



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents

Wow! What a busy and exciting week we have had in the academy. It has been wonderful to see our first school trips taking place since before the pandemic began and Year 2 and Year 5 certainly embraced the opportunity to find out so much about their history themes. The children showed great inquisitive learning behaviours and represented our academy very well. Equally, Year 4 enjoyed a brilliant day in our wonderful outdoor area finding out about the Ancient Greeks with Eden Forest. Wonderful learning and amazing memories.

**Phonics Coffee Morning** : Thankyou to the Reception parents who were able to join us for our Phonics Coffee Morning. We are so grateful for all the support and team work from our parent community in ensuring that all our children learn to read and love to read! It was so special to welcome you into the academy, for some parents for the first time ever, and we can't wait to welcome more parent in to share in the children's learning soon.

**Open Morning**: This year we will be holding an Open Morning for prospective parents on **Saturday November 13th from 10am—12pm**. This will be a chance to view our beautiful environment, meet some of our staff and children and find out all about learning at Jerry Clay Academy.

**Attendance**: Our children continue to work brilliantly and with such enthusiasm in school and every day is precious. Please support them by ensuring that they are in school every day that they are well.

**Harvest**: On **Tuesday 19th October** we will be holding our Harvest Festival in school with Reverend Jonathan from St Anne's Church. If you could contribute some non-perishable food we will be making a donation to Wrenthorpe Food Bank and to CAP (Christians Against Poverty). Thank you.

**PTA**: Please put the **PTA AGM** in your diary. This will take place on **Thursday 4th November at 6:30pm** in the school hall. Over the years, our PTA have generously given their time and enthusiasm to put on events and raise funds to provide so many opportunities for all the children. Our current team are standing down soon and we are looking for some people to take on key roles so that this valuable work can continue. We would love to hear from you if can help.

**Halloween Disco**: The PTA Halloween disco will be taking place on **Thursday 21st November**. Reception class and KS1 from 6:15—7:15 pm and KS2 from 7:25—8:25. It has been too long since we had a PTA disco in school! We can't wait! This year we are not inviting parents in to the disco to minimise mixing a little. Staff will be on hand to supervise and take part in any dancing competitions!

Best wishes

Mrs C Elliott Headteacher

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# Special mentions of the week



Teachers are so proud of the amazing effort of the children in their class and would like to celebrate the effort they are making. They have chosen their Special Mention; someone who has 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: 15th October 2021**

**Year 1– Mia Lachucik**

**Year 2– Teddy North**

**Year 3– Mohammed Zahoor**

**Year 4– Lucas Taylor**

**Year 5– Ava Perring**

**Year 6– Meeryad Aree**



## Attendance winners

As you know as a school we continue to focus on excellent attendance (where appropriate). As a whole school we have set a target for the year of **97.4%**.

**Please note that children who are self isolating due to COVID are not included in these figures.**

Class	This week	Year to date from the start of September
Reception	97.42 %	97.36 %
Year 1	95.33 %	97.22 %
Year 2	91.67 %	97.31 %
Year 3	98.67 %	97.69 %
Year 4	96.67 %	97.77 %
Year 5	97.33 %	97.59 %
Year 6	99.37 %	94.70 %

**97% + AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET**

**BELOW 95%- CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS**

**90% & BELOW- PERSISTANT ABSENCE- SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN**

**WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET – 97.40%**

**ACTUAL – 97.07%**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



## Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderful couple of weeks, we have been striving incredibly high with our learning and showing excellent teamwork skills of caring and co-operation.

We found a new core text in our dragon's box, called 'The Night Dragon'. This story is teaching us all about looking after each other and good friendship, as well as being brave and

taking risks – all very important JCA Learning traits. The children have been striving to use excellent vocabulary from this story and learn more about the characters and their actions.

In Maths, we have been learning to use new language and symbols to compare and order numbers. We have also had maths races to remind ourselves of ordinal numbers: 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc...

During History, we have been learning about the different features of castles. In continuous provision, the children have enjoyed designing and making castles using their fabulous knowledge – it has been a pleasure to observe.

In RE we have been learning about different creation stories – those from Christianity and Hinduism and in Science we enjoyed a magnet hunt outside after making predictions.



## Year 2

What a fantastic week Year 2 have had! The highlight of our week has certainly been our trip to the National Coal Mining Museum! We were thoroughly immersed in the history of coal mining and we enjoyed our experience underground in a real coal mine!

In History, we have applied our new knowledge and facts from our visit to the NCMM to help us research the life of a Victorian child. We have used historical language to compare the similarities and differences.

In Literacy, we have continued to develop our mining adventure stories. We have been striving so high to use a variety of literary devices, such as alliteration and onomatopoeia to help make our writ-

ing exciting and interesting.

In Art, we have trialled new techniques to experiment for our background. We have applied our colour mixing to create gradual dark tones to create an illusion of a tunnel.



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 3

Year 3 have been striving above and beyond with their learning over the last couple of weeks. They have shown incredible determination and teamwork.

