

Accomplishing great things at JCA



We are already 'Accomplishing Great Things'



Communication

We have a number of ways in which we can communicate with our school community such as ParentMail, through the newsletter / weekly communication, on the school gate, at the class door before and after school and over the phone.

Please can I ask that, where there is an issue or concern, this is communicated directly to the school rather than through parent WhatsApp groups – thank you for your support with this.

Our children continue to rise to the expectations set of them in their new year groups! I have been privileged to have so many children visit the leadership office with fantastic examples of work, both done in school and at home.

Today's newsletter gives an opportunity to see exactly what your child has been doing over the first two weeks; there are some fantastic photos to reflect on too!

Our clubs have also started this week and have been very well received by our children. We also enjoyed the launch of the various Junior Leadership roles on offer to Key Stage 2 – applications for this need to be returned to class teachers by Monday.

Next week, Year 2 look forward to their trip to the National Coal Mining Museum and we look forward to continuing to immerse ourselves in our themes.



Parking

A timely reminder at the start of the academic year to be considerate of others when parking at school drop off and pick up – the safety of our community is absolutely paramount.

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	98.90%	96.20%
YEAR 1	99.30%	98.00%
YEAR 2	99.30%	94.90%
YEAR 3	95.90%	93.90%
YEAR 4	98.90%	98.60%
YEAR 5	96.30%	95.70%
YEAR 6	92.20%	93.90%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
95.90%	ACTUAL

97% + AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET
BELOW 95% CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS
90% & BELOW PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

On Wednesday, you will have received an important letter on ParentMail about **Attendance and Penalty Notices** – please ensure that you have read this and familiarised yourselves with this process.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Our Reception Class

What a pleasure it has been to welcome the children and families into our Reception Class and Jerry Clay family. It is such a magical and momentous moment when your child starts their first day at school and we appreciate your time and support with making this as smooth and happy as possible.

Thank you for your patience on the door as children are sent home. In the first few weeks, this will take us slightly longer as we become familiar with families and ensure your child is safely collected from school.

We are so excited to start this magical learning journey with you and share the wonderful learning and memories your children are making in school.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION

Our Learning in Reception Class

Over the first two weeks, we have been establishing friendships, routines and exploring our environment. Our theme this half term is 'Marvellous Me' and we started this week by introducing our story 'Owl Babies'. The children have enjoyed re telling the story in the small world area and relating to their feelings leaving their families in school too.

The children have loved using our indoor and outdoor provision to share all about themselves. They have created a portrait of themselves, role play areas and have loved our large-scale construction area to build houses and villages.

Throughout the two weeks, the children have been developing play projects in our indoor and outdoor provision. They have particularly enjoyed building in the sand and construction areas and painting. The role-play and playdough areas still remain popular choices.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Literacy

This week, we started our Read Write Inc. Phonics sessions and establishing all of the key routines involved. So far, we have taught all the picture cards for all initial set 1 letters (a-z). We have also begun our Fred Games, using 'Fred talk', to begin oral blending. Fred talk is speaking in individual sounds 'm-a-t' to help children hear these sound in words. This is something we have begun doing throughout the day in our talk with children.

In our Library times, we will be sharing with your regular updates of our phonics learning journey and how you can support at home too.

Throughout the week, we have also been concentrating on recognising and writing our name.



RECEPTION

Reception Baseline Assessment

Here is the link about the new baseline assessment in Reception Class

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents>

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. We will be completing this over the next few weeks.

Reminders

Please do ensure your child comes to school every day with a coat as your child will be outside whatever the weather, as well as a named water bottle and a book bag. Please also ensure all other items of clothing are named including shoes so they are easily identified.

Thank you for sending in your child's PE kits in a separate bag. These will be kept in School and sent home for washing later in the term. We have added an additional 'colour team t-shirt' into each bag. PE will be on Tuesdays and Yoga on Wednesdays this term.

In our classroom, we have a family tree displaying photos of our families. This is a lovely area where children can share their families and happy memories. Please could you provide a family photo to add to the tree or alternatively they can be emailed to jcainfo@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

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.

Friday Library

Please join us at Friday Library every week at 3.10pm. You will be able to choose a library book with your child as well as listen to weekly news and watch performances of songs, poems and stories and talk to staff. Please return Library books in your child's book bag every Thursday.

Friday library will begin from Friday 27th September @3:10pm. You will be welcomed through the main entrance and signed in by our office team.

If you have any queries or concerns then please let me know and we can discuss at a convenient time.

Twitter

Please follow us on Twitter **@JCAWakefield** and **@JCAEYFS**. We regularly update our twitter feed with photos of children throughout the week.

We hope you have a lovely relaxing weekend!

