

Accomplishing great things at JCA



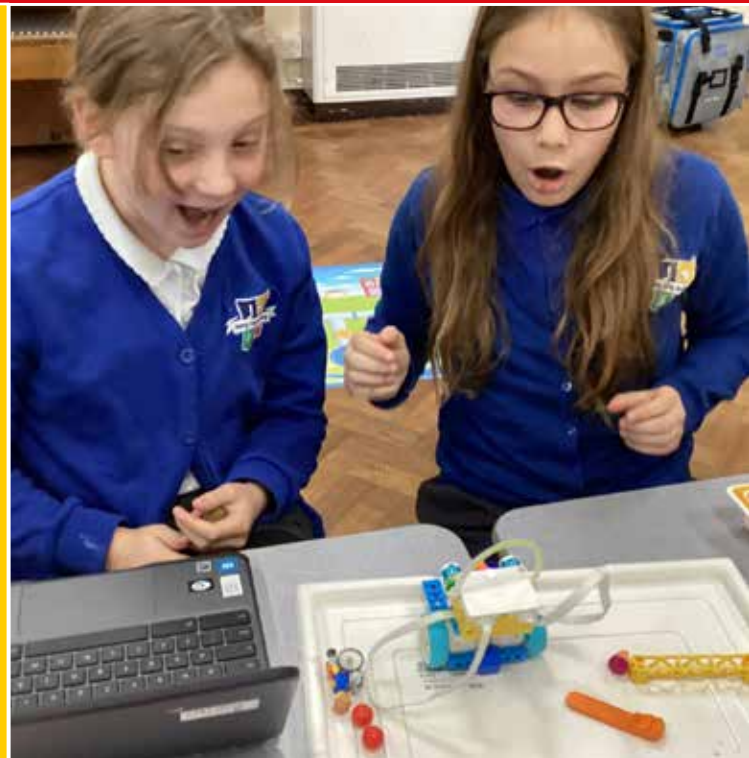
Our children are shining...

This newsletter will give a glimpse of how hard children are working in school at the moment!

We have seen a number of children achieve their Diamond Dash certificate in assembly as well as handing out a number of merit awards! This week, we set a challenge for the children in assembly to better their presentation every day – I am pleased that the children have absolutely risen to this!

We have seen some fantastic achievements from our children out of school this week with a number of children showing awards in class and in assembly – we love hearing about this!

Next week marks the start of our '**Christmas Countdown**' with the Reception Christmas Activity Morning. Please see attached the separate flyer including key dates coming up to Christmas.



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	95.90%	97.30%
YEAR 1	96.70%	95.70%
YEAR 2	99.00%	95.80%
YEAR 3	98.60%	96.50%
YEAR 4	99.50%	97.10%
YEAR 5	98.10%	96.50%
YEAR 6	97.10%	95.30%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.30%	ACTUAL

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



RECEPTION



The weeks are flying by in Reception and the children are enthralled in all their learning. They are developing their own interests and play projects and are sustaining these for longer periods of time. We have been challenging ourselves to choose different areas to learn, both inside and outside. Our learner trait focus has been teamwork – doing things together. They have created murals together, tidied together and invited new friends into their play together.

Into the woods

For this half term, our choosing is focused around our theme 'Into the woods'. Last week we shared our focus text 'The three little pigs'. The children enjoyed creating houses out of straw and becoming in role of the pigs and the wolf. They also noticed connections of similarities between 'the three little pigs' and our last text 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

On Monday, Reception had an exciting adventure. We followed a trail of breadcrumbs to discover our new story 'Hansel and Gretel'. Our creative area has been very popular, with children busy creating collage treats to create our very own ginger bread house. We have also been using torches to help Willow the witch to rescue different visitors in the gingerbread house. The children used torches to search and their fred fingers to write and save the visitors.

PE

In P.E, we have used the parachute to create games for our 'into the woods' stories. We loved working as a team and in role as Hansel, Gretel and Willow the witch.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION

Phonics

Reception are continuing to shine with their phonics. Our focus this week is to ensure we know all our set 1 single letter sounds and practice our Fred talk for blending. For daily reading at home, please continue to review sounds and use Fred talk around the house e.g "It's time for the b-a-th". "we need to go to the sh-o-p"

This week, we have changed sound blending books and will be sending links to the phonics films via Parentmail on Thursday.

