

# Accomplishing great things at JCA



## A week of celebrations, trips & sporting events

This week Accomplish MAT has got a little bigger, with Stanley Grove 'officially' joining the trust, alongside JCA. This is such an exciting opportunity for our children and staff to collaborate together. Both schools will be striving to accomplish great things!

A week to also celebrate the wonderful achievements of JCA achieving the Platinum Arts Mark award. See more information within our newsletter.

The academy has continued to offer a thriving curriculum, with Year 1 going on an exciting trip to Pontefract Castle and some of our Key Stage 2 pupils' attending a cross country event at Stanley Grove Academy. These real-life opportunities all strengthen our children's knowledge for their subjects and this was certainly evident this week.



### Dates coming up soon:

**Individual photos** - Monday 9th October

**Subject Coffee Morning (History)** -  
Wednesday 18th October 9.15am - 10am. Learn  
about our wider curriculum and get the chance  
to seeing children learning in their classrooms!  
Open to all year groups

**PTA Halloween Disco** - Thursday 26th October

# JCA gains a Platinum Arts Mark Award!

You may have seen on Twitter/ X that JCA has been awarded the highest Arts Mark award of Platinum, to replace our Gold award. There are a very small number of schools and organisations that have gained this prestigious award in the country. The award comes following a rigorous assessment of our Arts curriculum. The assessors were particularly impressed with our culture of creative:

*'Can we come and play at your school, please? We were impressed by your strong commitment to the transformative power of the arts, which is making a difference to teaching and learning across the school and in other local settings. Creativity and arts are clearly referenced and evidenced. SLT, Governor support, and specialist teachers drive an established range of provision which is impacting on pupil outcomes. It is great to hear about your development of, pupil experience passports, legacy of your dance specialist and close working with visual artists.'*

Arts Council, September 2023

This is a wonderful accolade to our dedicated team who work relentlessly to provide the best Arts curriculum for our children. This is something we have held dear to our curriculum heart for many years.

Our children will be celebrating this fantastic award and looking back on our Arts journey in assembly on Monday.



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



# 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 Mentions for the week ending 6th October 2023

YEAR 1	Mylah
YEAR 2	Joseph
YEAR 3	Evie
YEAR 4	Evie
YEAR 5	Maisy
YEAR 6	All of Year 6

# 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	<b>96.33%</b>	96.31%
YEAR 1	<b>99.68%</b>	98.86%
YEAR 2	<b>96.67%</b>	96.46%
YEAR 3	<b>98.99%</b>	97.84%
YEAR 4	<b>98.00%</b>	98.26%
YEAR 5	<b>98.00%</b>	97.18%
YEAR 6	<b>99.33%</b>	99.17%

**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

**97.74%**

ACTUAL

*Thank you for your commitment to ensuring your child attends school every day. As a result, our attendance remains in the target zone. However, I am receiving quite a few ad-hoc requests for days off and holidays in term time. Please can we ask that this is avoided. Days off disrupt learning more than you can believe. We are still facing the challenge of building back after the COVID pandemic and need your support to ensure every child has good attendance.*

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# RECEPTION



This week, the children have enjoyed participating in a pen disco each morning drawing a variety of wavy, zig zag and straight lines across their whiteboard – left to right. We have also been practising fundamental skills such as cutting with scissors. The children were delighted to observe and extract the sunflower seeds from the sunflower heads they found in the outdoor area.

Throughout the remainder of the week, we have focussed our attention to developing our art skills on line, pattern and shape. We have created prints using a variety of media such as tin foil, paint and round, square and rectangular objects. We are so proud of the children for their amazing confidence, perseverance and resilience.

**Donations:** Donations of natural objects such as conkers, pumpkins, acorns, crab apples, interesting and colourful leaves would be much appreciated for our Autumn treasure tray. Please leave any donations by the Reception Class door at pick up or drop off. Many thanks in anticipation.



# RECEPTION



### **The Tiger who came for tea**

On Monday, we read 'The Tiger who came for tea' by Judith Kerr. This led to a discussion about sharing, taking turns and talking about the rules that we have at home and School to keep us safe. We followed this up with a beautiful story called 'mine mine, mine said the Porcupine' and role-played scenarios of sharing resources with other children in School. On Tuesday, we watched 2 short animated video clips from 1 decision (our PSHE online resource) to build on our theme of sharing, emotions and relationships. In addition to this, the children have been creating 'powder paint' water tea infusions for the Tiger.

