

Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter



Friday 16th September 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

We have had a wonderful first few weeks of term and all the children really have impressed us with their determination to do their best and to follow our motto 'Strive to be the best we can be'. They have also shown exceptional caring to each other on the playground. Well done to our new reception children for settling so well and really showing such confidence in exploring and getting to know our school. It has been fantastic to see older children supporting our younger children. and everyone developing team work and communication skills.



State Funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II -

The academy will be closed on Monday 19th September for the bank holiday to allow us to pay our respects on this historic occasion. All the children have contributed to a book of condolences.



Extra-curricular after school clubs

We are pleased to offer a broad and rich programme of extra –curricular after school activities which provides fantastic opportunities for our children. This term activities include DT, Spanish, Bird Watching, Dance, Drama and various Sporting activities from talented providers and by teaching staff who generously give up their time to do this. Organising and providing this rich programme involves a

huge commitment from staff in the academy, both teaching and admin. Once children have been allocated a place based on preferences expressed, commitment to attend with appropriate clothing or equipment is required please.

Welcome to our new Office Manager

A very warm welcome to Mrs Vicki Moss who is now leading our Office team. She comes to us with extensive experience in school administration and it is wonderful to have her expertise. Without our amazing office staff, we quite simply could not provide the level of care and high standards of education we do and we are very grateful to them for all their hard work. The start of the school year is always a very busy time but do wish Mrs Moss a warm Jerry Clay welcome.

Special Educational Needs Coordinator

From September I am now in the role of SENCO with Mr Palin as Assistant SENCO. As with any other queries, please do contact me in the academy or via email on headteacher@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk.

Well done Niyah!

At Jerry Clay, we value each individual child and love to celebrate their interests and achievements in and out of school. Niyah in Year 3 has been scouted to play for Leeds United Shadow Girls Squad and has been offered a place on Sheffield United Women's Emerging Talent Team. Niyah dreams of being a Lioness. Well done Niyah. A brilliant achievement.

Kind regards Mrs C Elliott, Headteacher



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 Special Special Mention; someone who has really stood out during the whole year for demonstrating excellent learner traits, fantastic attitudes to their learning and consistently being the 'best that they can be' every day. Well done!

Special Mention of the Week Commencing 12th September 2022

Year 1– Harrison Kent

Year 2– Mia Lachucik

Year 3– Riley-James Griffiths

Year 4– Alex Chang

Year 5– Dougie Denning

Year 6—Aadhi Sundaram

Attendance winners

As you know as a school we continue to focus on excellent attendance as this is essential for children to make the best progress. As a whole school we have set a target for the year of **97.4%**.

Class	This week	Year to date from the start of September
Reception	100 %	
Year 1	97.33 %	
Year 2	97.33 %	
Year 3	94 %	
Year 4	97.33 %	
Year 5	94 %	
Year 6	98.62 %	

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 – 96.95.0%





Library Time

Library time will be starting next week for Reception class and Year 1.

These will take place each week on:

Wednesdays at 3pm—Year 1

Fridays at 3pm—Reception

Library time is a chance to hear about the learning in class each week and to choose a book with your child to read at home in addition to their other reading books.

Reading for Pleasure is one of the most important ways to help your child's learning. Being immersed in reading, enjoying a story and speaking about books allows the children to be transported anywhere, to develop their vocabulary and helps them to become fluent and skilled readers. Alongside our rigorous phonics programme, this is one of the best ways to help your child to develop the essential reading skills they need for their learning in the future.

Sharing a book together is a precious time and magical opportunity to develop a love of reading.

Please read the following arrangements carefully:

- Please enter via the academy front entrance at 3pm.
- Sign in and staff will show you into the School hall.
- Anyone attending library time must be one of your child's contacts and must be known to us. **If any other family member is attending in your place, you must contact us before the event to arrange this.**
- Assemble in the hall to hear information and notices from the class teacher .
- The teacher then will send one child at a time to their parent.
- When your child is sent to you, enjoy choosing a book together.
- Leave with your child via the main school entrance.
- Children whose parents are not in attendance, will go with a teaching assistant to their classroom to enjoy their library time . Please collect these children from the classroom door.

Thank you.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 1

We have had a really exciting start to Year 1, and have enjoyed lots of learning both inside and outside the classroom as part of our new theme: Dungeons and Dragons.

Last week our English learning started with our dragon egg delivery and a message. It wasn't quite ready to hatch but led us to our core text: Tell Me A dragon. We have explored the key vocabulary from our core text and it has been lovely hearing the children apply this into their play outside. The dragon returned and left us some more gifts this week – they were dragon eggs! We enjoyed describing them using the colours we could see.



In Maths we have been learning to sort objects into groups and count accurately, and we have started looking at different ways we can represent a number including on ten frames and with numicon, as well as the words.

We have started to experiment with watercolour paints in Art, and investigated different materials in Science.

Key date – Tuesday 11th October Pontefract castle visit



Year 2

What a fantastic start to the year! We have been so impressed with Year two's behaviour, listening skills and attitude towards their learning so far.

In English, we have been recapping our phonic skills and began exploring our core text 'Town is by the sea' for our

mining theme. We have used our reading skills to make predictions and created story maps to help us explore the structure of the story.

In Maths, Year 2 have demonstrated fantastic place value skills. We have explored 2-digit numbers and partitioned them into tens and ones using flexible partitioning, working both practically with concrete resources and moving towards writing number sentences.

We have also started our Science learning, investigating and categorising living and non-living. We loved investigating in our outdoor area and applied our scientific vocabulary in our explanations. Also in P.E, we have started our units on tag rugby and gymnastics.