The children's knowledge and recall on our significant figure of Mary Anning has been astounding. They have been able to retrieve key factual information from a text and apply it to their plans. This week the children have really persevered with their writing to create a biography on Mary Anning that brilliantly showcases the life she led as a fossil hunter.

In Maths, we have been learning to use the column method to add and subtract 3-digit numbers. We have been striving to present our work clearly and coherently, so that we can spot marvellous mistakes within our own work.



During Art, we have begun constructing our ammonites using cardboard, card, and paper straws. We have also used our superb collaging skills to begin adding colour and depth to our art pieces.

In Science we have been learning about what soil is made of and how it is formed. We showcased our brilliant understanding of this by creating our own class mini compost bin! The children took great care when handling different materials and objects and we cannot wait to see if we have been successful in making our own compost.



## Year 4

Year 4 have had an exciting week. On Tuesday, Eden Forest visited JCA and the children had the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the Ancient Greeks even further, applying their knowledge practically and finding out about Greek myths, architecture and where the Olympics originated from. The children thoroughly enjoyed this day and were able to show a deeper understanding when talking about the Ancient Greeks and sharing the interesting facts and experiences that they had learnt.



In Literacy, the children have just finished their Ancient Greek myths where they have used a large amount of excitement, suspense, and danger to make their writing exhilarating to read. In Maths, we have started to apply our place value knowledge when adding and subtracting using column method. The children have started to answer questions accurately and challenge themselves to apply this knowledge when reading and answering a complex word problem.



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



## Year 5

Year 5 visited Eden Camp this week as part of their theme focusing on World War 2. It was a fantastic day where we learnt so many facts and so much information about what life was like in The War. We were particularly interested in the contrast of emotions in the final year!

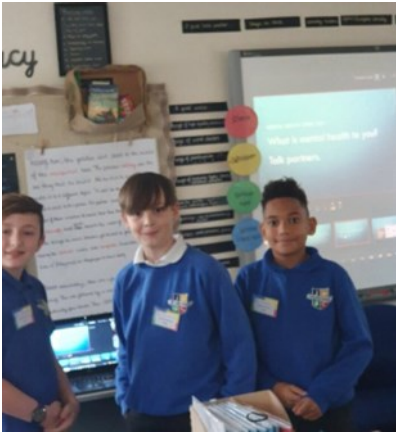
In Literacy, we have completed our work on descriptive writing and look forward to continuing to implement this across all of our writing. In Maths, we have completed our unit on Addition and Subtraction

and can complete calculations with any numbers up to 6-digits.



## Year 6

Year 6 have had another fantastic fortnight! We have now had two Junior Leadership Team meetings where we have been starting to learn our roles and share our ideas! Our Heads and Deputies have created their first display to showcase all of the Junior Leadership Team and our Head of Wellbeing (supported by Head of Operations and Deputy Head Boy) led their first whole school assembly. Our House Captains have been leading their teams in Celebration Assemblies and are planning their first team assemblies for next half term!



In Maths, Year 6 have been practising short and long division. We are so proud of them because long division was really tricky at first, but after plenty of time spent practising, Year 6 created their own tutorial videos on Thursday.

In Literacy, we have been writing our final drafts of our action scenes and starting to learn about Katherine Johnson in preparation for next week!

Last week, we experience a history workshop delivered by Wakefield Museum where we got to explore and handle different ancient artefacts – including a mummified crocodile! We also enjoyed our Outdoor Learning Day where we explored many different aspects of History, Science, Geography and Art including: mummifying a cardboard replica, moving pyramid slabs and creating clay pots and amulets.



## Important dates this half term:

**18th October: Bikeability Week**

**Residential Meeting :  
Next half term date TBC**





# Highlights of the Week from Twitter





## Dates for Your Diary

### **INSET DAYS**

1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### **Parents Evenings**

23/11/21 and 25/11/21 – Parents' evenings

22/3/22 and 24/3/22 – Parents' evenings

### **Reports**

3/12/21- Progress check out to parents

20/3/20 – Progress check out to parents

15/7/22 – End of year reports to parents

### **Theme Days/Weeks**

Wc 18/10/21 - History Week

3/03/22 - World Book Day

wc 4/4/22 – Theme week

wc23/05/22- Creative Arts week

### **Performances**

3/12/21 – Reception Activity Morning

7/12/21 (am) and 9/12/21 9am) – Reception nativity

13/12/21 – Christmas carols around the tree

14/12/21 (pm) and 15/12/21 (am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity

16/12/21 Christingle at Wrenthorpe Methodist Church

15/06/22- Art gallery evening

05/07/22 & 7/07/22– Creative Arts evenings

w/c 18/7/22 – Celebration week

### **Sports Day**

24/6/22

8/7/22 Reserve Sports Day

### **Summer Fair**

25/6/22 (TBC)

**We will continue to assess how events take place throughout the year. We hope to invite parents and visitors into the academy to share and celebrate with us and will keep you posted!**