

Accomplishing great things at JCA



Winter fun at JCA!

It may have been cold this week at JCA; however, this hasn't deterred us from using this to enhance our curriculum further. From Arctic adventures, to ice exploration, we have all hit the ground running and we can certainly confirm that our children have reached another level during the start of this Spring term.



We need your help!

We are in desperate need of a shed for Uniforms and more storage, if anyone has one they no longer need or know of any companies that would be willing to donate one do let us know.

Additionally, we would like to create fixed storage shelves within our current storage unit, if you have any friends and family that are joiners and wouldn't mind building the shelving we would happily supply the materials.

If you need any uniform please email
jerryclayptauniform@gmail.com

PTA news

Valentines Disco

Our annual Valentines PTA disco will be taking place on Thursday 8th February.

Payments for the school Valentines disco will shortly open in ParentMail, this will stay open until the 7th February. Cash and Contactless can be taken on the night. (See poster overleaf for prices)

PTA Questionnaire

Please could you spare 5 minutes to help us improve PTA events for 2024-25 -
[Click here to access the PTA Questionnaire](#)



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Valentine's Disco ♥



THURSDAY | 8 | FEBRUARY

KS1 | 6-7 PM

KS2 | 7.15-8.15 PM

**KS1 £4 DRINKS, SWEETS AND
TATTOOS INCLUDED**

**KS2 £3.50 INCLUDES DRINKS ONLY
SWEETS AND SMALL GIFTS TO BUY**

**PARENT MAIL PAYMENT IN
ADVANCE OR CASH ON THE NIGHT**



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	97.33%	96.51%
YEAR 1	92.58%	96.03%
YEAR 2	98.00%	95.25%
YEAR 3	96.00%	97.20%
YEAR 4	99.33%	96.86%
YEAR 5	96.00%	96.26%
YEAR 6	94.67%	98.06%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.59%	ACTUAL

97% +
AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

BELOW 95%
CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW
PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

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

Frozen Planet

Our new starting point for learning this term is 'Frozen Planet'. Throughout the term, the children will be learning about life in the Arctic and Antarctic regions including animals, environment, people and transport.



The Great Explorer

On Monday, we read 'The Great Explorer' by Chris Judge and set to work straight away to plan our own 'Arctic' adventure. The children created large scale maps adding arrows for directions, drawings and loose parts to represent what they would see on their expedition. We also created lists of items that we would need to take to the Arctic and constructed helicopters, boats and hot air balloons to travel in. What incredible ideas and attention to detail! On Monday afternoon, we all set sail, braving the freezing conditions on a journey to discover Mrs Wood had been injured. The children rescued her emulating the events in our shared story! During the week, the children have been learning to draw and sequence pictures to create a story map. They have been using these to re tell the story with ambitious vocabulary!

RECEPTION

Maths

In Maths, we are learning about maps of the world and how to give directions so that we can navigate the way to the Arctic and Antarctic. We are also learning to talk about and to measure time in different ways such as over a week/day/minute.



Art

This week, the children created amazing polar bear paintings using different tools and printing techniques. They used cardboard fans and plastic forks to imitate the fur. Yesterday, we smudged and blended chalky pastels to create wonderful northern lights imagery with polar animal silhouettes. The highlight of the week was sculpting, investigating, painting and exploring ice outside!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



Year 1 have had an exciting start to 2024 - we were very surprised last week as the postman delivered a parcel – it was Paddington in a suitcase! There was a letter inside the suitcase from Aunt Lucy too. In English, we are now working towards writing a letter to our families to tell them all about the fun Paddington is having at JCA! We have enjoyed reading the story of Paddington, retelling it orally using the key vocabulary, through role play and on story maps!

In **Geography**, we are learning about continents and oceans; we have enjoyed learning different songs to extend and consolidate this understanding. We know that Peru is in South America!

Outside we now have our own Year 1 **Post office**, where we are striving to use our speaking frames and write letters independently. We are really enjoying learning all about the postal system, using stamps and packing parcels, and especially dressing up as post people!



In **RE**, we are learning about the Muslim faith this half term and have enjoyed starting to learn about the Mosque and the special objects and rituals in this place of worship.

We have continued to fill each other's buckets each day by sharing kind comments and being caring.

