

Accomplishing great things at JCA



Congratulations Mrs Swinburne!

A huge congratulations go to Mrs Swinburne as she collected her OBE on Wednesday this week – we are all so proud of our Trust CEO and Executive Headteacher. We all can't wait to see Mrs Swinburne (and her OBE) next week in school!



This week's newsletter takes you through some fantastic learning from Jerry Clay over the past week!

On Monday, Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic outdoor learning half-day; it was brilliant to go out and see the children learning and develop skills within their themes – we look forward to each class getting this opportunity throughout the year.

We have also celebrated the European Day of Languages in assembly this week; lots of the children enjoyed learning greetings in different European languages and the pronunciation was impressive!

Dates coming up soon:

Wednesday 2nd October. 9:15am –
Read Write Inc Coffee Morning

Thursday 24th October –
PTA Halloween Disco

Wednesday 13th November –
Individual School Photos



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%	97.90%
YEAR 1	95.20%	97.50%
YEAR 2	98.50%	95.90%
YEAR 3	98.90%	95.90%
YEAR 4	98.90%	98.30%
YEAR 5	96.70%	95.90%
YEAR 6	95.90%	95.30%

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



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION

Can you believe it is week 4 already? Our children have settled beautifully into Reception and are now familiar and confident with our daily routine. Friendships are continuing to blossom and magical memories are being shared every day!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION

Our learning journey

'Whatever next!'

Last week, we read our new core text 'Whatever next!' by Jill Murphy. After sharing our new story, we were hooked by the exciting journey and practiced key phrases too. We started the week inspired to construct our own rockets and begin our adventure to the moon. As a team, we created picnics, constructed vehicles and explored all around space.



Following our interest in Space and Science, we followed our inquisitiveness with investigations and became scientists. Throughout the week, we have predicted, investigated and explored colour combinations, while also creating different textures. After creating secondary colours, the children have loved using a variety of techniques and movements to drip, splatter and spray our paint.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Literacy

The children are continuing to learn to read and write set 1 sounds. We have also introduced oral sound blending using Fed Talk and the children are getting really confident now. This will be modelled at Friday Library so that you can practise at home. We also look forward to welcoming you to our RWI Coffee Morning on Wednesday to share our phonics learning journey with you. The children have been continuing to practise recognising and writing their name in morning challenge.

Maths

In Maths, we are learning all about recognising and counting numbers to 10. Through songs, stories and a range of resources in our play, we have been counting forwards to 10 and beginning to recognise number formation too. Our current favourite game is playing dominoes and counting and matching the spots.



P.E

We were delighted to wear our new colour team t-shirts and start our P.E journey at JCA. Last week, we had our first yoga session with our specialist yoga teacher, Charlie. After learning our new yoga poses, we also learnt to use shell breathing to regulate and calm ourselves.

KEY DATES

**Wednesday 2nd October -
RWI coffee morning for parents**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



We have had another super couple of weeks in Year 1; we have introduced our Year 1 castle and have started to learn about the features that help defend a castle from an enemy attack during our **History** lessons. The children have enjoyed role-playing in the castle during provision time and exploring the different features through drawing.

Our glittering egg hatching which has stimulated some excellent descriptive writing in **English**. We have created our own dragons and orally described them using adjectives. We have even included some striving vocabulary from our core text: Tell Me A Dragon.

Our sketchbooks in **Art** have been a joy to experiment in; over the last couple of weeks we've experimented with mixing, and applying different techniques using the watercolour paints.



In **PSHE**, we have been developing our understanding of different emotions. This week we have considered jealousy and different scenarios and experiences we have personally had.

During **Geography** we are learning about where we live. We have started this unit by learning about our village, city and country and creating posters of Wrenthorpe.

KEY DATES

**Friday 18th October –
Pontefract castle visit**

YEAR 2

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

In **Maths**, we have extended our learning on place value and applied our knowledge of tens and ones when labelling number lines and challenged ourselves to even estimate on a number line.

