



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents

A strong start to the new academic year!

What a brilliant start to the new year for all our children. I have been so impressed with the excellent attitudes, behavior and fantastic learning behaviors on display across the academy.

To ensure our Reception children get off to the very best start with their Phonics and early reading, we will be hosting a Phonics coffee morning for all our Reception parents to learn about the scheme we use, how you can support at home and seeing some of the resources we use. It will also be a great opportunity to meet each other whilst having a coffee together. It will be great to see you there on **Friday 20th September at 9.15am**.

As an academy, we continue to really strive with encouraging reading at home. We will continue to issue raffle tickets at school for the amount of times our children read. These will be drawn out in our reading draw on Friday in order to win special reading prizes.

Kind regards,

Mrs T Swinburne



Message from our Head of School

It has been another brilliant week at JCA—I am continuing to see children thrive in their new classes and have seen some brilliant examples of work in both Writing and Maths.

Uniform / Jewellery

Children have continued to look extremely smart in school this week. However, please can I remind you all that jewellery is not permitted in school and that earrings need to be studded earrings.

Word of the Month

We have a new 'word of the month'! The word **enigmatic** was launched in assembly last week. Something that is enigmatic is mysterious and impossible to understand completely. As before, children who use this in context in their work will receive 2 merits! There has already been a lot of children use the word in their writing!

Kind regards,
Mr Palin

Enigmatic

mysterious and impossible to understand completely

Someone or something that is **enigmatic** is mysterious and difficult to understand.



Highlights of the Week from Twitter



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 17h

Whatever Next!
A brilliant day in Reception class inspired by our core text #JillMurphy #EYFS #JCAArts @WhiteRoseMaths #JCACurriculum #storytelling

🗨️ 🔄 16 📌

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 8 Sep

Super proud of our one & only Miss Mitchell running the @greatnorthrun_ for Reece @TheRockinR13 Wishing her so much luck! #Proud #Perseverance

🗨️ 5 🔄 1 ❤️ 59 📌

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 17h

Some outstanding writing being completed in Year 3 today using our word of the month to describe a T-Rex #enigmatic #JCACurriculum

🗨️ 1 🔄 2 ❤️ 19 📌

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 18h

Year 2 have had a brilliant afternoon exploring microhabitats outside in our science lesson today. We strived to use scientific vocabulary to support our explanations.
#JCAScience #outdoorlearning @STEMLearningUK

🗨️ 🔄 1 ❤️ 12 📌

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 11h

Reception class have enjoyed creating fabulous mud kitchen recipes using lavender, rosemary, leaves and twigs today #EYFS #JCAOutdoorLearning

🗨️ 🔄 1 ❤️ 11 📌

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



Year 1

It has been a busy first two weeks in year 1! The children have settled so well after the big jump from Reception. We have loved getting to know the routines and have been persevering in challenges that are set.

This half term our topic is 'Dungeons and Dragons' and has encouraged the children to create and design lots of castles and dragons in our continuous provision in our focus room. The children have also been very inquisitive when discussing parts of castles and the Royal family. We are very excited to continue to

develop our knowledge on castles in the next few weeks.

In Literacy, we have been reading 'Zog'. We have loved getting to know the characters and the children can tell you every part of the story off by heart! We are beginning to retell the story ourselves and striving to write in full sentences, explaining our story.

In Maths, we have been learning about place value. This involves us ordering our numbers 1 to 10 and working on numbers more or less. We have been striving to do this independently.



Year 2

Year 2 have made an excellent start to the year and have demonstrated their perseverance and determination to rise to the Year 2 expectations. They have all been working incredibly hard and have been enthusiastic about all our learning, especially our new topic 'Magnificent Miners'.

In Topic, Year 2 have been very inquisitive, asking lots of questions that they would like to find out about mining. We have been deciding our topic learning journey as a team and we cannot wait for our visit to the National Coal Mining Museum! In Art, we have created mood boards about Mining and have begun exploring our Artist inspiration 'Valerie Ganz'.

In Literacy, we have shared our core text 'Boy of the Deeps' and we are using it to inspire our own adventure stories! This week, we have been developing detailed character descriptions using expanded noun phrases. We have also critiqued our own writing to reflect and up-level our descriptions.

In Maths, we have been developing our place value knowledge of numbers up to 100. We have been using a variety of concrete resources to represent numbers and partition numbers into tens and ones. Now, we are recapping our understanding of counting in multiples of 2's, 5's and 10's before developing our multiples of 3's!