KEY DATES

**Wednesday 7th February 9:30am –
Paddington breakfast activity morning**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



What a fantastic start Year have had to 2024! They have returned from the Christmas holidays all refreshed and striving ready for the new term. We have really noticed the children blossoming in independence and risk-taking to challenge themselves. This week, we have loved pairing up with our Year 5 reading buddies to share our books with and practice our reading fluency.

This term, we have started our new theme 'Do we always appreciate what we've got?' with a focus on Africa. In **English**, we have immersed ourselves into our new core text 'Pretty Salma'. Using our speaking and listening, we discussed the structure of the story and compare the similarities and differences to known stories too.

In **Maths**, we are coming towards the end of our addition and subtraction unit.

We have almost mastered column addition and subtraction with exchanging and have practiced applying the method to word problems. With Mrs Longley, we have been learning about mass, capacity and temperature.

In **Geography**, we have been practicing our map skills to locate Africa and the countries within it. Using the atlas, we discovered there are 54 countries within Africa, some are landlocked and some are on the coast line.

In **P.E** we have focused on our throwing and catching skills, practicing to throw with aim, power and control.

In **Science**, we have continued our unit on 'animals and living things'. We have investigated what makes a balanced diet and the importance of exercise.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



Year 3 have had a brilliant start to our Spring term and shown incredible inquisitiveness towards our new topic of 'What is Community?'

In **English**, the children have loved exploring our new core text of 'The Boy who Harnessed the Wind.' We used clues to hook the children's learning and infer where they thought the story might be set and predict what the text might be about. Since, they have identified the purpose for our writing to be to create a newspaper report and therefore have explored a WAGOLL and time and place adverbials to use in their writing. The children have also loved delving even deeper into our text with drama, focussing on using freeze frames to express the life of our main character at the start of the book.

In **Maths**, we have completed the final section of our topic on multiplication and division. We focused on finding remainders when dividing, scaling and using a range of strategies to find a range of possibilities. For our next topic, we will be moving onto length and perimeter.

For **Geography**, we introduced our learning on community by recapping on European countries. The children used atlases to locate different countries and label these on their map. Then used geographical vocabulary to describe where countries were in relation to one another.

Finally, the children have loved practicing their sketching techniques in **Art** to create rotating and repeated patterns inspired by Celtic art. They identified our artist of Michael Carroll and observed his work closely to begin creating some patterns of their own.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



Year 4 have hit the ground running this term, showing brilliant subject knowledge when beginning our new units of learning linking to our theme 'How can small actions eventually change the world?'

In **Maths**, we have begun our unit on multiplication and division. The children have been challenged with multiplying 3 digits by 1 digits which they have achieved fantastically. The children have also enjoyed the new method of bus stop (short division) which they are striving hard to become more confident with.

In **English**, we have focussed on shape poetry using different rainforest animals as our theme. The children are enjoying using different poetic devices to write lovely sentences based around that animal. They are also enjoying exploring our core text 'The Explorer' through our weekly drama sessions. They have so far looked at the blurb of the story and acted out different freeze frames to create different scenes from the story.

In **Computing**, we have loved starting our new unit of 'We are musicians'. Using the app Garage Band, the children are working on using rhythm to create simple patterns in a synthesiser and I know they have been eager to carry on this learning at home.

In **art**, we enjoyed having Miss Bairstow in to help develop our sketching techniques. The children worked on drawing using a grid method and focussed on the positive and negative space on the picture.

KEY DATES

Tuesday 23rd January
Outdoor Learning Day

Wednesday 28th February
Trip to Gurdwara linked to Sikhism topic in RE

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5

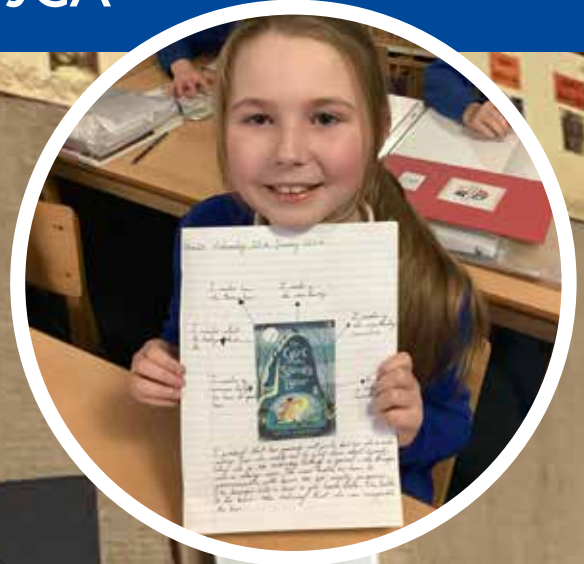
Year 5 have impressed us with how well they have settled back into school this term – they arrived at school keen to learn and have demonstrated enthusiasm and curiosity over the past fortnight.