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 are creating descriptive posters to help find missing miner, Ian!

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

Last Thursday, we visited the **National Coal Mining Museum!** What fantastic day applying our knowledge so far, with excellent opportunities to further our learning and deepen our understanding too! The children demonstrated such inquisitiveness and an eagerness to learn!



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.'**

Year 3 enjoyed the opportunity to bring learning outside as part of our outdoor learning day. We explored different types of rocks, how they were formed and where they came from. The most exciting part of the day was our geode hunt! We searched for geodes around the field and cracked them open to find crystals inside. It was amazing to think that we were the first ever humans to see inside each of the rocks.

In **English**, we have been compiling all of our learning and writing skills to create our third person narratives based on our core text 'Fossil' by Bill Thomson. 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.

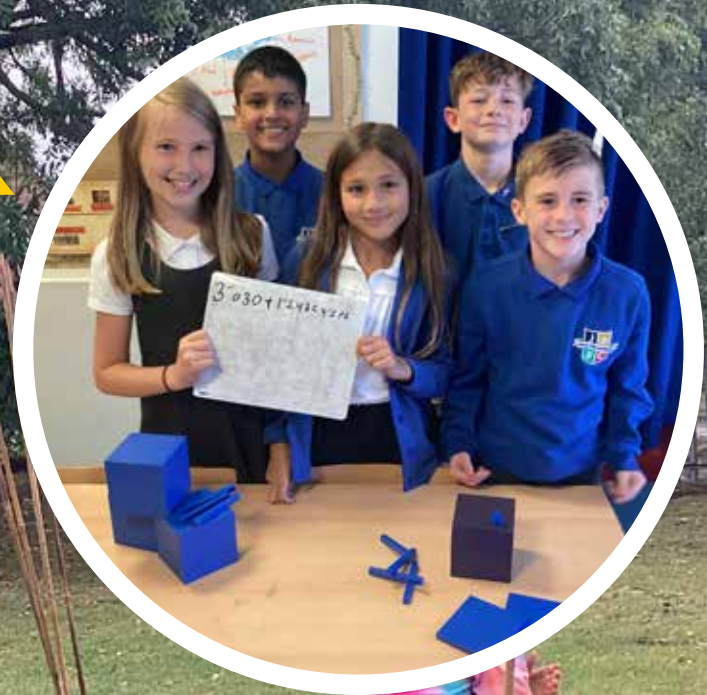
As part of our **History** and **Science** learning on fossils, we have been learning about Mary Anning and the incredible fossils she discovered on the cliffs in Dorset! We are excited to find out more about her in English next week as we start our chronological report writing.

In **Geography**, we have used atlases and Digi maps to explore longitude and latitude. We are learning all about human and physical Geography relating to the UK and our local area.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



Year 4 have had a brilliant couple of weeks. They have settled into routines and expectations of year 4 and are striving to be the best they can be every day.

In **Maths**, we are mastering using place value grids and partitioning numbers flexibly to 10,000. The children were fantastic at offering different solutions and worked practically together to recall their learning as well as help others.

In **English**, we have begun our learning all about Greek Myths. The children have amazed me with their brilliant vocabulary as well as their ideas of their own myth. We are very excited to write these in the coming weeks.

We had a great **Outdoor Learning Day** with Eden's forest focusing on our history theme of the Ancient Greeks. The children created a timeline of the Greeks, looked at their architecture and created their own buildings looking at the columns as a feature and then ended the afternoon creating their own mythical beast. The children had the best time and Kaye and Adam couldn't be happier with their brilliant manners and exemplary behaviour.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5

Year 5 has been making great strides in their learning this term. They've been working diligently and enthusiastically, particularly in their exploration of World War 2. The children have been diving deep into the subject, demonstrating a keen interest and understanding of the historical events.

