

Accomplishing great things at JCA



A half term to really celebrate our achievements!

What a brilliant start to 2023-24 we have all made. 7 weeks of excellent learning! I am so proud of the achievements of our children right across the school. From achieving Platinum Arts to individual personal accomplishments - the sky really is the limit at JCA!

I wish you all a very happy half term holiday and hope you get to spend some lovely time together, relaxing. I look forward to seeing you all back at the academy on Monday 6th November.



Artsmark
Platinum Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



After the half term we will be hosting our annual **open morning** for prospective families on Saturday 11th November from 10am until 12pm. Please do spread the word! We will also be inviting the school council, musicians and Junior Leaders in to talk about and showcase the school. Please save this date and a letter will be going out after the half term holidays.

Due to our Ofsted inspection, the **History coffee morning** needed to be rescheduled. This is now taking place on Wednesday 29th November at 9am.

Attendance

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	94.67%	96.54%
YEAR 1	94.19%	97.56%
YEAR 2	94.33%	96.15%
YEAR 3	93.33%	97.48%
YEAR 4	92.00%	97.05%
YEAR 5	91.33%	96.19%
YEAR 6	98.67%	99.19%

97% +
AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

BELOW 95%
CAUSING CONCERN &
LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW
PERSISTENT ABSENCE -
SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

94.08%	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.

RECEPTION



Mr Big

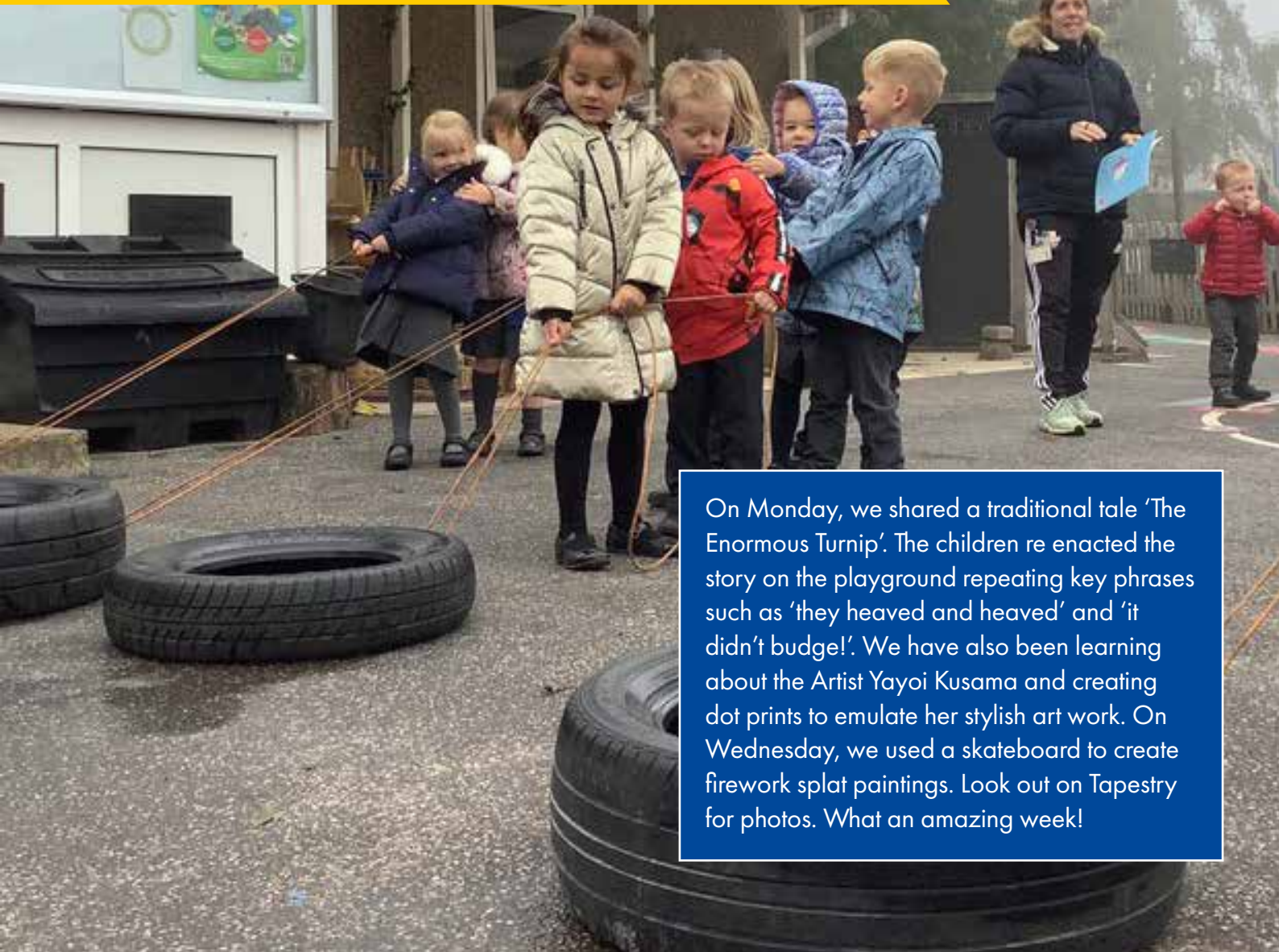
Last week, we shared 'Mr Big by Ed Vere' and discussed identity, diversity, feelings and friendships. The children constructed a city scape with sky lines, drawing around numicon with chalk pens and designed an impressive tower block for Mr Big utilising a cardboard box frame. During the week, we explored jazz music. The children became musicians, tapping the beat and created music with a variety of pots, pans and musical instruments. They enjoyed dancing along to the music with the chiffon scarves and ribbons. Throughout the week, we also tapped golf tees into pumpkins and decorated the exterior of the skin by adding the natural objects we found on our Autumnal walk. During the week, we formed our own class band/choir and learnt a song called 'Big Red Combine Harvester' to celebrate harvest. The children played the xylophone, drums and shakers and performed in assembly to the whole school. What brilliant confidence and energy.



