

Accomplishing great things at JCA



Welcome back to the Summer term. We have so much happening and we can't wait to share all of our events with you this term.

New Starters

We were delighted to receive our list of new starters for Reception class 2024-25. We will be sending an email to all our new families next week. We know that we have lots of siblings joining us this year and can't wait to welcome them all into our JCA family.



Welcome to Townville Academy who will join Accomplish MAT on 1st June

We are very pleased to inform you all that Townville Infants in Castleford will be joining our Accomplish MAT family from 1st June. They will experience the excellent support that JCA and SGA receive and we look forward to working collaboratively with them.

Learning Adventures over the last 2 weeks

Please enjoy reading about all of the learning that has been taking place across the academy over the last 2 weeks and important dates that are coming up for your child's class.

With warm regards,

Mrs. T Swinburne

Events coming up in the Summer Term

Please note that individual Class trips and events are noted in their own section of the newsletter

Creative Arts Week for children – WB 20th May

Creative Arts Gallery for our whole community – Wednesday 12th June at 5pm

Sports Day – Friday 14th June – 9.15 for Reception & Year 1, 1.15 for Year 2 to Year 6

Reserve Sports Day – Friday 28th June

Summer Fair – Saturday 6th July

Class Swap Afternoon – Thursday 11th July
Children to have the opportunity to go in their new class

Celebration week – Assemblies to celebrate the achievements of each class

Monday 15th July, 9.15am – Reception Celebration

Tuesday 16th July, 9.15am- Year 1 Celebration

1.30pm- Year 2 Celebration

Wednesday 17th July 9.15am - Year 3 Celebration

Thursday 18th July, 9.15am Year 4 Celebration

1.30pm Year 5 Celebration

Friday 19th July, 9.15am Year 6 Leavers' Service

Final day of the Summer Term – Friday 19th July

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	99.30%	96.30%
YEAR 1	95.90%	96.40%
YEAR 2	94.40%	95.60%
YEAR 3	99.30%	97.00%
YEAR 4	98.90%	97.20%
YEAR 5	99.30%	96.50%
YEAR 6	99.60%	98.10%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.70%	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.

RECEPTION



THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

The Little Green Hen

Last week, we read 'The Little Green Hen' as a starting point to our new theme for learning – The Circle of Life. The children have been focussing on comparisons of animal, human and plant lifecycles and building knowledge of growth in our world. The children have had lots of fun acting out the frog, caterpillar and hen life cycles using their bodies to represent the different stages.

We have also planted a variety of different seeds including sunflowers, sweet peas and grass! We can't wait to observe the growth and changes over the next few weeks. The children have particularly enjoyed outdoor learning now weather is becoming a little warmer and investigating our beautiful grounds and provision.

RECEPTION

The Tiny Seed

This week, we read 'The Tiny Seed' and continued our quest of planting. The children were excited to discover our new role-play area had turned into a garden centre where they could nurture and sell the plants and flowers. This has been extremely popular. Throughout the week, the children have been building life cycle structures, creating waterfalls and transient art pieces based on the work of James Brunt. In PE, we are practising athletics such as hurdles and running. We are so proud of the children's energy and determination!

Maths

In Maths, we are learning about odd and even numbers so that we can help The Little Green Hen share out the seeds into equal groups. We have played a variety of games with 'numicon' to develop a deeper understanding of number and the patterns associated with odd and even numbers. Last week, the children learnt about doubling and used a rhyme to help recall double numbers to 10.

Literacy

In Literacy, the children have been learning to re tell stories using story telling language and exciting new vocabulary with their friends. They are striving to write seed diaries with labels and captions as well as writing sentences using their action word spellings. In handwriting, we have been learning how to write capital and lowercase letters with correct formation.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

We are extremely impressed with the way Year 1 have approached our final term of the year!

Our Summer term has started with our very exciting discovery of Leaf, the polar bear from our new core text focus. We have enjoyed exploring the vocabulary, characters, setting and plot of this story during our **English** lessons.

During **Geography**, we have investigated polar regions of The Arctic and Antarctica. We know that polar bears come from The Arctic and that Leaf ended up far away from here because the ice is melting there. We learnt about the temperature and other animals in these polar regions.

