



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Thursday 28th November 2019

Dear Parents

Thank you to all of you for supporting our Parents' evenings this week. It has been fantastic to speak with lots of you about the progress your child is making at JCA. Equally, I would like to thank you for completing the questionnaires regarding our academy. It is so important that we regularly get to hear your feedback in order to continue improving. If you haven't returned your questionnaire, please can this be returned by Monday.

As we approach the Christmas period at JCA, I just wanted to remind you about the many events that are happening across our whole academy. There are still places left for the wreath making workshop on Saturday 7th December at 9.30am. I will be there making a wreath too! Please ask at the office by Monday if you are interested in making your own too. Please can we have all Christmas lunch slips back as soon as possible too.

Please be aware that there are individual dates for Christmas events in each of the class news.

Kind regards,

*Mrs T Swinburne*

**JCA CHRISTMAS EVENTS  
2019**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR EVENTS!

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## Message from our Head of School

Dear Parents,

As we get towards the end of the term, it has been fantastic to see children working hard towards their topic outcomes. Next Monday, Year 5 host their workshop at Wrenthorpe Village Hall from 2pm—we hope to see many of you there! Year 6 have visited Wakefield Museum this week to further their learning about Ancient Egypt!

## Children In Need

We are pleased to share that we raised a total of £234 for Children In Need this year at our 'Wear Your Pyjamas Day'! Thank you all so much for your generous donations for such a worthy cause.



## Selection Boxes

One of our parents is kindly asking for donations of selection boxes children at Pinderfields and the LGI over Christmas.

The ask is that during December, families who are able to donate a selection box drop this off at the office. These will then be taken to both the LGI & Pinderfields w/c 16th December.

Thank you for your support with this.

Kind regards,  
Mr Palin



# Highlights of the Week from Twitter



**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 21m  
Our absolute priority is to ensure that EVERY child gets through the reading gateway. Our focus in Y1 is developing fluency. This is a result of daily phonics, a core text- studied in depth, a vast array of language development & regular recaps. #Fluency #Reading



0:53 11 views

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 14h  
Fabulous parents' evening tonight. Thank you to all of you that came & thank you for our feedback too. It was great to discuss in detail the progress your child is making & their next steps #Strivingtobethebestwecanbe



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**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 22h  
Year 6 have had a fantastic trip to Wakefield Museum to our Gateway to Eternity workshop! Thank you to @WakefieldMuseum for making it such an educational experience! #JCACurriculum



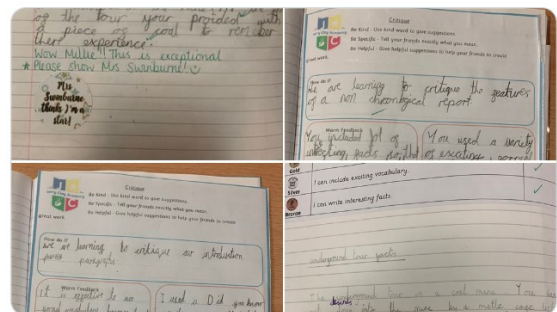
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**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 26 Nov  
Great to see such lovely play going on in our early school this morning #Construction #Games #Baking #Roleplay #Childhood



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**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 25 Nov  
Great to see our Year 2 children effectively using critique to improve their writing to eventually create tour guides for the National coal mining museum #Critique #Improvement #Vocabulary



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# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 1



The last two weeks in Year 1 have been very exciting. We have started to write our own stories based on our text 'Jack and the Beanstalk' this has been very engaging for the children. They have provided some great imaginative ideas as to what their stories are about, for example 'Joanne and the Giant Carrot'!

In Maths we are focusing now on subtraction and looking at using objects to help us take away. The children have understood this concept really well and we are eager to keep going.

The children have also had their exciting trip to Pontefract Castle as part of our topic; 'Dungeons and Dragons'. In the workshop they had chance to create dragon stories, design dragon masks and identify artefacts and clothing. They then explored the castle grounds dressed as dragons and went into the dungeons. All the children were amazed at the space and all the names etched into the walls! Amazing behaviour was shown by all and we are really proud of them for their efforts all day.



**Year 1 and 2 Nativity – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December @ 2pm**

**- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 9:30 am**

**Year 1 and 2 Christmas party – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December afternoon**

## Year 2

Year 2 have had another fantastic two weeks and the term is flying by! We are still enthralled by our topic 'Magnificent Miners'. In Literacy, we have continued our non-chronological report on the National Coal Mining Museum. We have been striving to write in paragraphs in a formal tone with exciting vocabulary. We can't wait to publish them!

In Maths, we have started our new unit on money. It has been interesting to apply maths into a real life context and understand how money is used in every day life. We can now identify coins and notes and have recently been learning to add a variety of pounds and pence together!



We have been very excited to begin our Nativity with Year 1! We have been learning our Nativity songs and lines together and we cannot wait to share it with you!

