shapes

that have lines of symmetry.

Finally, we have started researching Nelson Mandela in our topic lessons. We read the book 'Long Walk to Freedom' and have started to create a detailed fact file. The children have been bringing in some fantastic pieces of work that they have done at home as they have been so inspired by our topic. It is fantastic to see how enthusiastic they are about their learning. Well done!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 3



Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the second half of the Spring term, we have continued to think about our local community and consider how communities may differ. We further developed our knowledge of Judaism through visiting a synagogue this week, the children found this very educational where they used brilliant enquiry skills to ask lots of questions to deepen their understanding. In Maths, we have been looking at statistics using bar charts, pictograms and tables to interpret the data produced, we will now be moving onto our next topic of measurements.

Year 3 have also started to consider how to make improvements to our community, for this to happen, the children completed a survey where they asked other children questions to find out what areas we could improve. From this we will be holding a gallery in the afternoon of **Monday 18th March** at Wrenthorpe Village Hall for all families, friends and local residents to attend and support. The event will consist of presenting the work the children have already completed and showcase what we are wishing to accomplish next. This being improving our local community through either introducing community gardens or a pedestrian crossing, or having access to more recycling bins within the local area. We look forward to seeing you there!



Year 4

Year 4 have been exploring the importance of the oceans on the planet Earth as well as how plastic pollution and climate change are affecting the living things that live there. In Geography, we learned that sea turtles date back from the time of the dinosaurs but that many species are now endangered. We explored the issues that are affecting them and role played being a sea turtle scientist whose job it is to protect them.

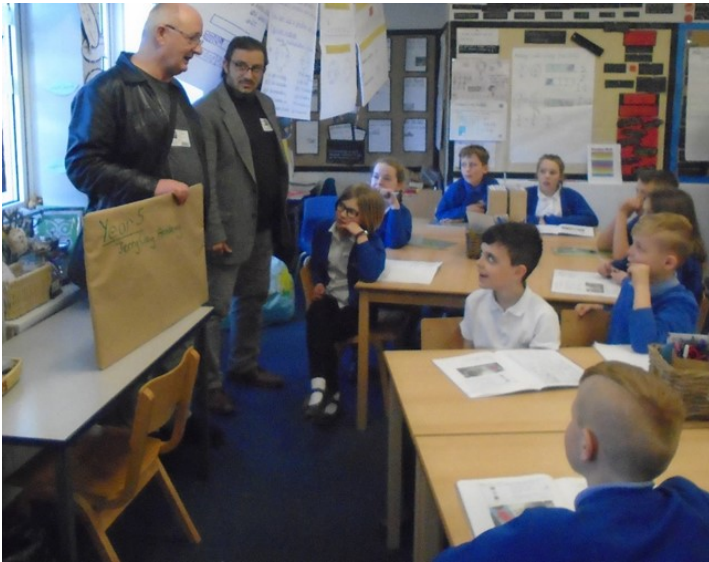
On Tuesday we had a fabulous Survival day with Eden's Forest based on our class novel Explorer by Katherine Rundell. We imagined we were stranded in the rainforest and had to survive by building a shelter, transporting water, starting fires and finding food. What an exciting day that we will be using to inspire some thrilling adventure stories.

In Maths, we have begun learning about fractions including equivalent fractions and fractions greater than 1. We have made great start at our swimming lessons at Sun Lane Swimming Baths.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 5



Year 5 have had a busy fortnight! We have been busy completing our Just-So-Stories and our next adventure in Literacy will be based around the picture book “The Arrival”.

We have started our new Topic core text “The Boy at the Back of the class” which is helping us to understand some of the troubles and anxieties that a refugee might encounter, as well as the importance of being kind to people and welcoming them. On Tuesday afternoon, we were visited by Wakefield City of Sanctuary and Mahmoud – a refugee – who discussed his experiences with us. It was so insightful and really made us think.