Key date – Friday 11th November National Coal Mining Museum Visit



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA



Year 3

It has been great to welcome Year 3! They have shown some superb knowledge and passion towards their learning so far.

In English, we have been focusing on our handwriting and presentation in books. We have begun exploring our core text 'Fossil' by Bill Thomson for our dinosaur theme. We have made predictions about the text and created our own captions to explain our understanding of clues from within the pictures.

In Maths, we have been recapping our previous knowledge on place value and have enjoyed using practical resources to

In Science, we have begun investigating rocks and soils. We conducted our own investigation to test the density of rocks as well as whether they were durable or permeable. Also, we have categorised rocks into natural and human-made.

Key Dates: Wednesday 16th November - Parent workshop



Year 4

Year 4 have had an absolutely amazing start to the year! It has been so lovely to see how much they have matured and how welcoming they have been to our lovely new Teaching Assistant Mrs. Harding. They have shown a great learning attitude and I cannot wait to see this continue!

In English, we have been focusing on writing a character description. The children have shocked us with their brilliant vocabulary and how they have used expanded noun phrases and exciting adverbs to up level their descriptions.

In Maths, Year 4 have shown fantastic place value skills. They have grouped, partitioned and represented numbers all the way to 10,000 and we are so happy with the way they have presented this in their books; using different pictorial representations to show their number.



In year 4 we have begun our theme of 'A hero's journey' by recapping all of our knowledge so far as well as locating important countries which will link to our theme. They have also thoroughly enjoyed Tag Rugby in PE where we have focused on throwing and catching.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 5

Year 5 have had a great start to the year. They have settled into their new classroom really well and all seem super happy to be at school. We have enthusiastically dived straight into our learning, exploring place value in Maths and descriptive settings in English.

Year 5 are thoroughly engaged in our first topic, The Great Divide. We have started to explore WW2, thinking about how it would have felt to have been an evacuee during the war. We have been reading the book, Letter to the Lighthouse to support this learning. In Art, we have painted our own lighthouses whilst thinking about how different blends of colour can create an atmosphere.

Key Dates

Wednesday 19th October : Trip to Eden Camp



Year 6

A fantastic start to Year 6 this year! We have been working hard to learn about Ancient Egypt in our new theme 'Treasures'. We were staggered by how long ago Ancient Egypt was!

We have also been working hard on our letters of application for the Junior Leadership Team and cannot wait to find out the new JLT team. In Maths, we have been working on our Place Value skills and have retrieved lots of information from previous year groups.

Key Dates:

w/c 17th October: Bikeability

Tuesday 8th November: Trip to Leeds City Museum





Highlights of the Week from Twitter

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 12
A wonderful start to the week in Reception Class #EYFS



1 13

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 13
Year 1 have been exploring striving vocabulary from our core text, through talk, drawings and play! #JCAEnglish #oracy #teachingthroughatext #continuousprovision



1 2 12

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 13
We are thankful for the sunshine today ☀️ #SmallThingsToBeGratefulFor #BackToSchool Such lovely care shown on the playground by our older children for the younger children #TeamJCA



9

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 5h
WOW!! What a super team effort to join in the Summer reading challenge this year! Because of this, JCA have won some incredible reading prizes from @WFLibraries - thank you to everyone that took part! @JCA_Reading #summerreadingchallenge



2 1 16

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 12
It has been great to build back & further improve our dining hall @ISS_Education @JANEHINDMARCH Our children are loving the independence. We look forward to introducing our book recommendations on tables & affirmations starting this week #HealthyEating #Or



PIC-COLLAG

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 13
In Science, Year Two have been exploring outside and applied our new scientific vocabulary with confidence #JCAScience #OutdoorLearning #RealLifeLearning



PIC-COLLAG

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 15
Representing place value using base ten, ten frames, place value counters and bead strings. Some great reasoning. #MathsWeCan @JCANumeracy @WhiteRoseMaths



PIC-COLLAG

Dates for Your Diary 2022–23



INSET DAYS

Monday 5th September 2022
Tuesday 6th September 2022
Friday 18th November 2022
Monday 24th July 2023

Parents Evenings

Thursday 8th September 2022 – Meet the teacher 3.45 – 4.05 and 4.10-4.30
Tuesday 29th November and Thursday 1st December 2022– Parents' evenings
Tuesday 21st March and Thursday 23rd March – Parents' evenings

Reports

Friday 25th November 2022 - Progress check out to parents
Friday 17th March 2023 – Progress check out to parents
14th July 2023 – End of year reports to parents

Theme Days/Weeks

Wc 17/10/22 – Theme Week
Thursday 2nd March 2023- World Book Day
wc 27/3/23 – Theme Week
wc22/05/23- Creative Arts week

Performances

2/12/22 – Reception Activity Morning
6/12/22 (9.30am) and 7/12/23 9.30am – Reception nativity
12/12/22 – Christmas carols around the tree
13/12/22 (9.30am) and 14/12/22 (2pm) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity
15/12/22 Christingle at St. Annes (AM)
14/06/23- Art gallery evening
04/07/23 (Evening) & 5/07/23 (Afternoon)– Creative Arts performances
w/c 17/7/23 – Celebration week

Sports Day

30/6/23 7/7/22 Reserve Sports Day

Summer Fair

1/7/23 (TBC)



Jerry Clay Academy

Child Protection & Safeguarding

The designated **Child Protection Officers** for this academy are:

Mrs C Elliott

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Headteacher@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk



Mr T Palin

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk



The designated **Safeguarding Governor** is Mr A Carter

Andrew.Carter@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk