

Accomplishing great things at JCA



A week where the curriculum has come alive!

This week has been a busy one for our children and it has felt like the curriculum has come alive throughout the week! Children have continued to immerse themselves into their themes and are really starting to connect their learning in a range of subjects!

In school, our new Junior Leaders across KS2 are working extremely hard and are ensuring that everything is running as it should with the playground, library and tidiness in classrooms – we have certainly been proud of how independently they have done this at the start of the school year.

Next week, we look forward to Year 6's Leeds Museum Trip and the Year 1 Trip to Pontefract Castle.



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	94.60%	97.30%
YEAR 1	96.30%	97.30%
YEAR 2	94.80%	96.30%
YEAR 3	94.80%	95.50%
YEAR 4	98.50%	98.30%
YEAR 5	98.90%	97.00%
YEAR 6	94.80%	95.10%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.80%	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

The weeks are flying by in Reception and the children continue to flourish in their new routines and learning environment. Each week, we reflect on our learning journey so far and share our interests in our learning. This forms our lines of enquiry to inform our planning and resources.



RECEPTION

The tiger who came to tea

Last week, we launched our new text 'The tiger who came to tea'. A big, furry, stripy tiger came to visit us. But he wasn't just hungry, he was ravenous – eating everything in one big mouthful! The children have been so enthused by the story that we continued the learning focus for two weeks.

In **Literacy**, we have immersed ourselves in the story. From orally rehearsing with props, role playing as the characters and creating beautifully detailed story maps too.

For our **Maths** focus, we have explored repeating patterns. From being initially inspired by tiger print to extending to natural resources and creating patterns of up 3 colours/objects. This week, we have followed the children's inquisitiveness in animals. We have become animal investigators to investigate the uniqueness of tiger patterns, the Congo jungle and different animal tracks.



RECEPTION



Tiger tea party

With a ravenous tiger visiting for two weeks, it is no surprise we have made an abundance of playdough sandwiches, biscuits and cakes while also constructing multiple cafes both inside and outside. On Friday, we will be hosting our own tiger tea party! The children have been busy creating tiger crowns in the creative area and on Thursday, we are baking and decorating tiger buns! We cannot wait to celebrate our learning all about tigers with our own tea party on Friday!

Phonics

All our children are continuing to thrive in the phonics learning. Throughout the day, we are continuing our Fred talk in our daily talk to support our children with oral blending – hearing individual sounds and blending into words. E.g “Now it is time for s-n-a-ck. Within our phonics lessons, we have taught up to the sound ‘r’.

Yoga

Next week, it is our slot for yoga with our specialist yoga teacher, Charlie. Therefore, our P.E session this week will be on Wednesday afternoon. Before and after our P.E sessions, we have been developing our independence with getting dressed and the children are thriving!

Autumnal resources

If you are on an autumnal walk over the weekend, we would appreciate any natural resources to enhance our learning environment. Conkers, conker shells, leaves etc would be greatly appreciated!

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

Year 1 have continued to immerse themselves in their learning. Last week, we were joined by 'Maud' the dragon and her friend mouse. We have been using their story "The Night Dragon" as stimulus for our **English** and **History** learning. This week we have used drama to recreate some of the action and created lovely story maps to retell the events.

We have loved learning about Sandal Castle this week, comparing it from 1000 years ago to now and talking about how it has changed and why. We sang 'The Grand old Duke of York' song as he lived at the castle.

In **Maths** we have been comparing numbers using greater than, less than and equal to and using the symbols $<$ $>$ and $=$ to make this speedier! We have also started to order 3 numbers as well. We are striving high to use Maths vocabulary really carefully.

In **Geography** we are learning about the 4 countries of the United Kingdom, and it has been fun learning about these in lots of different ways.



KEY DATES

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

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



Year 2 are continuing to shine in their knowledge and learning! Their eagerness to share their own thoughts and opinions on our theme as well as their verbal retrieval has developed fantastically!

In **Maths**, we have now completed our unit on place value. We particularly enjoyed our outdoor learning lesson of counting in 3s. This week we have moved onto addition and subtraction where we have been using number bonds to support our understanding of fact families.