In **English**, we have begun our new core text, 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear'. This links to our new theme, 'What is the difference between living and surviving? This week we have researched facts about polar bears so that we use in-depth information in our explanation texts. We have also been learning about parenthesis and using this to add extra details into our writing.

In **Maths**, we have continued our learning of multiplication and division. This week, week 5 mastered the method of using short division. Next, we will use these skills and apply them to reasoning problems.

In **Art** this week, Year 5 have dived into their next project. They focused on Sue Davis's art and explored her work style. They developed their sketching techniques and thought carefully about how to apply this to their drawings.

In **Geography**, Year 5 developed an understanding of longitude and latitude to show how Earth can be divided.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had an excellent start to the term and are continuing to strive in their learning. In **PSHE**, we have discussed the importance of this. We have been reflecting on our achievements so far in Year 6 and created goals for this term.

In **Maths**, Year 6 have continued to consolidate their arithmetic methods and linking together fractions, decimals and percentages. They should continue to use their revision guides to revise these. Next week, we will be starting to learn about algebra.

In **Art**, we have started to learn about Cubism and Pablo Picasso, where we discussed and practiced drawing features of the face.

In **Geography**, we have started to learn about natural disasters with a focus on earthquakes. We have learnt about plate tectonics and locations of different earthquakes. In Science, we have been learning how light travels and about the functions of our eyes.



Highlights of the Week from Twitter



JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 3d

The children created their own maps following our shared read 'The Great Explorer' by Chris Judge. Brilliant language, story telling and mathematical play #EYFS #language #maths #geography #interests



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 17h

Today, Year 5 created mood boards inspired by the artist, Sue Davis. We discussed the importance of the negative space in her pieces of work. They used both oil and chalk pastels whilst thinking carefully about how to sketch different types of tree branches.

@JCA__Art



Jerry Clay Academy
@JCAWakefield

Year 3 had a lovely, relaxing yoga session yesterday. Focussing on different poses to focus their thoughts and mindfulness #yoga #5waystowellbeing



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 1d

Year 6 have been consolidating their learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. They particularly enjoyed playing a team game, matching the correct decimals and fractions to their equivalents. #JCAMaths #teamwork



You reposted



JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 14h

The joy of ice exploration this week has been a particular highlight. It brings such a different dimension to learning and creativity #EYFS #ice #creative #science #language



Kids WASP Parent Carer Workshop

Hosted by
Wakefield Family Hubs

Kids WASP Parent carer workshop is a bespoke workshop that looks at Autism, ADHD, PDA and Behaviour that challenges.

Each workshop is 2 hours long and will cover information and strategies to help support your family.

After the workshop we will be holding an informal drop in session for parents to offer help, support and guidance around the above.

Alongside this there will be opportunities to access 45 minute information sessions around Sleep, Sensory information and the benefits of Lego therapy.

If you are interested in attending any part of the workshop please scan the QR code below and fill out the form. A member of the WASP Team will then contact you.

For any further enquires please email
frances.fisher@kids.org.uk
or call 01924 683890



Kids WASP Parent Carer Workshop

Hosted by
Wakefield Family Hubs

Kids WASP Parent carer workshop is a bespoke workshop that looks at Autism, ADHD, PDA and Behaviour that challenges.

Each workshop is 2 hours long and will cover information and strategies to help support your family.

After the workshop we will be holding an informal drop in session for parents to offer help, support and guidance around the above.

Alongside this there will be opportunities to access 45 minute information sessions around Sleep, Sensory information and the benefits of Lego therapy.



If you would like to attend any
of the January workshops
please ring 01924 683890 or
scan the QR code to fill out a
referral form

January dates:

Tuesday 16th

Sunbeam family hub 12pm-3pm

Wednesday 17th

The Castle Family Hub 9.30-1.30pm

Tuesday 23rd

Stanley Family Hub
9.30-1pm

Wednesday 24th

Cedars Family Hub
9.30-1.30pm

Tuesday 30th

Havercroft Family Hub
9.30-1pm

Wednesday 31st

Pomfret Family Hub
9.30-1pm



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

