

Accomplishing great things at JCA



Friday 9th December 2022

Cherishing every moment at Christmas time at JCA

This year we have marked Christmas time at JCA, reflecting on what we are grateful for and treasuring our memories of years gone by.

Every child made a wish at the tree, as they hung their special decoration on the tree. We held a special ceremony for our Year 6 children, as we reflected on the difficult time we are going through and made a special wish for a very special girl. Our children made some special decorations in memory of Rai-Leyah, as this took a special place on our tree.



COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS AT JCA?

Monday 12th December

At 3.30 we host our Carols around the Tree event. You are all welcome to come along and be part of this festive session, where we will all come together to sing some Christmas carols.

Our PTA will be serving hot drinks and soup, as well as some Christmas goodies.

Tuesday 13th December

We will be hosting a morning and afternoon performance of our Year 1 & 2 nativity. We have organized an additional performance to allow for up to 4 tickets for parents and grandparents. We recognise so much time has been lost during the COVID period and we don't want our families to miss out on these magical memories.

Wednesday 14th December

Year 1 & 2 host their final performance.

Tickets for Year 1 and 2 will be going out next week with your child.

Thursday 15th December

Our whole school community will be walking to the church to take part in a Christingle service.

Christmas lunch will be served on this day.

Christmas parties will take place on Thursday afternoon. Children are welcome to bring to school a change of clothes to join in with their parties.

Friday 16th December

Our school community will join in a singing concert with the Wrenthorpe Singers. Such a memorable event for our children.

All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on the final day before we break for the holidays.

Special Mentions

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!

Special Mention of the Week Commencing 21st November 2022	
RECEPTION	Ella H
YEAR 1	James S
YEAR 2	Miller B
YEAR 3	Evie B
YEAR 4	Ruby D
YEAR 5	Harry Sn
YEAR 6	Cody H

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	94.19%	95.87%
YEAR 1	93.33 %	95.10 %
YEAR 2	96.55 %	97.22 %
YEAR 3	85.00 %	95.34 %
YEAR 4	91.00 %	95.67 %
YEAR 5	93.33%	96.03%
YEAR 6	93.10 %	95.96 %

97% +	AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET
BELOW 95%	CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS
90% & BELOW	PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.55%	ACTUAL

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Maths

In Maths, we are learning all about shapes and patterns so that we can recognise, describe and create repeating patterns. The children have been creating repeating patterns from natural objects and coloured cubes. Next week, we will continue to build on this further.

Literacy

In Literacy, the children have been learning how to type messages and lists on a type writer using their phonic knowledge and physical dexterity. We are also striving to write a simple sentence using previously taught Action Words such as 'I', 'am', 'you', 'are' and concentrating on correct letter formation. In Phonics, we are really persevering to build on our reading fluency and super speedy reading.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



The Nativity

On Monday, we read 'The Nativity' story to coincide with our Nativity performances this week. The children have been incredibly busy rehearsing, singing and practising their speaking parts as well as acting out the story in our playground area.

They were thrilled to discover our indoor role-play area had converted into a stable with Baby Jesus and the animals! On Tuesday, the children learnt about Christmas traditions around the world.

Next week, we will be building on this further as well as joining the whole School for a Christingle service at the local church and celebrating with a Christmas lunch and party. Please look out for further information via Parent Mail.

We are so proud of all the children for striving to be the best they can be on the stage for the Nativity. A plethora of our JCA Learner traits on display throughout. What fabulous singing and confidence!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Woodland Animals

Last week, we read a range of non-fiction books about woodland animals including foxes, squirrels and hedgehogs. We discussed the difference between fiction and non-fiction books and learnt facts about our favourite woodland creatures. We used the contents page to help find and retrieve information throughout the week. The children have demonstrated such fabulous inquiry skills! Throughout the week, we have drawn detailed pictures, created woodland animal collages and animal footprints in the salt dough.

Art

The children have been investigating shapes and patterns through our focus artist 'Kandinsky'. They have enjoyed creating their own shape pictures with transparent 3D objects and lolly sticks on the lightbox and creating their own textured shape art utilising tissue paper and straws. What wonderful imaginations.

Home Learning

Please continue to support your child to read regularly and complete the Action Word homework using the suggested activities and games.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



We have been busy preparing for our nativity in Year 1; we can't wait to showcase our confident singing and speaking on the stage next week!

During our **Geography** lessons, we have been learning all about London – the capital city of England. We strived to find out about the different landmarks using various information sources, and created a poster to show off what we had discovered! The children were very inquisitive and eager to find out more.

We also have enjoyed using our own maps to extend our learning in **English**. We have been asking each other questions about the maps and where dragons live there. It has been lovely to see the children striving high to use the 'ask a question' punctuation mime and they have also practiced writing accurate question marks.

In **Maths**, we have been working hard to develop our subtraction skills and during PSHE we have been talking about our families and creating beautiful drawings to share our family portraits with each other.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2

The weeks are flying by in Year 2 and we are cherishing the magical memories we are able to make together during this festive period. We have been rehearsing our nativity 'A Midwife Crisis' and we are so excited to share this with you next week. We also designed and created our own baubles to decorate our magical JCA Christmas tree!

In **English**, we have been recapping ALL the SPAG and Literacy devices we have learnt so far in Year 2. Looking deeply into the purpose of each device has helped us to see the impact and affect each one has on the reader. We reflected and critiqued how we could apply them into our own writing.