Physical Development

In PE, we used scarves to create a firework dance. The children enjoyed scrunching them up and throwing them in the air then catching them again as they floated down and playing 'where oh where has my legs/toes/head gone' This week, the children developed fundamental travelling movements linked to our maths such as jumping on and off the bench and built core strength as they took their body weight and pulled themselves along.

RECEPTION



On Monday, we shared a traditional tale 'The Enormous Turnip'. The children re enacted the story on the playground repeating key phrases such as 'they heaved and heaved' and 'it didn't budge!'. We have also been learning about the Artist Yayoi Kusama and creating dot prints to emulate her stylish art work. On Wednesday, we used a skateboard to create firework splat paintings. Look out on Tapestry for photos. What an amazing week!

Literacy

We are learning to recognise and write our name and write numbers 1-5 with correct formation. In Read Write Inc. Phonics, we continue to learn set 1 sounds and establish key routines. Our focus this week has been on pronunciation of sounds and blending sounds to form words using magnetic boards and sound tiles. We have also focussed on our language and communication re telling stories with key vocabulary and phrases.

Maths

We are learning about positional language so that we can locate Mr Big in the city. The children have played positional awareness games with their partner (over/under/on/around) to further develop their understanding. We have also been learning to sort Autumnal and natural objects in different ways such as size, pattern, shape and colour.

Have a relaxing half term holiday. Mrs Burrows and the Reception Team.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



Year 1 have been working very hard in the final weeks before the half term break. In **English**, we have published our first piece of writing and we loved sharing it with our adults at library time. Now we are busy planning a story inspired by our new core text: The Night Dragon. We hope to be ready to share our books with the Reception children soon!

This week in **Maths**, we have enjoyed learning about wholes and parts. In **Geography**, we have enjoyed putting different castles of the UK into the correct capital city, and in the correct country! We have enjoyed learning about the capital cities of the UK so please ask us about these – maybe we could sing you our song!

We have been learning about primary colours in **Art** as well as mixing them. This week we have completed our beautiful watercolour dragon art. Also we've really enjoyed exploring the iPads and Bee-bots in **Computing**.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2

Year 2 have continued to strive to be 1% better every minute, every hour, every day! In **English**, we have started creating our own narrative of 'Town is by the sea'. We have been inspired by the powerful vocabulary in the story to up level our own choice and the impact it has on the reader.

In **Maths**, we have started our new unit on addition and subtraction. Our prior learning of number bonds has helped us to find fact families of part whole models and bar models.

In **Art**, we have applied our colour mixing skills to create tones for the backgrounds of our artwork. Using different brush strokes, we created the deep dark tunnels of the coal mines.

In **Geography**, the children have created detailed maps of the National Coal Mining Museum. They included a key to show what the symbols represent and drew the map from an aerial view.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



What a magnificent few weeks we have had in Year 3 as we get closer to the end of our half term. It has been inspiring to see the children's enthusiasm for learning, not only in school but at home too! Our foundation subjects have really been shining and we have been so impressed with the children's retrieval of knowledge and application of skills!

In **Art**, we have been focussing on developing our understanding of texture. First we looked at how we can use our sketching techniques to create implied textures of rough and smooth. Then, we moved onto using a range of media to explore different textures. The children loved experimenting with these and applying their skills back to their mood boards of Darrell Wakelam.



In **Spanish**, we enjoyed a practical lesson on numbers zero to ten. We used our vocabulary from the previous lessons and applied this to a range of activities to help cement our learning and pronunciation. We also introduced numbers eleven to twenty and explored the patterns within these.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



We have had a great couple of weeks and have really focused on being 1% better every week. They are making me so proud with their mature attitude and their enthusiasm towards their learning.

In **Maths**, we have been focussing on column addition and subtraction. The children have worked so hard to master this skill and can add and subtract 4 digit numbers with 4 digit numbers.

In **PE**, we have worked on our teamwork skills and communication. We had different obstacles set up for the children to guide their groups through and they even completed this blindfolded. We were also being thankful this week in yoga, understanding what we were grateful for and clearing our minds.