In **Maths**, we have been developing our understanding of place value. By understanding how numbers are composed, we've been able to confidently partition larger numbers. We are now focusing on rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Year 5 has embraced this challenge with enthusiasm, demonstrating a growing understanding of this essential mathematical skill. Our outdoor learning activities have provided a fun and engaging way to reinforce these concepts.

In **English**, we are studying the features of a Newspaper Report. We are learning how to include direct and reported speech into our writing to enhance our reports.



KEY DATES

**Thursday 24th October -
Eden Camp**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had an excellent fortnight of learning and excelling in our new Junior Leadership roles and responsibilities.

In **Writing** lessons, we have been writing our own instructions on how to mummify and ancient Egyptian and are now exploring how to write a gripping opening of an action story. We have trialled using different sentence starters and will be looking at how we can use speech to make the story more exciting.

In **Art**, we have been using Edward Munch's 'The Scream' for inspiration. We have been looking at the colours and emotions used and have been designing our own backgrounds and final pieces, expressing our chosen emotions and expressions.

In **History**, we have learnt about Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and the importance of this in understanding more about the ancient Egyptians.



KEY DATES

Tuesday 15th October:
Trip to Leeds City Museum

wc 21st October:
Bikeability – details to follow

Tuesday 26th November:
Y6 Parent Workshop

Highlights of the Week from Twitter

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 13h
A huge congratulations to our inspirational Trust CEO and Executive Headteacher, Mrs Swinburne, who collected her OBE today! 🌟 #soproud

Tracy Swinburne OBE @tracyswinburne1 · 14h
Today was a magical day 🌟
Truly humbled & so pleased to have been able to share my story of working with some brilliant teams in the North East, Middle East, Wakefield & our English hub with Princess Anne. ...
[Show more](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 16h
Year 3 used editing stations to improve their third person narratives on fossils. They worked exceptionally well, with their editing partner, when checking they had included features from each station. @JcaWriting



🗨️ 2 ❤️ 10 📊 320 📌 ⬆️

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 23
Reception became scientists and were investigating colour today. We used pipettes to squeeze the water and primary colours to combine and mix into secondary colours. 🧪
[@jcaeyfs](#) [@JCA_Art](#) #EYFS



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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 23
Year 4 had a brilliant afternoon with @edensforestcic exploring their history unit of the Ancient Greeks. They created Greek architecture focussing on the columns, sculpted their own mythical creatures from clay and told different Greek myths using our creations @HistoryJca



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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield

Year 1 had lots of fun exploring different magical watercolour techniques to create dragon eggs during our Art lesson this afternoon! @JCA_Art



5:04 PM · Sep 25, 2024 · 245 Views

Dates for Your Diary 2024-25

INSET DAYS	Monday 2nd September 2024
	Friday 29th November 2024
	Monday 6th January 2025
	Monday 21st July 2025
	Monday 22nd July 2025
Parents Evenings	Wednesday 4th September 2024 – Meet the teacher 3:35 – 3:55 and 4:00 – 4:20
	Monday 2nd December and Wednesday 4th December 2024– Parents’ evenings
	Monday 31st March 2025 and Wednesday 2nd April 2025 – Parents’ evenings
Reports	Friday 28th November – Interim Reports
	Friday 28th March 2025 – Interim Reports
	Friday 11th July 2025 – End of Year Reports
Performances	6/12/24 – Reception Activity Morning
	10/12/24 (9.30am) and 11/12/24 9.30am – Reception nativity
	16/12/24 – Christmas carols around the tree
	17/12/24 (2pm) and 18/12/24 (9.30 am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity
	11/06/25- Art gallery evening
	w/c 14/7/25 – Celebration week
Sports Day	20/6/25 (4/7/25 Reserve Sports Day)

Child Protection & Safeguarding

The designated Child Protection Officers for this academy are:

Mrs T Swinburne

Trust Safeguarding Lead.

Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk



Mr T Palin

Safeguarding Lead

Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk



Aimie Johnson

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

aimie.johnson@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk



Helen Jones

Designated Safeguarding Governor

helen.jones@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