### **Literacy**

The children are continuing to learn to read and write set 1 sounds in ability groupings. We have also introduced oral and sound blending using the sounds that they know. The children are getting really confident now using a magnetic boards and sound tiles to 'Fred Talk' and 'Read the Word'. This will be modelled at Friday Library so that you can practise at home with the resources in your parent phonics pack. The children have been continuing to practise recognising and writing their name in morning challenge.

### **Maths**

In Maths, we are learning all about the number 4. The children have learnt different ways to represent 4 with numicon, actions, objects and learnt their number bonds. Eg  $4 + 0 = 4$ ,  $3 + 1 = 4$  and  $2 + 2 = 4$ . We used cubes to build a 'number blocks 4 character' then changed its shape. On Thursday, we created giant squares from sticks and balls to form the shape. Next week, we will be focussing on the number 5.



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 1

We have had another super couple of weeks in Year 1 as we have deepened our understanding of the purpose of castles. We have learnt about the features that help defend a castle from an enemy attack during our **History** lessons. We have learnt about Sandal Castle through story, and many of us have experienced this castle out of school which was lovely to hear about.

On Tuesday, we had our class visit to **Pontefract castle!** It was exciting transforming into dragons as part of a castle story and swooping around the ruins with Ilbert the dragon. We had a good look around, exploring artefacts from Medieval times and even crept down into the dungeon.

In **English**, we have completed our first hot write which is a beautiful description of our own dragons. The children have worked hard to include adjectives to create a picture in the readers' minds.

Our sketchbooks in **Art** are a joy to experiment in; over the last couple of weeks we've experimented with mixing, and applying watercolour paints using thick and thin brushes.





# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 2

Year 2 have continued to settle into new routines and expectations – we are blossoming into independent, striving learners!

In **Maths**, we have extended our learning on place value and applied our knowledge of tens and ones to estimate on a number line and compare number in different representations. To challenge our understanding, we have used mathematical vocabulary to solve and explain problems.

In **English**, we have been striving to develop our vocabulary and adjectives to create a detailed description for the reader. After receiving a concerning letter from the mine, we created descriptive posters to help find missing miner, Russ!

Following our visit to the National Coal Mining Museum, we were eager to locate other mines. Using atlases and maps, we developed our map skills to locate where coal mines were across the UK.

In **Science**, we are fascinated by our current unit on 'living things and their habitats'. We have identified the characteristics of a living thing, explored different habitats and how animals are adapted to survive there. This week, we investigated microhabitats.

For our current **Art** project, we have explored mixing paint to create tones inspired by 'Valerie Ganz'.





# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 3



The weeks are flying by in Year 3 and the children are demonstrating a fantastic level of drive, enthusiasm and inquisitiveness with our current topic of 'The Lost World.'

In **English** we have been compiling all of our learning and writing skills to create our third person narratives based on our core text. We have taken such a care and pride when publishing our work and we cannot wait to see this on display in the coming weeks.

In **Maths** we have shown a fantastic understanding of place value when working with 3-digit numbers in a range of contexts. We are excited to be moving on to addition and subtraction where we have already been showcasing our mental arithmetic skills as well as written methods.

As part of our **History** and **Science** learning on fossils, we were exceptionally lucky to have a visit from Dale who brought in a huge suitcase full of fossils for us to observe and explore! We were mesmerised and inspired by the range of artefacts and information he provided and the children are now eager to go hunting for fossils themselves.

In **Computing**, we have loved our new unit of 'We are Programmers!' The children have explored the programme of Scratch to understand how this will support them in creating their own animation. They have created their own storyboards and algorithms ready to begin creating next week.



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant couple of weeks. We are starting to see a mature attitude and a drive for their learning which has been fantastic to see!