We also linked our PE learning to our History as we held our own Greek Olympic Games. The children enjoyed discuss, long jump and even horse racing!

In **RE**, we had a lovely session around Islamic beliefs, we even got to explore some artefacts and their importance.

In **English**, the children have written their own Greek Myth. They have worked so hard to create exciting stories that have beasts, heroes and Gorgons which are fantastic to read. They worked so hard in our drama session to create powerful speech which was then added into their writing.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



Year 5 have continued to shine during all of their lessons. They are demonstrating a fantastic learning attitude across the curriculum.

In **English**, Year 5 have flourished through their writing processes. They have now completed and published their newspaper reports and should feel incredibly proud of the writing they have created. We are now moving on to writing stories with a dilemma – we look forward to sharing these with you.

In **Maths**, the children have been focussing on multiplication strategies and learning to identify squared, cubed and prime numbers. Year 5 have demonstrated their ability to be 1% better every day, particularly in Maths. Moving forward, we will focus on strategies to help us with division.

In our **Spanish** lessons, we have identified the names of a town's buildings. We have also learnt how to write and say different directions. Year 5 were incredibly excited to share their learning.

Year 5 thoroughly enjoy their **Drama** lessons; they have explored how to create an effective conscience alley. They love being in role and expressing the different characters in 'Letters to the Lighthouse'.

KEY DATES

14th November 2023
Outdoor Learning Day

YEAR 5

A huge highlight of our half term has of course been the trip to Eden Camp. The children were full of curiosity, respect and enthusiasm. Year 5 loved this trip and a number of the class said that it was their favourite one so far!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have continued to strive to be the absolute best that they can be. We are so proud of them all for completing Level 1 or 2 of **Bikeability** and the instructors all commented on their impeccable manners and attitude towards learning.

In **Maths**, Year 6 have worked hard to consolidate their arithmetic learning across all four operations and have started to further their learning about equivalent fractions and how to simplify fractions.

During **Art**, we have been using Edward Munch's 'The Scream' for inspiration. We have drawn our final pieces and have carefully added colours linked to emotions to express our feelings.

In **History**, we have learnt about ancient Egyptian inventions and how the river Nile was used in daily life. We also learnt about the Maya civilization and compared some similarities and differences to the ancient Egyptians.



KEY DATES

Monday 6th November 5.30pm
Residential meeting

Wednesday 8th November
Trip to Leeds City Museum

Wednesday 15th November
Outdoor Learning Day

Tuesday 28th November 9am – 10am
Y6 Parent Workshop

Highlights of the Week from Twitter



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 7h ...
We have had such great fun at our @jca_pta Halloween 🎃 disco. Such amazing costumes 🦋 Thank you to our PTA, parents, grandparents & staff for helping to make it so great. What an amazing community we have! ❤️



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2d ...
All ready for our Harvest Festival. Thank you to all of you for your kind donations 🙏 This will all go to CAP following our assembly
[#GivingThanks](#) [#HarvestFestival](#) 🍎 🥥 🍊



JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 1d ...
Firework painting [#EYFS](#)



Jerry Clay Academy Geography @J... · 1d ...
Updated Geography outcomes from across the school. Each outcome links to our strands that run throughout our Geography curriculum. [#JCAGeography](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2d ...
Year 5 had a fantastic time at Eden Camp today! They demonstrated a number of our learner traits and represented our school brilliantly.
[@HistoryJca](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 1d ...
We are so proud of all of Year 6 and how hard they have worked this half term. We have proudly displayed their final outcomes of their published writing linked with ancient Egypt. They used a range of suspense to grip the reader and speech to move the story forward 📖 [#JCAWriting](#)





wreath making workshop

£25pp



Join Jerry Clay pTA for a special evening of wreath making! Refreshments and nibbles available to purchase additionally. A £5 deposit will be needed to secure a space.

NOVEMBER 30 AT 7PM

At Jerry Clay Academy Wrenthorpe, WF2 0NW

TO BOOK VISIT:

[HTTPS://JERRYCLAYPTA.WIXSITE.COM/JCAPTA/EVENTS](https://jerryclaypta.wixsite.com/jcapta/events) OR

EMAIL: [JERRYCLAYPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:jerryclaypta@gmail.com)

Dates for Your Diary 2023-24

INSET DAYS	Monday 4 September 2023
	Friday 24 November 2023
	Monday 8 January 2024
	Monday 8 April 2024
	Monday 22 July 2024
Parents Evenings	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
Reports	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
Theme Days/ Weeks	Thursday 7th March 2024- World Book Day
	wc 18/3/24 – Theme Week – Speaking and listening – Ted Talks
	wc20/05/24- Creative Arts week
Performances	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
Residential	London- TBC
Sports Day	14/6/24 (21//6/24 Reserve Sports Day)
Summer Fair	(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



Mr T Palin

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk



Mr A Loftus

Designated Safeguarding Governor

Andrew.Loftus@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