On a Thursday morning, we have also been working with Miss Hoyte in our Dance lessons. We have blown her away with exceptional listening and enthusiasm and we cannot wait to show you our performance!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 3



Year 3 have made a fantastic start to the new Year. They have settled into the school routines perfectly and they have been showcasing some exemplary behaviour, both inside and outside of the classroom. Year 3 have demonstrated fantastic enthusiasm when learning about our new topic 'The Lost World.' They have enjoyed researching pre-historic times and learning about what happened to the dinosaurs. From this, they have applied this knowledge in literacy where they have produced some exceptional descriptive writing about

a dinosaur of their choice.

In PE, the children have started to learn different hip hop moves and have started applying this into a class routine. They have also been working well in pairs and groups to complete science experiments about rocks, and use mathematical equipment to deepen their knowledge about place value. A fantastic start to the new Year and we look forward to seeing their progress develop throughout this academic year.



Year 4



Year 4 have made a great start to the new school year. They have really hit the ground running with their positive attitude to learning and behaviour. We have begun our topic 'A Hero's Journey' with a super heroes theme and the children have been keen to share their favourite hero stories whilst beginning to

find out about a Super Cat in our first class novel by Gwyneth Rees . This has inspired us to write our own thrilling Super Cat stories. We will soon begin finding out about Hero stories from the time of the Ancient Greeks which are equally exciting.



In Maths we have been learning about Roman Numerals up to 100 as well as practising rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. We have also made a great start at practising our times tables and after receiving our Times Tables Rock Stars logins we are hooked! In Science, we are learning about Living Things and their habitats and this week we have been hunting for, collecting and evidencing living things around the school site. Great scientific skills shown here!



Our first dance lesson with Miss Hoyte was very exciting. We couldn't believe what we had already achieved and can't wait to develop our routine. We shared our favourite books by drawing a poster for homework and this was lovely to share. Thank you. A fantastic start to the year. Well done!

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 5

Year 5 have settled into their new classroom environment really well. We have been delighted with their efforts and enthusiasm, particularly towards our new World War II topic. The children received letters telling them they were going to be evacuated and they have been writing from the perspective of an evacuee. In Literacy, we are working towards an excellent piece of descriptive writing about the train station as the evacuees departed, leaving loved ones behind. We are enthralled by our new class novel "Letters from the Lighthouse" which is all about the adventures of two evacuees. Please ask your child to tell you about the story!



The class have been working hard to develop their place value skills in Maths, considering how to read write and explore larger numbers with up to 6 digits. We found out there were up to 3.7 million evacuees in WWII and we will be learning about millions next. During Wise time, we

have welcomed a new member of our class and established the reasons for rules and routines, not only in school but n everyday life. A super start, with some fantastic learning!

Year 6



Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the year. They have shown their dedication to hard work and are really striving to be the best that they can be!

They have been working hard to write formal letters to support them in their Junior Leadership Team applications. In Maths, Year 6 have been learning about Place Value, consolidating and strengthening their prior knowledge.

We have also started to learn about 'The Ancient Egyptians', discovering

the geography of Egypt (past and present) and what they believed about the afterlife. We are enjoying our story book which is 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll.

An excellent start to the year – we are looking forward to seeing this continue!

Important Dates:

Thursday 10th October 2019 Residential Meeting 5pm





Special mentions of the term



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

Wc 9th September

Year 1– Eshaal

Year 2– Lucas R

Year 3– Jack





Year 4– Erin

Year 5– Adam B

Year 6– Hibah

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	99.33%	99.59%
Year 1	99.33%	98.70%
Year 2	100% 	100% 
Year 3	100% 	97.32%
Year 4	96.77%	93.73%
Year 5	98.67%	98.87%
Year 6	100% 	98.57%

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 – 98.07% Keep it up, well done!

Dates for your diary

INSET DAYS

Friday 29th November

Friday 20th December

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

Parents Evenings

26/11/19 and 28/11/19 – Parents evenings

24/3/20 and 26/3/20 – Parents evenings

Reports

22/11/19- Progress check out to parents

20/3/20 – Progress check out to parents

10/7/20 – End of year reports

Theme Days/Weeks

wc21/10/19 – ICT innovation week

5/03/20 - World Book Day

wc 30/3/20 – Literature week

3/4/20 – Book Fest

wc18/05/20- Creative Arts week

Performances

6/12/19 – Reception Activity Morning

11/12/19 and 12/12/19 – Reception nativity

16/12/19 – Christmas carols around the tree

17/12/19 (pm) and 18/12/19 (am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity

17/06/20- Art gallery evening

07/07/20 & 9/07/20– Creative Arts evenings

w/c 13/7/20 – Celebration week

Sports Day

26/6/20

Summer Fair

25/6/20 (TBC)