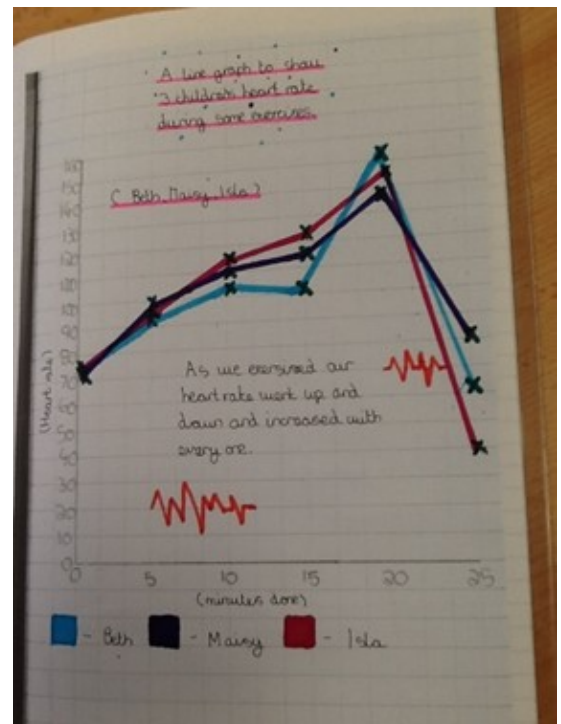
During our Maths lessons, we are developing our understanding of improper fractions, mixed numbers and calculating using these (adding and subtracting). We are working hard to link concepts now and represent our answers in different ways.

Year 6

This week Year 6 have been learning about statistics and how to interpret different types of graphs, including line graphs. We are continuing to strengthen our arithmetic and reasoning skills.

During Literacy, we have been discussing balanced arguments and debating topics such as ‘Do Premier League footballers get paid too much?’ and, ‘Should children be allowed to use the internet independently?’. We have used cohesive devices, formality and looked at this from different perspectives to structure our balanced arguments. We have

also spent some time outside practising our grammar skills and using commas in sentences.



During Science we have investigated what happens to our heart rates during different exercises and created line graphs using this data.



Special mentions of the week



Special mentions of the week were awarded to pupils whom teachers felt have really stood out during the week for demonstrating excellent learner traits, fantastic attitudes to their learning and consistently being the 'best that they can be' every day. Well done!

Week beginning: 25th February 2019

Reception - Molly

Year 1– Dougie

Year 2– Alex

Year 3– Maia




Year 4– Daniel

Year 5– Maisie

Year 6– Noah

Attendance winners

As you know as a school we are really focusing on excellent attendance. As a whole school we have set a target for the year of **97.4%**.

Class	Last week	Year to date
Reception	100% 	96.80%
Year 1	100% 	97.86%
Year 2	96.67%	97.41%
Year 3	98.33%	96.50%
Year 4	99.67%	98.20%
Year 5	97.42%	98.34% 
Year 6	98.82%	98.16%

97% + AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

BELOW 95%- CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW- PERSISTANT ABSENCE- SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET – 97.4%

ACTUAL – 97.61% Keep it up, well done!

Dates for your diary

Parents Evenings

26/3/19 and 28/3/19 – Parents' evenings

3/4/19 Y5 London Assembly for Parents (9.15am)

5/4/19 Jerry Fest (3.30pm - 6pm)

Reports

22/3/19 – Interim reports to Parents

12/7/19 – End of year reports to Parents

Trips

14/3/19 - Y6 trip to Mirfield Community of Resurrection

20/3/18 —Y5 London Trip

10/6/19—Y6 Residential

Theme Weeks

w/c 26/03/19- Jerry Fest 2019

Jerry Fest- 05/04/19 – Outdoor Festival (3.30pm—5.30pm)

w/c 20/05/19- Creative Arts week

Year 6 SATs Week—w/c 13th May

Performances

19/06/19—6pm- Art gallery evening

09/06/19 & 11/07/19 – 6pm-Creative Arts evenings

w/c 15/7/19 – Celebration week—assemblies from 9.15am

Sports Day

21/6/19

28/6/19 - Reserve date in case of bad weather

Summer Fair

29/6/19

Dates for Parents

13/3/19 Y4 Assembly for Parents (9.15am)

18/3/19 Y3 Exhibition for Parents (2pm)

19/3/19 Y1&2 Appreciation Gallery for Parents (9.15am)