



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parents

What a great first week back after the half term holidays. We have followed the developments of the COP 26 Climate conference in Glasgow and the children have really shown their thinking skills about how we can help to protect the Earth as well as the promises we would like world leaders to make. This week there have been many examples of children enjoying a challenge, whether maths problems, mastering a new skill in PE or striving in writing. You can read about our learning in Year 1—6 in the curriculum pages of the newsletter.

Yesterday was the start of Diwali (Festival of Lights), five days of celebration which symbolises "light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance". Happy Diwali to families who are celebrating!

Enjoy the weekend including any bonfire night celebrations and take care with regard to bonfires and fireworks.

Remembrance Day : On Thursday 11th November we will be marking Remembrance Day with a minute's silence. The children will have the opportunity to buy a poppy any day next week. Please could donations be sent in a named envelope and handed to the class teacher in the morning.

PTA AGM

Thank you to everyone who attended this meeting. It was great to have a good turn out and a huge thank you to those parents put themselves forward so that the PTA can continue. We are incredibly grateful also to core team members who have done such a brilliant job in supporting the school over the past years.

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. We will be asking visitors to wear a mask and to ensure that they distance inside the building in order to protect teaching and learning in the academy.



Packed lunches: I thought it might be useful to confirm what can be included in a packed lunch. We ask that packed lunches are a healthy, balanced meal which contains a sandwich or other form of carbohydrate such as pasta or rice. It may contain fruit, salad or yogurts etc.

Crisps, popcorn, biscuits including chocolate biscuits, and cakes are all allowed as part of a balanced meal. We don't allow sweets or chocolate bars. The only other restriction is that we are a nut free school due to allergies of children in school.

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– Evie Neal

Year 2– Harry Taylor-Lyte

Year 3– Molly Ryan

Year 4– Ralph Wainwright

Year 5– Scarlett Black

Year 6– Amelia Brown

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	98.79 %	96.74 %
Year 1	98.32 %	97.10 %
Year 2	100 %	96.30 %
Year 3	95.00 %	94.87 %
Year 4	99.17 %	96.38 %
Year 5	95.42 %	97.16 %
Year 6	96.88 %	93.95 %

97% + AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

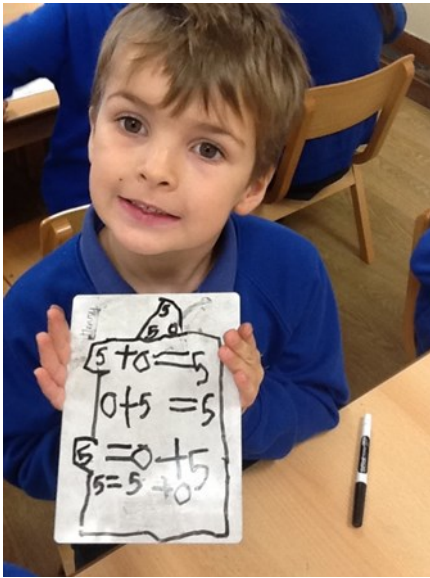
BELOW 95%- CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW- PERSISTANT ABSENCE- SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET – 97.40%

ACTUAL – 96.06%

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed Black History Week before the half term break – we learnt a lot about Floella Benjamin. We read the story 'Coming to England' to help us learn about what life was like for Floella in Trinidad and how it was difficult for her when she first came to England. Some of us wrote letters to Floella and some of us wrote words and sentences to describe the feelings she might have had.

During Maths, we have enjoyed learning about part-part whole models and addition fact families. We are carefully looking at different symbols and what they represent to help us do this accurately!

In Geography, we are starting to learn about the capital cities of the UK, we have enjoyed singing songs to help us with this.

Key dates

9th November - walk to St Anne's church

23rd November – Outdoor learning Day



Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic first week back after half term! We have continued to strive higher and higher!

In Literacy, We have begun a new text type! We have started exploring a non chronological report all about the National Coal Mining Museum! We have looked at the key features and investigated new vocabulary!

In Maths, we have been using number lines to add and subtract to solve number sentences. We have also become really confident in creating fact families.

This week, we have also been exploring mining artefacts and learning how to play hockey in P.E.

Before half term, JCA had a History week. Year 2 focussed on 'Raven Wilkinson', the first black African American ballerina! We were inspired to learn ballet in P.E, we wrote an acrostic poem and researched parts of America in Geography.

Key dates

9th November – Outdoor learning Day



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 3

Before the half term, Year 3 enjoyed our Black History Week where we explored the life of Martin Luther King. We watched his famous 'I have a Dream' speech and wrote our own versions which explained our dreams for the future. We worked collaboratively as a class to create an art piece inspired by MLK and learnt lots of new information about his vision.

We also had our Outdoor Learning Day on the first day back of the half term, which was spectacular! It was a great start to our learning on the Stone Age and we were able to partake in lots of activities to understand more about what life was like. We could not believe how difficult it was to survive in prehistoric Britain and how different their lives were to ours. We were even amazed at their inventions and how this has impacted our lives today.

In Literacy, Year 3 have started to learn about Diary Entries and are looking forward to exploring our new core text of 'Stone Age Boy.'

In Maths, Year 3 have been continuing their fantastic learning on addition and subtraction. We have been amazed at the care and pride they have taken with their working out, especially when using the column method.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a great start back to the half term. They have demonstrated some excellent retrieval within maths when adding and subtracting where they have started to apply this knowledge to missing number sentences and balanced equations.

In literacy, we have developed our SPAG knowledge where the children have started to apply their knowledge of co-ordinating and sub-ordinating conjunctions to their writing.

In PE, the children have started to learn how to hold a hockey stick before learning different dribbling techniques in order to move the ball. Finally, in RE, we have continued to develop our knowledge about what different religions believe about God. The children have been very inquisitive in their learning to find out more whilst sharing their own views and opinions.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



Year 5

Year 5 took part in their outdoor learning day before the holidays – they had a great day learning more about life in The War and about Jesse Owens who was the focus during History Week. The class couldn't believe the difficulties presented during the 1936 Olympics but were impressed with his achievements!

In Literacy, Year 5 have started to learn about Newspaper Reports and will use

the range of features to write their own over the next couple of weeks.

In Maths, Year 5 have started to learn about statistics.



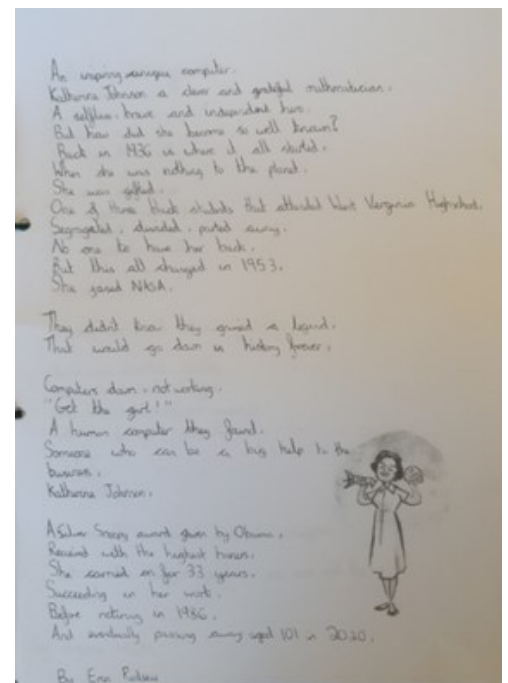
Year 6

Year 6 worked so hard during the last week of half term. One of our main activities was Bikeability which all of the children tried really hard with. They also worked hard during Black History Week last half term. During this, we learnt about Katherine Johnson who was a mathematician. Her calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights. We researched her achievements and wrote poetry based on these.

This week, we have started our new Fractions unit of work in Maths. We have discussed how practising our times tables will strengthen our work on fractions, decimals and percentages. We have also started to learn about rivers and how the ancient Egyptians used the River Nile.

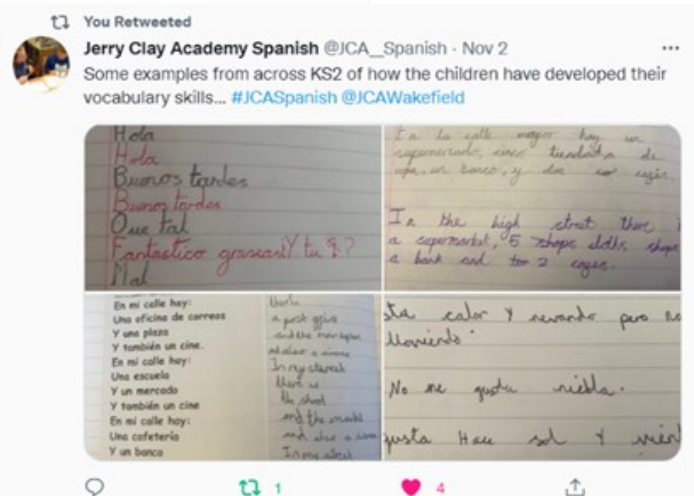
Important dates this half term:

Residential Meeting : Thursday 11th November 5.30pm





Highlights of the Week from Twitter





Dates for Your Diary

INSET DAYS

Monday 25th July 2022

Tuesday 26th 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

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!

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TIKTOK

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

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CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&H*

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media platforms, TikTok can be extremely addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next means it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts is 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 16s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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#WakeUpWednesday



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

FAKE FIREWORKS REAL DANGER

CHEAP FIREWORKS AREN'T WORTH THE RISK
STICK TO THE REAL THING

LET'S ALL HAVE A BANGIN'
BONFIRE NIGHT 





West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

**DO YOU
WANT TO
REMEMBER,
REMEMBER
THE 5TH OF
NOVEMBER?**

**TAKE THE FAMILY TO AN
ORGANISED FIREWORK DISPLAY
FOR A NIGHT THEY WON'T FORGET**

**LET'S ALL HAVE A BANGIN'
BONFIRE NIGHT** 