Mrs Johnson and the Reception Team.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

What a lovely start to the new year! Year 1 have settled in well to their new routines and have enjoyed lots of learning both inside and outside the classroom, getting used to their new environment.

The arrival of a special book and lots of dragon eggs has stimulated our work in **English**, we have been using adjectives of colours and shapes to describe the eggs carefully. In Art, we have practised using sketching pencils to sketch the shape of the eggs carefully to show the details and cracks.

In **Maths** we have been looking at different ways we can represent and write numbers 1 to 10 including on ten frames and on a number line, as well as practising writing the words.

We have been learning all about where we live in **Geography**. We have learned the village, city and country we live in.

In **Science**, we have started our learning on Materials; we learned the names of different materials and thought of careful ways to describe them to a friend.



KEY DATES

Friday 18th October – Pontefract castle visit

YEAR 2



What a brilliant start to the year we have had in Year Two! We have settled well into our new routines and have been striving high with our expectations. They have enjoyed the introduction of our first theme 'Magnificent Miners' and are excited to continue strengthening their knowledge on our trip next week.

This week we have shared our first repeated read 'Ravi's Roar' and enjoyed exploring key phrases from the text and times when we have felt similar to Ravi.

In **English**, we have begun exploring our core text 'Town is by the sea' for our mining theme. We have used our reading skills to make predictions while creating story maps to help us explore the structure of the story.

In **Maths**, Year 2 have demonstrated fantastic place value skills. We have explored 2-digit numbers and partitioned them into tens and ones using partitioning, working both practically with concrete resources and moving towards writing number sentences.

We have also begun our **History** learning, exploring key dates in mining and using our knowledge on chronology to label these onto a timeline. We then had a very special delivery from the Coal Mining Museum, where we received a range of artefacts to investigate and explore!

KEY DATES

Thursday 19th September
National Coal Mining trip

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

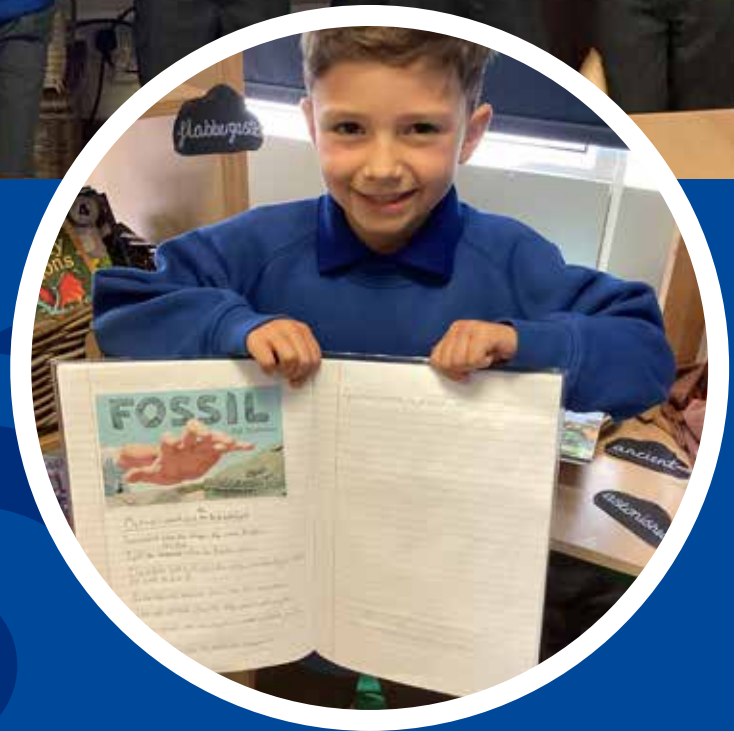
YEAR 3



Year 3 have started the new academic year incredibly well! Now as part of Key Stage Two, the children have settled really brilliantly into routines and have been showcasing an incredible work ethic across subjects. They have enjoyed the introduction of our first theme 'The Lost World' and are excited to continue strengthening their knowledge on this.

In **English**, we have introduced our core text of 'Fossil' by Bill Thomson where the children have been using their own imaginations, facial expressions and body language from the pictures to piece together the story. We have focussed on the build-up and climax of the story, making a plan of what we want to include in our writing. We have been striving to include exciting fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and past tense verbs as we start out writing this week.

For **Maths**, we have been building on the children's place value knowledge from Year 2 and have introduced hundreds to make 3-digit numbers. The children have loved using a range of practical resources to represent 3-digit numbers as well as partitioning numbers flexibly.



In **History**, we introduced our topic of Prehistoric Britain by working as a team to make a huge class timeline! We identified key time periods that we will be focussing on throughout the year and discussed where we would place these onto our timeline and why.