Each week, we aim to read with the children and change books on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child brings their reading folder to school every day with their blue reading diary and sound blending book.

Christmas Activity Morning

We are so excited to share a magical morning of Christmas crafts with you on Friday 6th December. It will start at 9:15am and will last approximately an hour.

Nativity

As we shared with you in library time, our rehearsals for our first JCA nativity have started and we are learning songs and the story. To help us learn our parts to say, we have sent home their sentences. If you help practice saying their part in a loud voice, we would really appreciate your support!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



Year 1 are thoroughly enjoying their learning at the moment! We have been very excited by our new core text: *The Dragon Machine*. This book has given us so many inspiring ideas to help us with the designing and making of our own dragon machines in **Design and Technology**; we have enjoyed learning about machines and have started developing our skills to attach a wing to a box with a tab!

In **English** we have been striving with describing dragons using prepositions and verbs vocabulary. We have enjoyed going on a dragon hunt and then we took our own dragon on an adventure, next we are striving to create our own maps in Geography to further inspire our writing.

During our **Maths** lessons, we have been learning about number sentences and number bonds to 10. We have also started to learn about subtraction.



We have loved learning about Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria in our **History** lessons, and in **Geography** we have been busy route-planning; we used maps of Wrenthorpe to plan our walking route to St Anne's church, which we visited on Tuesday! At the church, we went on a treasure hunt to find all the special objects.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



Wow! The weeks really are passing by so quickly as we excitedly approach December! This week, we will begin practicing for our **Christmas Nativity**, we can't wait to share it with you!

In **English**, we have started creating our non-chronological report on mining. Last week, we focussed on subtitles and how to organise our sentences into paragraphs. This week we have started constructing our paragraphs. We have used a variety of facts to create an introduction and paragraph on mining jobs with fantastic questions and conjunctions.

In **Maths**, we have worked so incredibly hard with our exchanging skills for the column method! Particularly when subtracting with exchanging, we have utilised the steps to success on the working wall to become even more accurate with our working.

We have started our **DT** project for this half term and we are looking forward to making our own miners snap tin pasties. We have investigated our design brief as well as designing what fillings we want to include inside our pasties.

In **RE**, we have completed our end of unit assessment looking at the importance of belonging. We created leaflets to explain how different religions showcase belonging in a variety of ways. We focussed on using tier 3 vocabulary to explain our understanding.

KEY DATES

Key Stage 1 Nativity

Tuesday 17th December @2pm

Wednesday 18th December @9:30am

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3

Year 3 are continuing to shine and work incredibly hard through the autumn term - really focussing on themselves and how they can continue to get better every day.

In **Maths**, we continue to explore multiplication and division. In particular, we have been mastering our three times tables, spotting patterns and using the inverse to find missing numbers. We have really enjoyed taking part in a range of activities to help us remember our 3's and applying our knowledge to worded problems.

In **English**, we were introduced to our core text of 'Stone Age Boy' and used clues from the front cover and our inquirer trait to make predictions about the text. We have also sequenced key events and written our own captions to these to help us begin to use ambitious and powerful vocabulary.

For **PE**, we have really been enjoying our focus on balancing, travelling and jumps in gymnastics! Each week we have been building on our skills and using feedback from others to improve our routines. We have strived to include a range of point balances and discussed the best way to transition between these.

In **Geography**, we looked at the Jurassic and Yorkshire coast and used different colours of card to represent the layers of rock that make up these coast lines.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



We have had a brilliant couple of weeks in year four. The children have impressed us with their fantastic **history** knowledge on their trip to the Royal Armouries as well as in their History lessons.

At the Royal Armouries, the children were immersed in their learning of the Anglo-Saxons by watching a combat between the Vikings and the Saxons. They also reenacted the story of Beowulf and they were even archaeologists excavating a burial site, learning all about the different artefacts and how they were linked to the Anglo-Saxons. The children loved this day and showed brilliant behaviour and inquisitiveness!