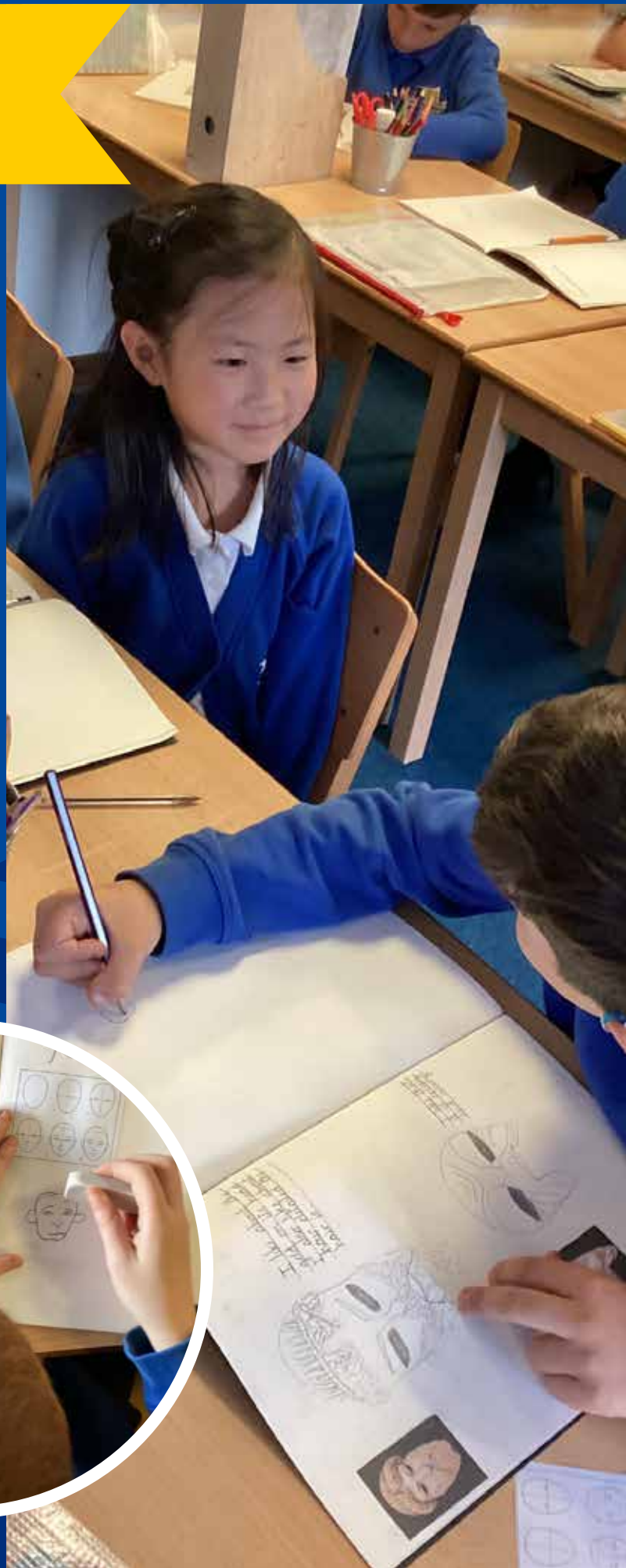
In **Maths**, we have been focussing on rounding to the nearest 10,100,1000. This has been a challenge, but the children have taken this in their stride and worked so hard to succeed in this area. They have also been striving in their Diamond Dash and we are starting to see lots of children driven to pass which has been amazing!

In **English**, we are starting to write our own Greek myth. The children have looked at many different Greek myths and are now using them as inspiration to create their own beasts and heroes. The children are so eager to write these that we have had many written at home in preparation, great effort!

We have been lucky enough to go to Mrs P's outdoor library this week which was extremely exciting. The children showed great respect towards the **books** and worked hard to pick a book that would be right for them.

In **PE**, we have carried on looking at invasion games and worked as a team this week to focus on passing and scoring. The children showed great care when working in a team help one and other score.

Super concentration in **Art** lessons.





# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 5

We have had a wonderful couple of weeks in Year 5. The class have immersed themselves into their learning of **WW2**. It has been fantastic to see the children's engagement and enthusiasm heightened. Year 5 particularly enjoyed trying on a WW2 Soldier's uniform and walking in their shoes for the afternoon.