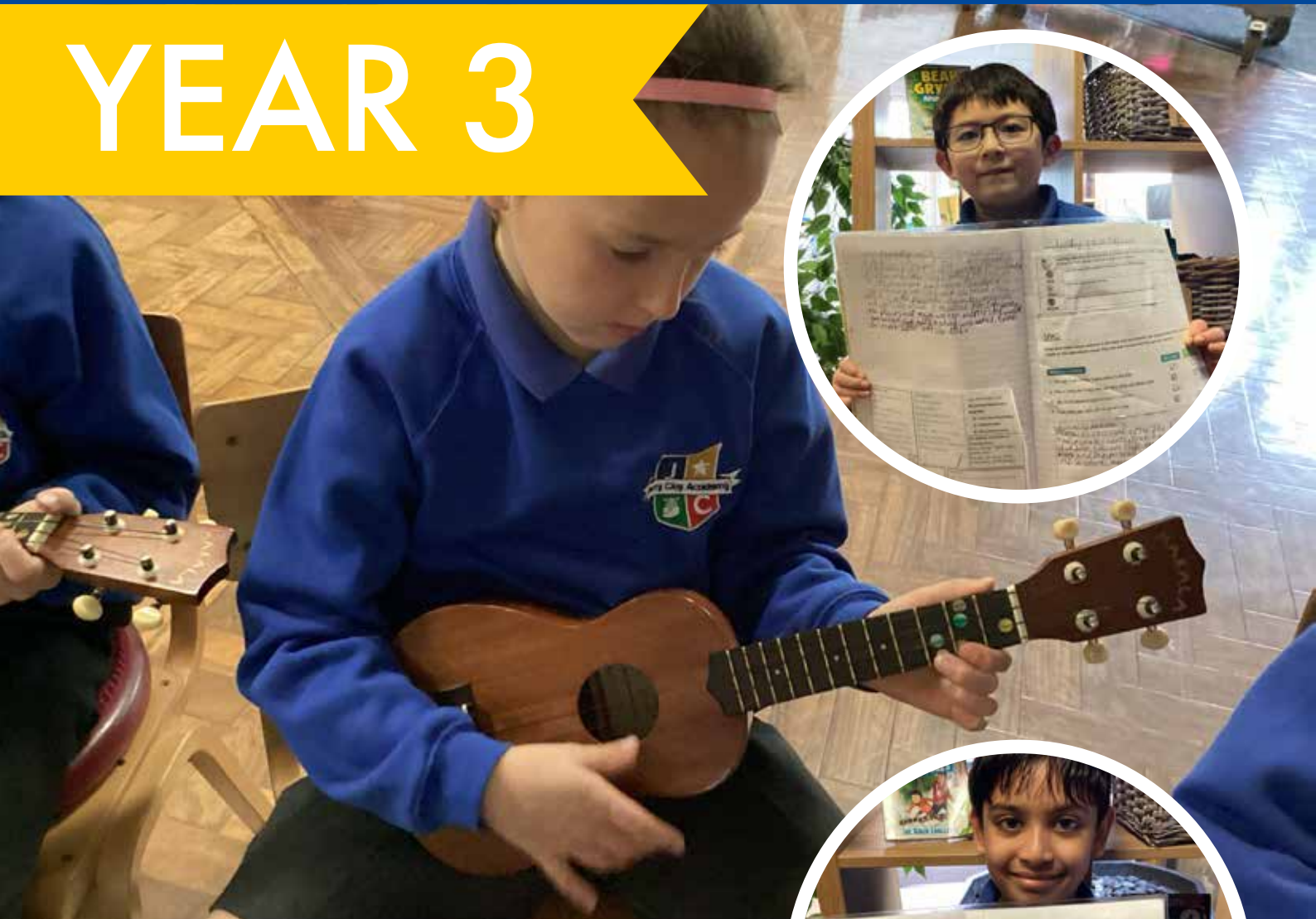
For **English**, the children have been using their story maps of 'Town is by the Sea' to retell the narrative. So far, we they have drafted their build up and climax and have focused on using exciting vocabulary and sentence openers to add interest for our reader.

Following our visit to the National Coal Mining Museum, we were eager to locate other mines. Using atlases and maps, we developed our map skills to locate where coal mines were across the UK.

In **Science**, we are fascinated by our current unit on 'living things and their habitats'. We have identified the characteristics of a living things, explored different habitats and how animals are adapted to survive there. This week, we became real scientists to observe and record microhabitats.

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 **PSHE**, we have been discussing World Mental Health Day and how we can look after our mental health. We discussed activities we can do and people we can talk to when we are feeling worried.

During our **music** sessions, we have been learning to play the chords C, A minor and F on the ukulele. We have been practising shifting between different chords quickly. It has been fun to play along to well known songs like "Roar" by Katy Perry.

In **Science**, we have been learning more about palaeontologist, Mary Anning, it has been really impressive to see so many children researching her at home too. We have used these facts in our **English** lessons, where we have created detailed biographies about her life.

KEY DATES

**Tuesday 19th November –
Trip to Barnsley Museum**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

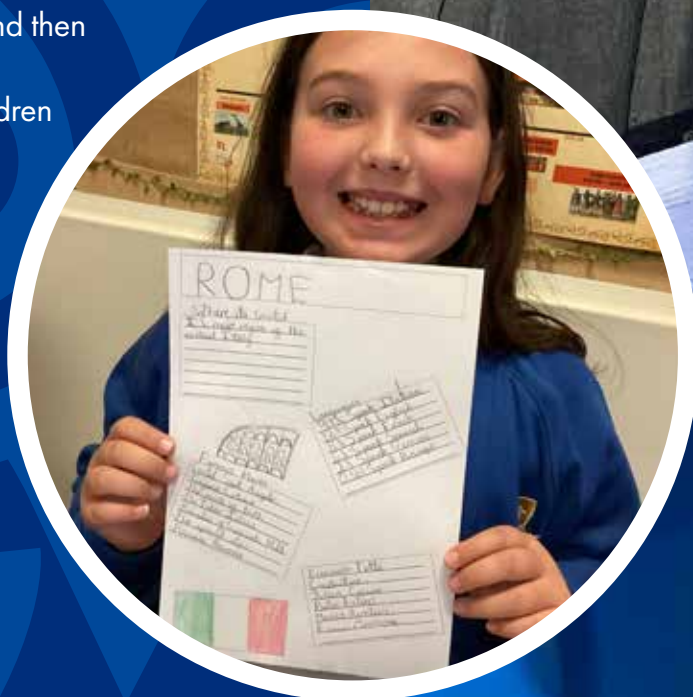
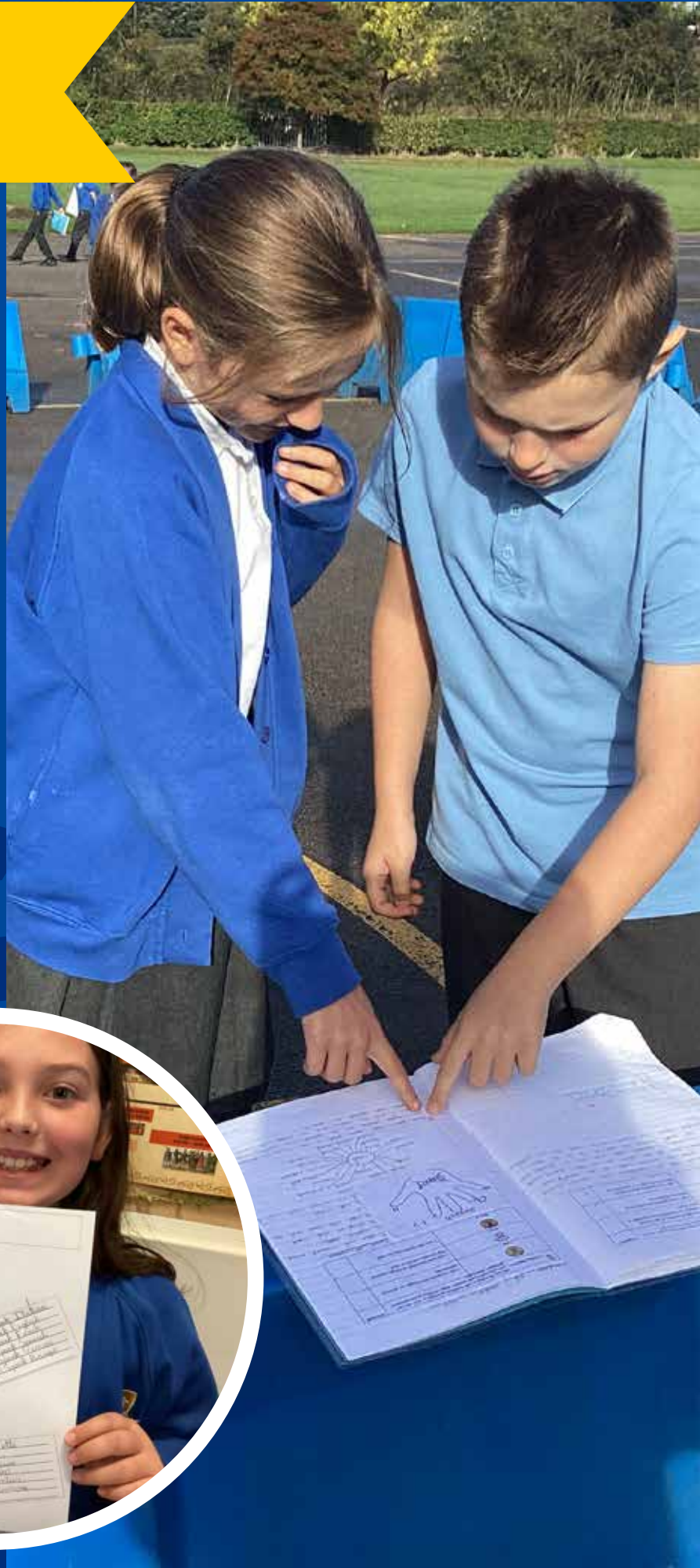
YEAR 4

We have had a fantastic couple of weeks in Year 4! The children have challenged themselves to be the best they can be in every aspect of their learning and I am so proud of the progress they are making.

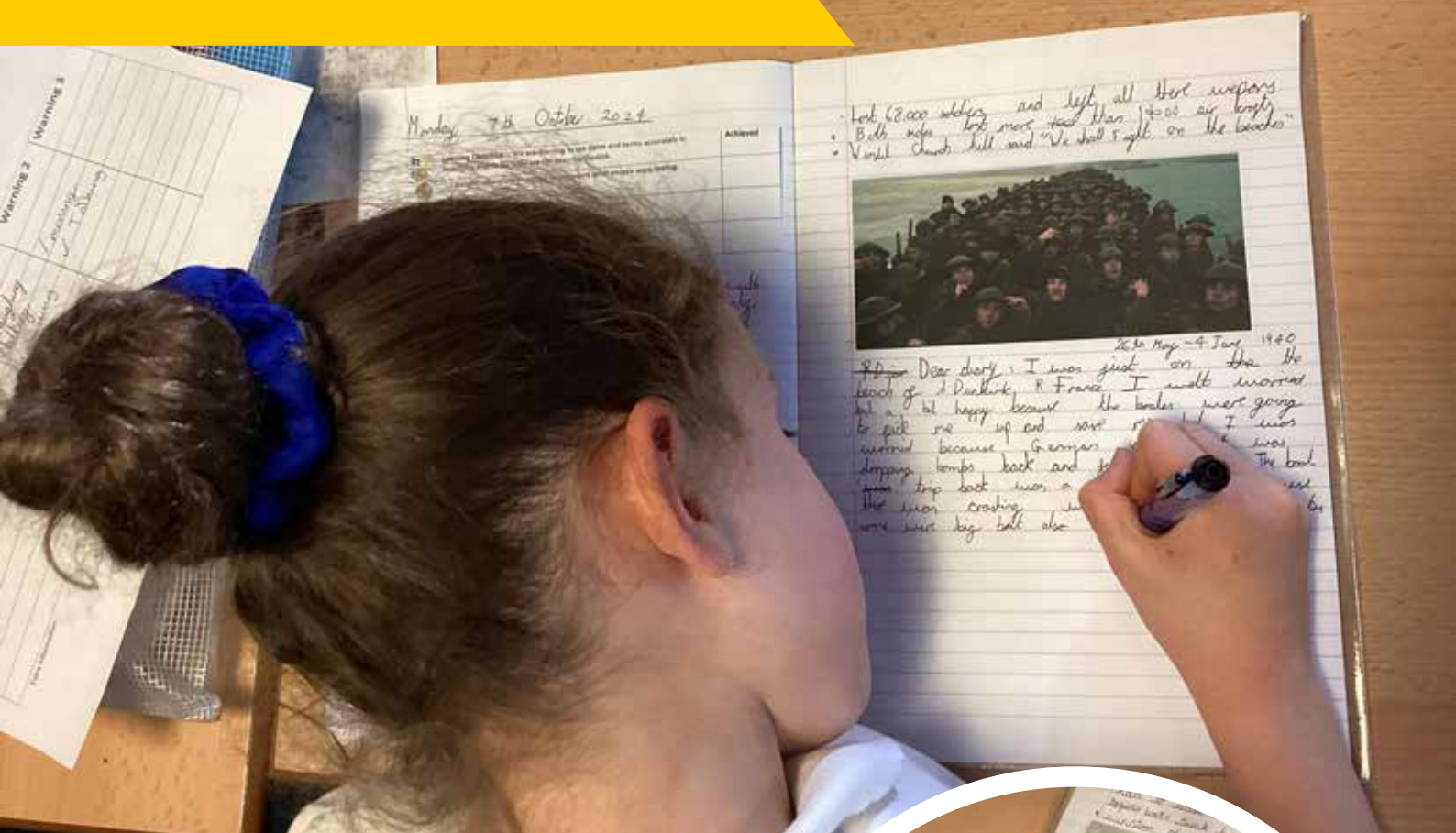
In **Maths**, we have started our new unit on Addition and Subtraction. The children are working hard on exchanging numbers and understanding how to interpret word questions to further develop their learning.

In **English**, we have nearly finished writing our Greek Myths. The children have been eager to share their stories with other classes and publish them to show their best handwriting. We have worked hard to incorporate speech into our writing by role playing that section of the story outside.

In **Geography**, we have researched different capital cities of Europe, we created brilliant fact files about their human and physical features and then compared them to Wakefield. The children showed brilliant knowledge during this session and were inquisitive to find out how different we can be even though we are in the same continent.



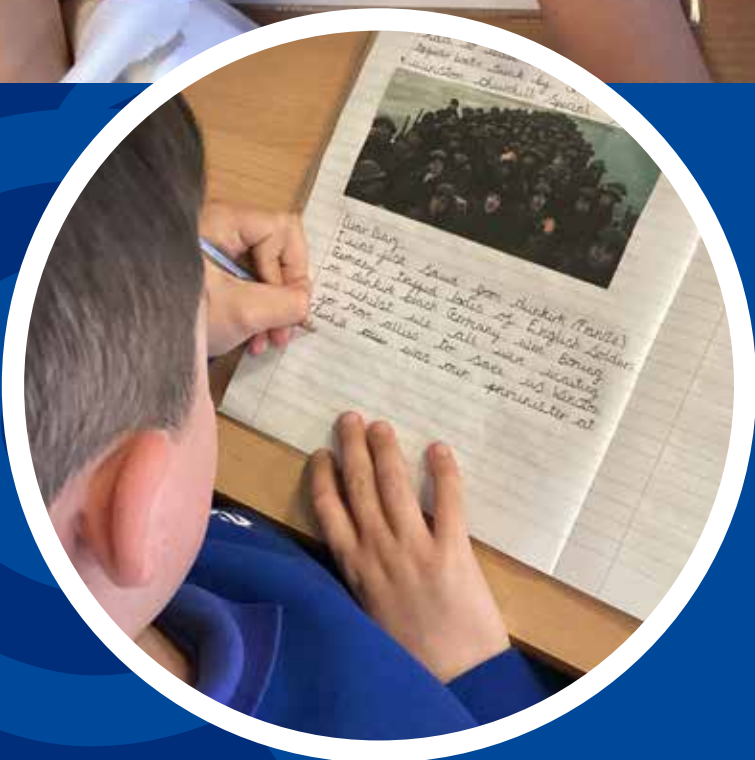
YEAR 5



Year 5 has continued their passion for learning through our "Great Divide" theme. We have delved into the life of a soldier, exploring primary sources from WWII and discussing the impact of rationing and Dunkirk on society.

In **Maths**, we have been enhancing our understanding of addition and subtraction. We have mastered the column method and are now concentrating on mental strategies. The children are dedicated to presenting their Maths work to the highest standard.

In **English**, we have been diligently creating a newspaper report about WW2. The class has focused on incorporating key features, brainstorming creative newspaper names and headlines, including direct and reported speech, and organizing their writing into clear paragraphs.

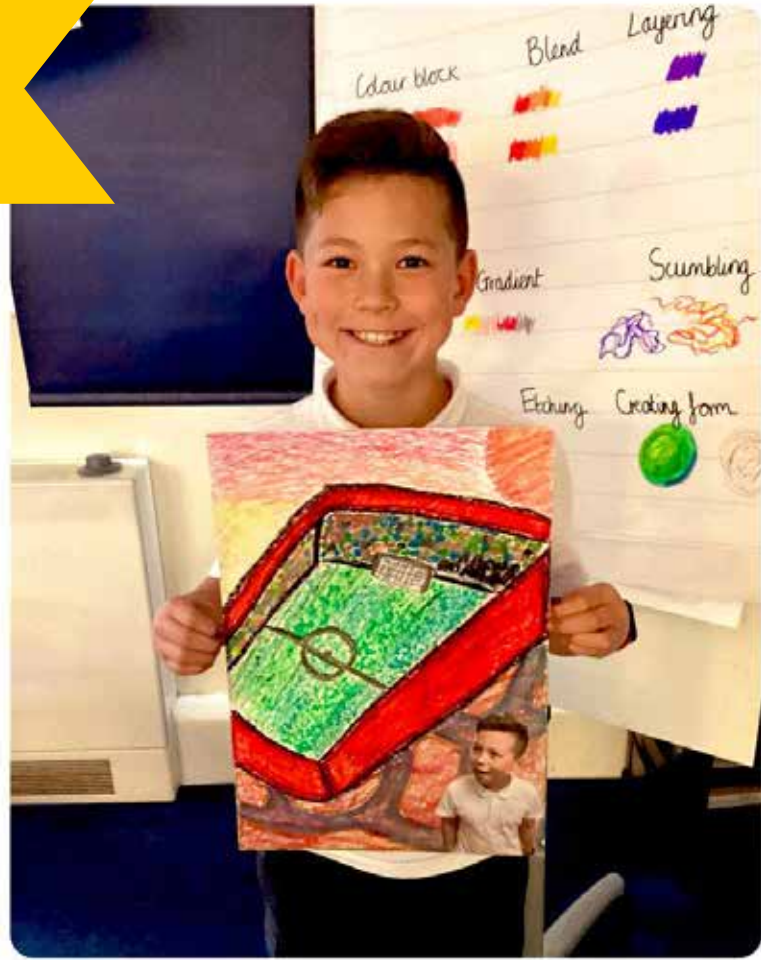


KEY DATES

**Thursday 24th October -
Eden Camp**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6

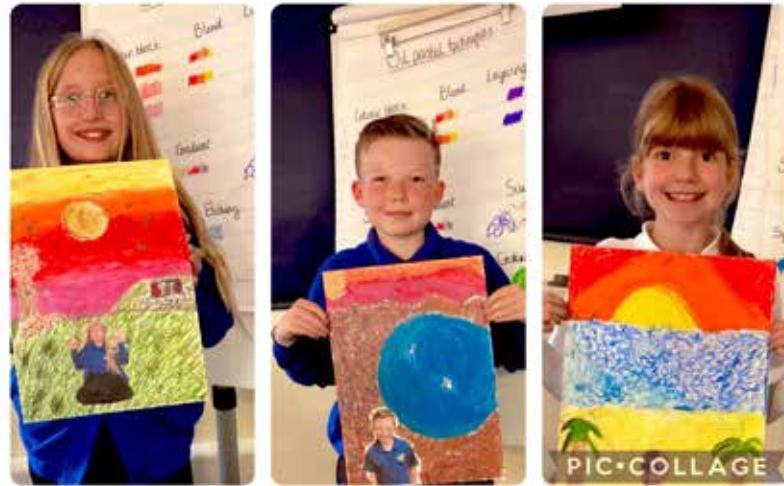


Year 6 have been continuing to strive to be the absolute best that they can be.

In **Maths**, they have worked hard to consolidate their arithmetic learning across all four operations and have started to learn how to solve long division questions. We have been so impressed with their perseverance with this!

During **Art**, we have been using Edward Munch's 'The Scream' for inspiration. We have created our to final expressionist self – portraits. These use colour and oil pastel techniques to portray our emotions and fears.

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

You reposted

JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 17h

Following the children's interests has lead us to our animal investigation project.

'What do different paws look like?'
 'Are tiger stripes all the same?'
 'How do tigers survive?'

Reception have been inquisitive learners, asking lots of questions to drive their learning! ✨



3 13 620

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 21h

Year 4 have enjoyed researching different European capital cities and finding key facts about them. We then compared these to our local area of Wakefield and how our human and physical features are similar or different @JCA_Geography



1 9 289

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Oct 9

In English, Year 3 have been writing biographies about the inspiring palaeontologist, Mary Anning. We remembered lots of key facts, included subordinating conjunctions and created exciting headings. @JcaWriting



14 443

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 21h

Year 2 have loved exploring Scratch junior! They have been inputting algorithms to make their rocket move, add text and voice recordings. @ComputingJca #algorithm



1 2 230

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Oct 8

In History this week, Year 1 learnt about Sandal Castle and how it has changed over time. "I can't believe it looked last that and now it is a ruin" @HistoryJca



1 15 532

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

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Helen Jones

Designated Safeguarding Governor

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