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## Year 3



Year 3 have had a fantastic few weeks continuing to look at the Titanic and the era this was set within. The children have been thinking about what it would be like during these times and what they would feel like if they were going to be board the Titanic. From this, the children completed some fantastic diary entries where they

wrote about the day they boarded the ship. In History, they have also been developing their understanding of different passengers that were on the ship and how their experiences would differ depending on which class they were a part of.

In Maths, the children have continued to develop their knowledge of multiplying and dividing, specifically using the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Here the children have been applying this knowledge to a variety of different reasoning and problem solving questions.

Last week, parents from Year 3 visited school to complete 'The Lost World' workshop. This was a huge success where the children thoroughly enjoyed all the activities they were participating in alongside their parents, families and friends.

## **Christmas party—Tuesday 17th December**

## Year 4

It was great to learn more about the Anglo Saxons with our parents at the Workshop last week looking at images of artefacts such as the Sutton Hoo Helmet that have been unearthed by archaeologists and also making crafts related to Anglo Saxon life. In Literacy, we have reading the Anglo Saxon hero story Beowulf and using a range of sentence types as well as descriptive vocabulary to retell the story. We can't wait to hear the final gripping adventure!

In DT, we have begun to learn about pneumatic systems so that we can make moving monsters linked with our Beowulf story.

In Maths, we have been learning to calculate the perimeter of shapes including rectangles and rectilinear shapes on a grid and using measurements. We have also learned about measuring distances using kilometres and metres. It is fantastic to see so many children in Year 4 practising so hard on their times tables and this is really starting to pay off, with lots of children gaining certificates and being awarded with the coveted bronze, silver and gold badges! In Computing, we have been designing times tables quizzes for younger children and have enjoyed starting to program them using 'if then else' blocks to give feedback when an answer is given.



Well done on such a busy couple of weeks!

Upcoming dates:

Look out for information about an Outdoor Learning Session during w/c 9<sup>th</sup> December where, as a conclusion to our Hero's Journey topic, we will be asking 'Who is the Greatest Hero of all time?'

## **Christmas Party—Tuesday 17th December**





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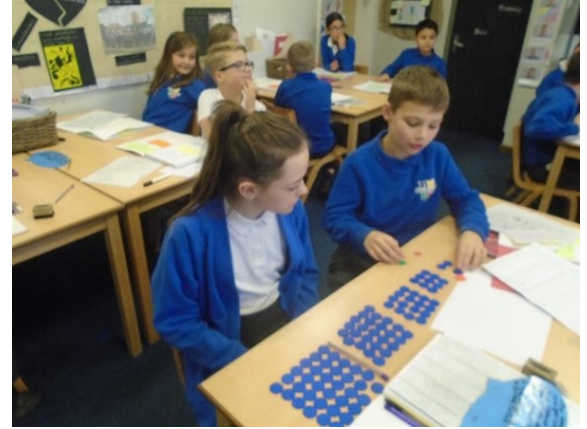
## Year 5

Year 5 have really been enjoying our DT project; we are working hard to create lovely tasty ideas for our party food. This will be served at our end of WWII celebration on Monday and you are all invited! Please remember to come to Wrenthorpe Village Hall at 2pm.



In Literacy, we have been working hard to complete our reports on Codes in WWII. Maths has been centred around square and cube numbers and in History we have been learning about some of the crucial events towards the end of WWII.

On Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be joined by the National Holocaust Centre who will be leading a KS2 education workshop in class to help us sensitively explore the nature of choices, challenge ideas and perspectives and engage with ideas, viewpoints and people different from ourselves.



**Christmas party - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

## Year 6

Year 6 have been continuing to learn about Ancient Egyptian beliefs. We have been learning about the River Nile and its importance in the past and today. We have also visited the Wakefield Museum where we participated in an informative workshop, learnt about different Gods, which organs belonged in canopic jars and even saw a real mummy!

In Maths we have been multiplying and dividing fractions and finding fractions of amounts. In Literacy we have been analysing formal language and writing newspaper reports. During Reading we are focusing on inferring information and finding evidence within a text.

Important dates:

**Christmas party - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**





# 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!

## Wc 18th November

Reception – Amrita

Year 2– Hannah

Year 3– Prja



Year 4– Lottie

Year 5– Harris

Year 6 - Lilly

## 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	98.33%	96.94%
Year 1	98.33%	97.87%
Year 2	96.67%	98.25% 
Year 3	100% 	98.17%
Year 4	93.55%	93.66%
Year 5	93.33%	96.05%
Year 6	97.58%	98.22%

**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 – 97.01%**

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# Dates for your diary

## **INSET DAYS**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

## **Parents Evenings**

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

## **Reports**

20/3/20 – Progress check out to parents

10/7/20 – End of year reports

## **Theme Days/Weeks**

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)