To link in with our learning on fossils, we have created observational drawings of ammonites in **Art**. We are looking forward to exploring our new artist and creating our final 3D pieces linked to ammonites.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4

What a fantastic start to the year we have had in Year 4! The children have begun the year with such a positive and eager attitude which has resulted in a successful start! We are so impressed with their enthusiasm and we are excited for a fantastic year!

In **Maths**, we have started our unit of Place Value and the children have worked hard to write numbers to 1000 as well as partitioning using different concrete resources.

In **English**, we have worked hard on creating character descriptions based on the text 'The Iron Man'. The children have impressed us with their incredible vocabulary including adjectives and adverbs.

We began our **History** learning by recapping what we already know about different time periods. The children were fantastic with their retrieval and used their timelines to showcase their knowledge.

We have loved starting our new learning in **Art** of creating our own Greek Masks. This week we created our own mood boards inspired by our focus artist Jacob Everett. We used his elliptical technique to recreate his artwork and give facts about him.

In **PE**, we enjoyed starting to learn skills of invasion games. We spent the first session identifying space and working as a team to complete different activities.



KEY DATES

**Tuesday 24th September –
Outdoor learning afternoon**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



We have been thoroughly impressed with how quickly Year 5 have settled back into school.

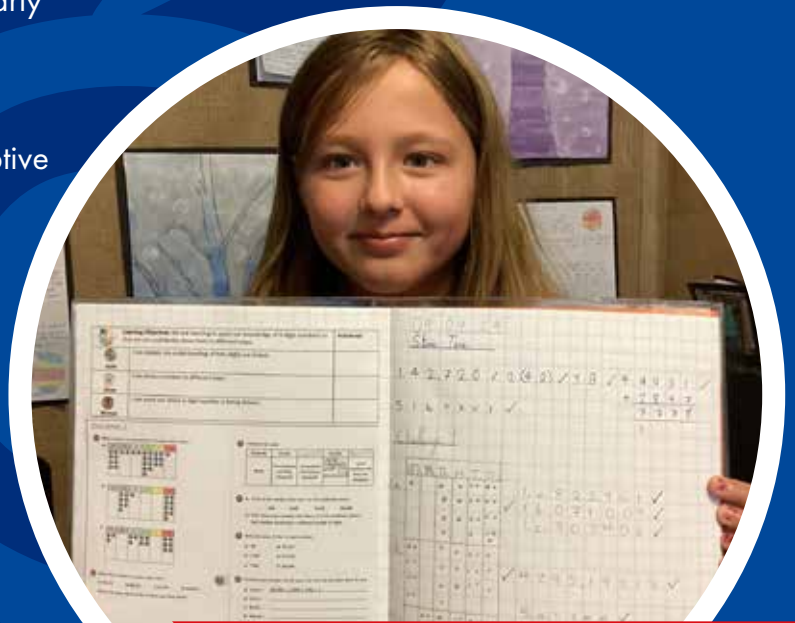
We have enjoyed learning about WW2 in our theme, 'The Great Divide'. Year 5's curiosity about the theme has shone. Retuning back to school, Year 5 are working hard on their presentation skills. They have particularly shone in Maths – we look forward to seeing this continue to develop.

In **English**, we have been learning to write descriptive settings. Year 5 have included similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration and an abundance of adjectives in their writing.

In **Maths**, we have been developing our knowledge of place value. We have mastered comparing and ordering numbers up to 1 million. We've practiced writing 6-digit numbers in both numeral and word form, and have even developed our skills at reading them aloud with confidence.

In **Art**, Year 5 has been inspired by the life and work of Henry Moore. They have explored his War collection and learned about his creative process. This has helped them to develop their own artistic ideas and create moodboards that reflect their understanding of colour.

In **PE**, they have honed their rugby skills, focusing on agility and teamwork. Through fun and engaging activities, they have developed their ability to pass and dodge. Their teamwork and sportsmanship have been exemplary.



KEY DATES

**Thursday 24th October -
Eden Camp**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a great start to the year - we have been working hard to learn about Ancient Egypt in our new theme 'Treasures'. We were staggered by how long ago the Ancient Egyptian civilization was and have been delving deeper into their beliefs about mummification and gods!

In **Maths**, we have been refining our skills in place value and the four operations. Regularly practicing our times tables will really support us when we come to mastering multiplication, division and fractions! We can use Timers Table Rock Stars, Diamond Dash or other ways to practice this at home.

In **reading**, we have started to explore our class book 'The Lion Above The Door'. We have asked questions and created predictions about the next chapter. We are also reading 'Secrets of a SunKing' at the end of each day.