In **Maths**, we have started our new unit on money. When identifying different coins, we have applied our knowledge of shape and their properties to help us recognize the similarities and differences. Applying our place value and addition skills, we have begun to count and add amounts of coins and notes.

As part of our **DT project**, we have practiced our skills to create pastry for our 'tin miner pasties'. It was vital that we measure the ingredients accurately and we found it challenging to develop our 'rubbing' skills to combine the butter and flour.

In **Science**, our unit 'Animals including humans' explores the life cycles from all animal groups. We have been striving to use new scientific vocabulary and the definitions to identify animal offspring, live young and the similarities and difference between the animal groups.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



It has been a busy few weeks in Year 3 as we are now fast approaching the end of term! The children have produced so much fantastic work, fueled by the wealth of knowledge they have learnt so far this year.

For **Music**, Year 3 held their own magical ukulele performance for parents. They were able to showcase the chords they had learnt so far and used teamwork and careful timing to produce some fantastic singing with the rhythm sticks. What a lovely way for the children to display everything they have achieved in such a short amount of time!

In **DT**, the children have been showcasing their prior knowledge of different sewing skills from Year 2.

We built upon these skills by introducing the 'whip stitch' which was modelled alongside visuals and clear steps, so that the children could practice and perfect their technique. They used their new knowledge of the 'whip stitch' to observe how they might incorporate it into a design for a fabric Christmas decoration.

For **English**, the children have collected all of their knowledge and prior work from 'Stone Age Boy' to be able to plan and produce an exciting diary entry. They focused on one key date from the story and retold it from the point of view of the boy using adjectives, adverbs and time adverbials to create a vivid image for the reader.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4

We have had a brilliant couple of weeks in year 4. The children have shown great inquisitive skills in all their learning and have really challenged themselves with their learning.

In **Maths**, we are continuing our unit on multiplication and division, we have learnt, sang and chanted all of our times tables and the children are learning how to multiply three 1-digit numbers together. We have also explored different factor pairs to help us multiply. They are really striving with this and persevering even when it has been difficult.

In **English**, we have been reading our core text of 'Beowulf' linking to our theme of Anglo-Saxons. The children have impressed many adults around school with their fantastic writing focusing on a battle between the hero and the villain. It has also been amazing to them use our whole school word of the month, 'compassionate' correctly in their writing too.

In **History** we were lucky enough to go back in time to 1939 and travel to Sutton Hoo in East Anglia. The children excavated artefacts and showed good enquiry skills trying to match the artefact with the person they belonged to.

In **Science** the children have been looking at water vapour and how it evaporates, condenses and freezes. They have investigated this and found it fascinating, with some excellent investigation write ups.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



Year 5 have continued to impress us over the past couple of weeks. They have demonstrated their love for learning in every lesson and have shown resilience and determination in learning new concepts.

Year 5 are thoroughly enjoying our **Geography** lessons and learning about mountains. They have drawn their own fantastic detailed diagrams of mountains with clear labels.

The whole class have blown us away with the amazing progress they have been making in their swimming lessons. Their confidence and stamina have shone through, and the development of their skills and ability is a testament to this.

We are extremely excited about Christmas. We created our beautiful individual Christmas Tree decorations and made a wish as we hung them on the tree. This was a precious moment enjoyed by all. Year 5 love practicing our Christmas carols, and they look forward to showing you their delightful singing voices.

Watching Year 5 grow and develop, both academically and personally, over the term has been a joy to watch. They have challenged themselves and strived to be the best they can be, and because of this, I am super proud of them.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 had a fantastic experience at Mrs Pickersgill's **outdoor library** last week; we are able to spend time browsing the fantastic array of books available and really appreciated the time spent together there.

In our **History** lessons, we have learnt about the Maya civilization and have reflected on how that period of time has affected our lives today whilst in **PE**, we have continued our unit on Gymnastics.

In **Maths**, we have been learning about finding percentages and in English, we have continued to learn about writing newspaper reports.



Highlights of the Week from Twitter



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefi... · 1d ...
Year 1 loved our snowman themed visit to the Magical Outdoor library!
[@JCA_Reading](#) [#thesnowman](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefi... · 2d ...
A poignant moment, reflecting on our special memories & putting 3 very special symbols on the tree [#CherishingMemories](#)
💖 [#AlwaysInOurHearts](#) 💖



JCA PTA @jca_pta · 1d ...
Sweetie Santa available at carols around the tree, the perfect stocking fillers 🎵 🌲
📺 [@JCAWakefield](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWake... · 17h ...
Amazing singing and such confidence from Reception Class in their Nativity performances this week. So proud 🙌
[#EYFS](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefi... · 1d ...
Look at the beautiful atmospheric sunset over birdwatching club for 2022
💖 courtesy of [@phil_smithson](#) our birdwatching leader [#ExtraCurricular](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 7 Dec ...
The librarians were delighted with the arrival of new books to the JCA library today. They are looking forward to stamping them and placing them in the newly released section [#LoveReading](#) 📖



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
	Monday 28th November and Wednesday 30th November 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)

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



Mrs T Swinburne

DSL Team when on site

Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk



Mr A Loftus

Designated Safeguarding Governor

Andrew.Loftus@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