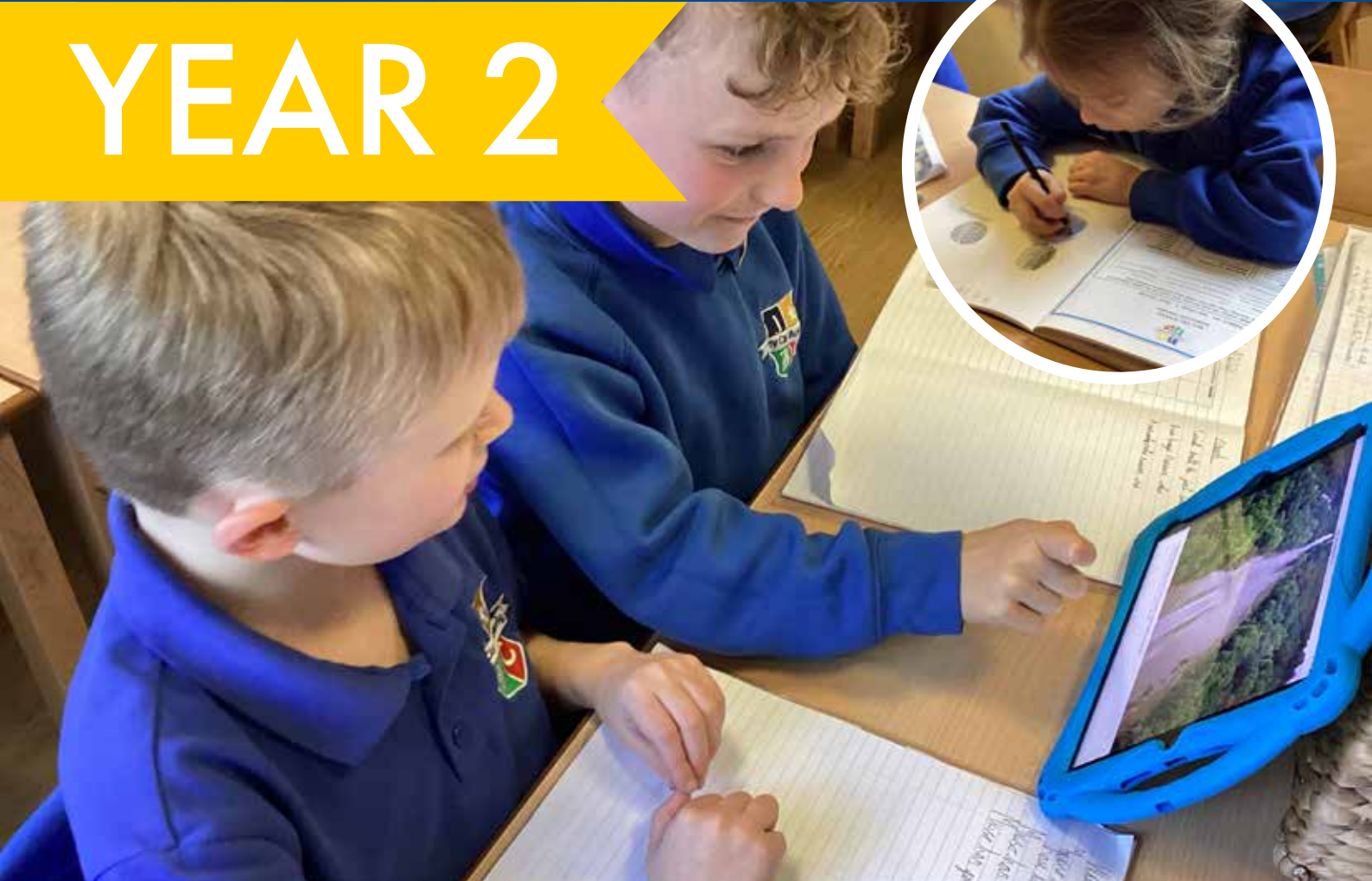
In our **Maths** learning, we have been investigating numbers to 50 in more depth, focussing on describing them in tens and ones, partitioning them and organising and estimating on a number line.

We have started our **Science** unit of Plants by planting our own choice of seeds in plant pots. We are going to observe and record their progress over time; some of them have even started to grow already!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



What a fantastic start to the Summer term! Year 2 have returned striving even higher and intrigued by our new theme '**What's the weather?**'. We are eagerly anticipating our visit to Yorkshire waterworks next Wednesday to explore our new learning even further!

The children have loved immersing themselves in their new theme and being inquisitive to probe questions too. In **Geography**, we retrieved our learning from the previous terms, as well as Year 1, before researching our inquisitive questions. We loved searching online to discover the difference between weather and climate and found a particular interest in extreme weather.

To start the week, we read our new core text '**Grandma Bird**'. We made predictions, before creating a detailed story map to help us remember the structure and orally rehearse the story. We loved exploring the interesting characters in 'Grandma Bird'.

In **Maths**, we have started our new learning on Fractions. We have defined what a fraction is and how it can be represented in different ways. With Mrs Longley, we have also started a new unit on statistics.

After completing our African masks inspired by Lubaina Himid, we have discovered a new focus artist for our new **art** project on weather. This half term will be a drawing focus inspired by William Turner – an English Romantic painter, known for his art work inspired by natural phenomena such as sunlight, storm, rain, and fog. We have practiced our sketching techniques and experimented applying these to create texture and mood.