In **Maths**, Year 5 have been working hard on addition and subtraction. They have mastered adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers using the column method. We are now working on using this knowledge to answer complex reasoning questions.

In **English**, we have been striving to create newspaper reports. The children have formulated brilliant plans, and I cannot wait to read their finished pieces.



### KEY DATES

**24th October 2023**

**Eden Camp**

**14th November 2023**

**Outdoor Learning Day**



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 6



Year 6 have been developing our 'perseverance' learner trait during our **Maths** lessons. We have worked so hard to master long division and have created our own tutorial videos to explain the method.

During **Art**, we have been using Edward Munch's 'The Scream' for inspiration. We have been looking at proportion and scale where we have explored drawing the human figure in proportion to our backgrounds.

In **Science**, we have explored how to live a healthy lifestyle – we will be creating our own leaflets based on this and our previous knowledge.

In **History**, we have learnt about Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and how ancient Egyptians used the Nile and how their inventions have influenced other societies and our lives today.

### KEY DATES

**wc 16th October - Bikeability**

**Tuesday 24th October –  
Outdoor Learning Day**

**Wednesday 8th November -  
Trip to Leeds City Museum**

**Monday 6th November 5.30pm -  
Residential meeting**



# Highlights of the Week from Twitter

 **Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield** · 3d ...  
Welcome to Accomplish MAT  
[@StanleyGrovePri](#) We can't wait to work with you all [#AccomplishingGreatThingsTogether](#) 🌟


 **Accomplish MAT @accomplish...** · 3d  
An absolute honour to attend the official opening of Stanley Grove Academy today. It really was the most magical day dedicated to the special children & staff team of [@StanleyGrovePri](#) The children's singing- amazing, the JLTs confidence & [@tompalmerauthor](#) fabulous!  
[#AccomplishMAT](#)





 **Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield** · 1d ...  
We love this! Rain ☁️ certainly doesn't stop quality outdoor play  
[#EarlyLanguageDevelopment](#)

 **JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs** · 1d  
Row row row your boat, gently down the stream. The weather didn't stop these children! Great teamwork, resilience and creativity [#EYFS](#)



 **Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield** · 6d ...  
🌟 We have some fantastic news to share .....  
JCA HAS BEEN AWARDED [@Artsmarkaward](#) PLATINUM placing us amongst a minority of schools & organisations in the country with the highest award. We held Gold & after assessments of our intent, implementation & impact, we are delighted. 🌟