In **Maths** we have been learning all of our times tables. The children have enjoyed recapping the different times tables as well as applying this knowledge into different reasoning and problem-solving questions. They have also enjoyed learning songs to go with each times table.



In **English**, we have used our History knowledge to create our own letters based in the Anglo-Saxon time period. We have tried to persuade people to visit England because of the great things they had to offer at the time - the children have worked hard to include time adverbials, powerful adjectives and factual information.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



Year 5 has had a super busy couple of weeks! We were very fortunate to have been visited by **Yorkshire Water Safety** and **Yorkshire Fire Safety**! Year 5 loved the fantastic workshops and enjoyed using Lego to build a robot, which they then programmed to unblock sewers on their maps.

In **English**, we have been working hard during our writing process to create an engaging story set during World War 2. We are very proud of our published work. Now, we have moved on to studying the features of a diary entry, using Anne Frank's diary entry as an example.

We have started a new core text, '**The Emergency Zoo.**' We have used drama and oracy to help us think and act like the characters, which will help us create diary entries in their frame of mind.

In **Maths**, we have continued our learning of multiplication and division. We have been developing our understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6

Year 6 are continuing to strive hard each week – we are so proud of how hard they are working!

In **Maths**, we have been learning about how to calculate with fractions and have successfully added, subtracted, multiplied and divided these. In the next couple of weeks, we will send home an updated version of the 'arithmetic methods support booklet' to assist children with their revision and homework and remember the methods that they have learnt.

In **Geography**, we have continued to learn about rivers. Last week, we created our own river models and used our oracy skills to explain how these work. We also took part in a fantastic workshop with Yorkshire Water, learning how technology is used to clean rivers and blockages. We built and programmed Lego robots to simulate this.

We also enjoyed a brilliant **Parent Workshop** – sharing our History and Curriculum learning with all of you – thank you for making this such an enjoyable morning!



Highlights of the Week from Twitter

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 21h
A fantastic Year 6 Parent Workshop! We were able to share our learning and enjoy curriculum activities together. Great to see so much discussion and engagement- a wonderful way to start the morning! [#JCACurriculum](#)



ACES Education @ACESport_UK · Nov 25
Year 5 at @JCAWakefield have been showcasing incredible dedication and teamwork as they master counterbalances in their gymnastics lessons! Your focus and effort are truly inspiring—keep up the amazing work, everyone! 🙌👉 @JcaPhysicalEdu
[#GymnasticsGoals](#) [#Teamwork](#) [#balances](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Nov 22
In DT, Year 2 created two different designs for their tin miner's pasties. They carefully selected which fillings they wanted for their savoury and sweet side. The children are excited to make these in a few weeks! [@JCA_DT](#)



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Nov 22
Year 3 have shown brilliant teamwork in gymnastics this week. We practised balances in pairs creating a short gymnastic piece using mirroring. [@JcaPhysicalEdu](#) [#mirrorimage](#) [#gymnastics](#) 🙌



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)

You might be eligible to Pupil Premium. What is the Pupil Premium (PP)?



The Pupil Premium is extra government money which is paid to schools to support children's learning and development. We can support you in finding out if your child could receive the extra money. We can choose how to best spend the Pupil Premium money and will work with you to make sure your child benefits from the extra funding.

Who could benefit from this money?

Children from the reception year to year 6 may be eligible if they:

- are registered for Free School Meals (FSM)
- have been registered for FSM at any point in the last 6 years
- are or have been in care
- have parents in the armed forces *If your child could claim for FSM but takes a packed lunch to school, it's still important you tell us. This will let us know if your child is able to receive the Pupil Premium.

Your child could benefit from:

- exciting new learning activities and experiences
- one to one or small group sessions
- extra tools, materials and equipment to help with learning in school or at home
- before/after school clubs or activities

Why should I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Children who are registered for Free School Meals (FSM) are entitled to the Pupil Premium. Your child isn't automatically registered for FSM, even though all infant children are entitled to receive a free school meal.

How do I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Follow the link below to the Wakefield online portal for parents:

<https://parentportal.wakefield.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

If you need any support with this, please don't hesitate to ask the school office or myself personally on the gate.

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