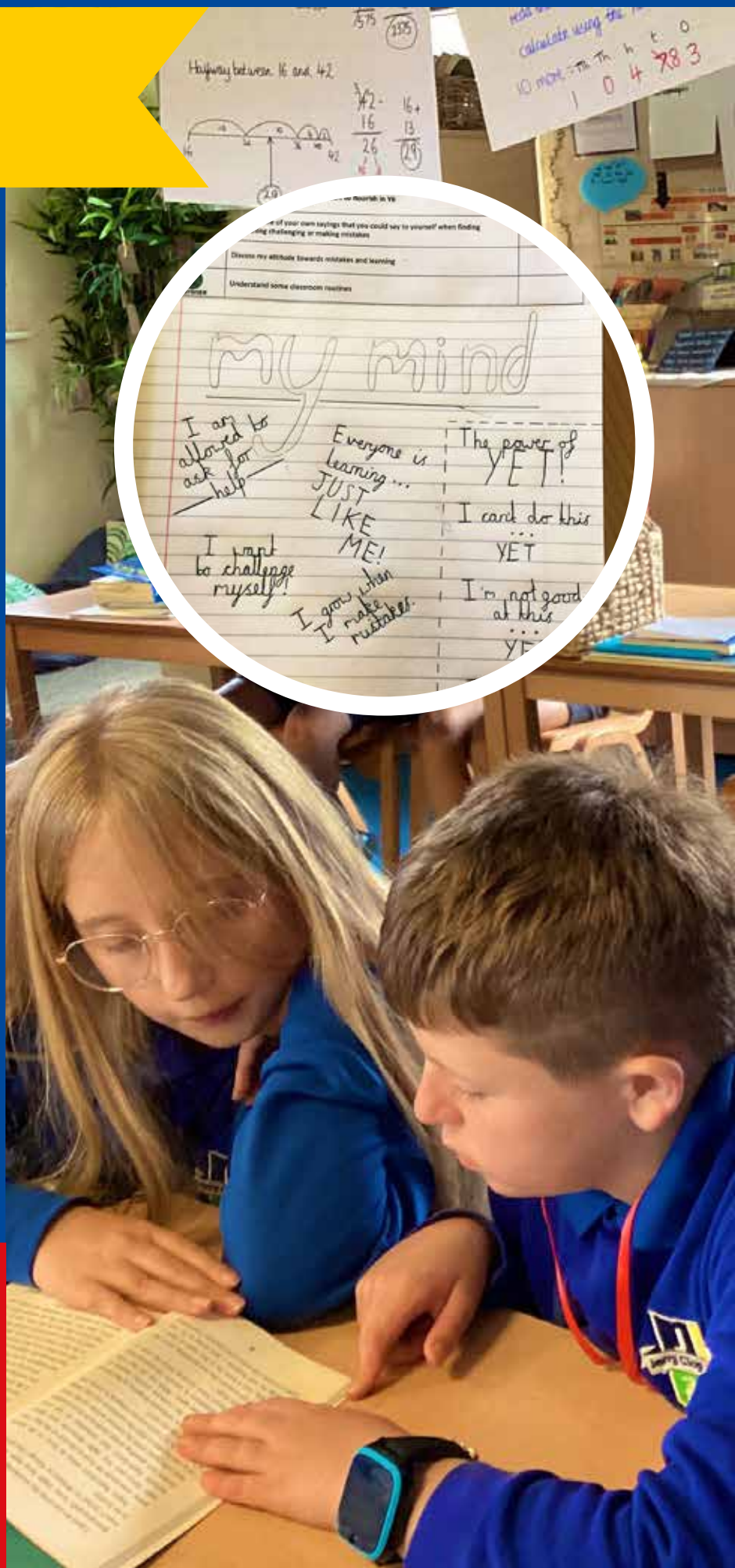
In **PSHE**, we have been learning about rules and routines and have made a fantastic start with our JLT roles - keep it up!

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 · 2h

Some lovely quiet reading time to calm after the lunch, the children have enjoyed sharing their stories with their partners and explaining why they are enjoying their current read @JCA_Reading @_Reading_Rocks_ #readingforpleasure



86

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 22h

Year 1 have enjoyed their first week of English and Art, investigating our new book and dragon eggs! @JCA_Reading @JCA_Art



18 672

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 11

"Yoga helps me be calm and concentrate" a lovely yoga session with year 4 focussing on gratitude and how to use calming techniques in every lesson @JCA_PSHCE @JcaPhysicalEdu



13 342

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 9

Year 5 had a great afternoon enhancing their Rugby skills. We focused on backward passing and teamwork. We also worked on agility to avoid getting tagged. @JcaPhysicalEdu



10 412

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Sep 10

In Reception, we have followed the children's interest of dinosaurs to create our own numicon dinosaurs. How many spots does your dinosaur have? @JCANumeracy @jcaeyfs @WhiteRoseEd



21 682

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