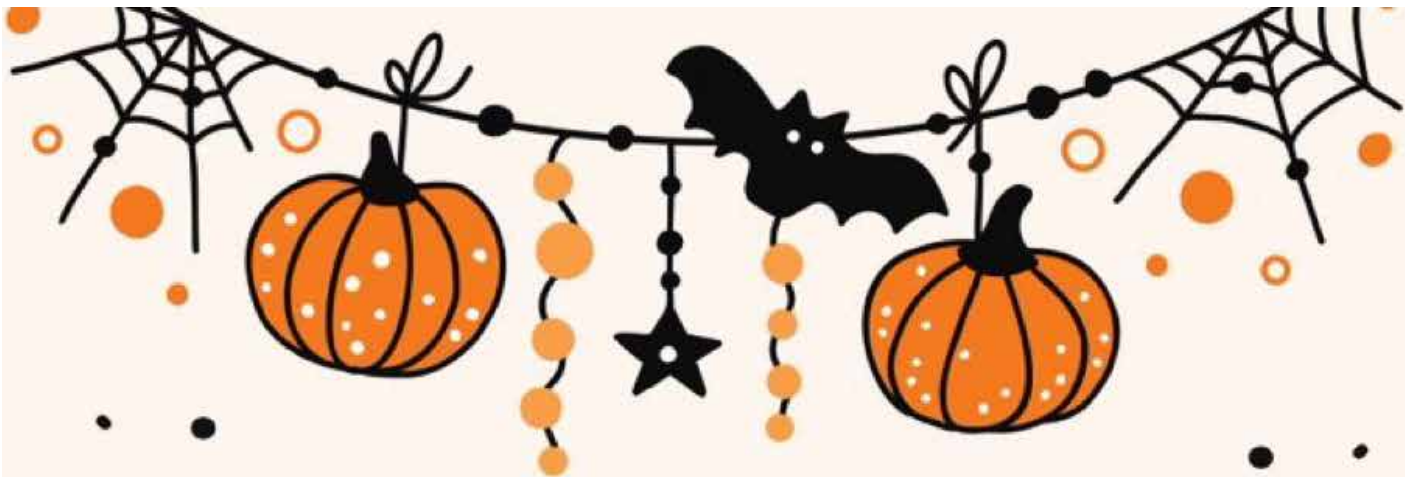


 **Artsmark Platinum Award**  
Awarded by Arts Council England

 **Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield** · 2d ...  
What a wonderful visit to Pontefract castle  
Year 1 had today! This morning we explored the castle grounds through story.  
[@HistoryJca](#) [#reallifeexperiences](#)







JOIN THE JERRY CLAY PTA FOR A.

# Halloween Disco



THURSDAY

**26**  
OCT.

6-7PM KS1

7.15-8.15PM KS2

KS1 £4 INCLUDES TATTOOS, SQUASH AND SWEETS

KS2 £3.50 INCLUDES SQUASH.

SWEETS AND SMALL GIFTS AVAILABLE TO BUY



Request for pre loved Halloween costume (good condition, with no stains or holes) to be dropped off in the uniform donations bin by Friday 13th October.





# Jerry Clay PTA

**SAVE THE DATE**

Dads, Mums,  
Grandmas, Grandads,  
Uncles and Aunts - We  
always need volunteers  
to prep or help out at  
our events, get in touch!

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Fancy Dress Shop**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Halloween Disco

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – AGM Meeting (Face to Face)**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Wreath Making Workshop

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Carols around the  
tree/Christmas Fair**

Spring Term 2024- Valentines Disco, Car Boot and Quiz Night  
(Adults only)

[Jerryclaypta@gmail.com](mailto:Jerryclaypta@gmail.com)

<https://jerryclaypta.wixsite.com/jcapta/events>



**Parentkind**  
Member Association



**A Camps**



# **JERRY CLAY ACADEMY ALL SPORTS HALLOWEEN CAMP**

**OCTOBER HALF TERM**

**MON 30TH - THURS 2ND**

**9AM - 4PM**

**£22 PER DAY**





# Dates for Your Diary 2023-24

<b>INSET DAYS</b>	Monday 4 September 2023
	Friday 24 November 2023
	Monday 8 January 2024
	Monday 8 April 2024
	Monday 22 July 2024
<b>Parents Evenings</b>	Wednesday 6th September 2023 – Meet the teacher 3:45 – 4.05 and 4.10-4.30
	Monday 4th December and Wednesday 6th December 2023 – Parents' evenings
	Monday 18th & Wednesday 20th March – Parents' evenings
<b>Reports</b>	01/12/23- Progress check out to parents
	15/3/24 – Progress check out to parents
	12/7/24 – End of year reports to parents
<b>Theme Days/ Weeks</b>	Thursday 7th March 2024- World Book Day
	wc 18/3/24 – Theme Week – Speaking and listening – Ted Talks
	wc20/05/24- Creative Arts week
<b>Performances</b>	1/12/23 – Reception Activity Morning
	12/12/23 (9.30am) and 13/12/23 9.30am – Reception nativity
	18/12/23 – Christmas carols around the tree
	19/12/23 (2pm) and 20/12/23 (9.30 am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity
	21/12/23 Christingle at St. Annes (AM) at 10am
	14/06/24- Art gallery evening
	Wc 8th July 2024 – Performance
	w/c 15/7/24 – Celebration week
<b>Residential</b>	London- TBC
<b>Sports Day</b>	14/6/24 (21//6/24 Reserve Sports Day)
<b>Summer Fair</b>	(TBC)



# Child Protection & Safeguarding

The designated Child Protection Officers for this academy are:

## **Mrs T Swinburne**

Designated Safeguarding Lead  
and Executive Headteacher.

[Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk](mailto:Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk)



## **Mr T Palin**

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

[Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)



## **Mr A Loftus**

Designated Safeguarding Governor

[Andrew.Loftus@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:Andrew.Loftus@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)

