



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents

The first week of our new term has been hugely challenging however it has been inspiring to see how our JCA community have worked together to support each other at this incredibly difficult time. I haven't even had time to say hello and to express how thrilled I am to be taking on the role of Headteacher of JCA. The experiences of the week have certainly left me feeling so proud of the whole community.

The morning following the lockdown announcement, JCA opened to the children of the Critical Care Workers in our community and children and families at home were supported to seamlessly begin remote learning. It has been fantastic to see the engagement in learning both at home and in school with virtually 100% participation across the whole Academy. Thankyou so much for your commitment to supporting the children with their learning; we really do appreciate how challenging this is.

A blend of live and recorded lessons in every year group is allowing the children to continue learning with their class whether at home or at school. I am so proud of the children for adapting to their new routines and continuing to **strive to be the best they can be**. I have seen so much wonderful learning shared already on Seesaw and Tapestry and staff have been able to positively support the children, establishing learning routines that will help them to continue to learn and be happy throughout this lockdown.

It has taken a mammoth effort from everyone at JCA teachers, teaching assistants, office and facilities staff to make this transition so quickly during this pandemic. Thank you for the many messages of support and encouragement that we have received. We are proud of our role in supporting children of Critical Workers in our community as well as vulnerable children. Meeting this need means that next week you will see our teachers and teaching assistants working as a team in school to support learning for all our children. We continue to adapt and overcome in response to an ever-changing situation but everyone at JCA is proud to do *whatever it takes* to provide quality education and to support our all our children and community. We thank you for your patience whilst we work through the many issues surrounding this complex situation. We will continue to communicate fully with you going forward. Please do get in touch if you do have any queries.

Could I also take this opportunity to welcome Miss Morley as our new Year 3 teacher who children and families will have met during remote learning this week.

With warm wishes,

Mrs C Elliott



Collection of reading books / work packs

Earlier you received information about collecting these from just inside the main entrance on your allocated day.

- Monday - Reception**
- Tuesday - Year 2**
- Wednesday - Year 3**
- Thursday - Year 4**
- Friday - Year 5 & 6**

If you are visiting the school site next week to collect a reading book please could we ask that social distancing rules are applied at all times should you see any other families at school.

Keeping each other safe during lockdown

Thank you for only using Critical Worker Care when you absolutely need to. Our robust health and safety procedures in school continue to be applied and reviewed to protect us all. **It is essential that if you or your child have symptoms of COVID that you do not bring your child to school so that we can continue to support the other Critical workers and our whole community.**

Free School Meals

We haven't yet had a full update on Free School Meals but as soon as we do we will forward the information.

What a fantastic start to learning in lockdown !!!