KEY DATES

**Wednesday 24th April –
Year 2 visit to Yorkshire
Waterworks Headingley**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



Year 3 have made a great start back to our Summer term! We have introduced our new theme of **'The Great Outdoors'** and the children have been eagerly enquiring about our focus on farming in History and plants within Science.

In **English**, we completed our publishing on our adventure stories from before the Easter holidays. The children are proud of the work they have produced and are excited to share this with parents. We have also begun to explore our new core text of 'Charlotte's Web' and how this links in with our new theme. We have used the first chapter to create a character profile on Fern to help us understand her personality.

In **Maths**, we have focused on volume and capacity. Where the children have been using clear steps to success to find the volume of a liquid in litres and millilitres. They have also found equivalent volumes as well as knowing how to add and subtract different volumes.



For **PE** this week, the children enjoyed partaking in teambuilding exercises in the hall. They worked in different groups and used clear communication skills to ensure they completed each task as quickly and as efficiently as they could. They have also enjoyed a mindfulness yoga session within the classroom.

In **Geography**, we have been conducting fieldwork to explore the question 'Is traffic a problem in our area?' The children will be observing and recording data at the three different points in the day to evaluate if there are any patterns and what our next steps might be.

KEY DATES

**Tuesday 4th June @ 9am –
Parent Workshop**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4

Year 4 have delved straight into the Summer term, we have worked hard on our end of unit tasks as well as our learning attitude.

In **Maths**, we have continued our learning of fractions. They have worked hard to subtract fractions from a whole and a mixed number. The children used numicon to show how to subtract and grasped the concept brilliantly.

In **English** the children have begun our learning on 'The Railway Children' by E. Nesbitt. We will be writing a diary entry about a day at the railway and the children have enjoyed learning about the characters of the story.

In **History**, we have loved starting our new unit of 'The Industrial revolution' linked to our termly theme 'Grand Designs'. The children researched different classes in society at that time and then used sources and identified which class in society they were representing.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



A brilliant start back for Year 5 into the Summer term! The children have demonstrated fantastic retrieval knowledge and are determined to be 1% better everyday!

We loved the beginning of our new core text, **'See you in the Cosmos'** by Jack Cheng. We thought carefully about the main characters in chapters 1 and 2 and then used our inference skills to discuss our first impressions. We gave reasons for our first impressions using the text as our evidence.

In **Maths**, we have begun our new topic on Statistics. We have reviewed our understanding of line graphs and interpreting data. We have also focused on two-way tables, creating our own to present a variety of statistics.

In **Art**, we have begun our new topic by revisiting and developing our shading techniques. We took our lesson outside to apply this knowledge to our artwork. We sketched and shaded rocks, focusing on creating smooth and rough textures.



In **History**, we have been researching the Space Race and its impact on Space technology. We enjoyed working in groups to create a presentation to showcase our learning and then presented it to the class.

KEY DATES

**Wednesday 5th June –
Parent Workshop**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had an excellent start to the summer term. We have been working hard to revise and retrieve all of our learning- using Blooket and playing some games and quizzes together has really helped us to do this.

In **History**, we have been learning about the Tudors. We have learnt about The Battle of Bosworth and the Tudor Rose and its importance. We also learnt about Henry VIII and have started to learn about some changes that he made, as King.

In **Art**, we have started to learn about Barbara Hepworth, an artist originally from Wakefield. We have researched some of her artwork and inspirations.

In **PSHE** lessons, we have been celebrating what makes us unique and what makes us proud of ourselves. We have started to create our 'Positivity Pocketbooks' to remind us of this.

KEY DATES

Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May
SATs week

Breakfast in the Year 6 classroom from 8.30am.

w/c 6.5.24

Last week of booster clubs

Monday 3rd June 5.30pm
Residential meeting

Monday 24th – Thursday 27th June
Residential

Highlights of the Week from Twitter



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 3d ...
 It's school offer day today. If you have been given a place at JCA, please accept via admissions. We will be in touch with our comprehensive induction plans shortly. We can't wait to meet you all! #NewStarters #SchoolOfferDay 🌟



JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 13h ...
 We collected a variety of natural resources from the School grounds to create a collaborative transient art piece in the style of James Brunt #EYFS #creative



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2d ...
 What a great atmosphere in traditional board games club today as the children learn new skills and play with their friends #lifeskills



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 1d ...
 Year 3 enjoyed a lovely yoga session in the classroom yesterday! They focussed primarily on their breathing techniques and being present in their surroundings 🧘 #mindfulness



Jerry Clay Academy @JCA... · 12/04/2024 ...
 The whole school loved sharing their videos from our #JCASmallThingsMakeABigDifference Theme Week in Assembly. It is amazing how many small things we have already changed as a community!



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2d ...
 Year 2 have started their new drawing unit in Art. This week, we explored the difference in sketching pencils, sketching techniques and how to create texture. @JCA__Art



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

