

Accomplishing great things at JCA



A term to be proud of...



As we approach the end of the Autumn Term, it is so important to leave time for reflection! We have achieved so much since the start of term and some of the progress that we have seen across school has been simply brilliant! To reflect this progress, you may have seen on Twitter that we are celebrating the **'#JCAChristmasMiracle'** showing some of the progress in writing that has been made – please look out for a tweet from each class about this.

This week has been magical – we have welcomed families of our Reception class to see our Reception Nativity; we were all so proud of the children!

Next week is a busy week with Carols Around The Tree, Y1/2 Nativity, Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch! We look forward to sharing this with you then!

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%**

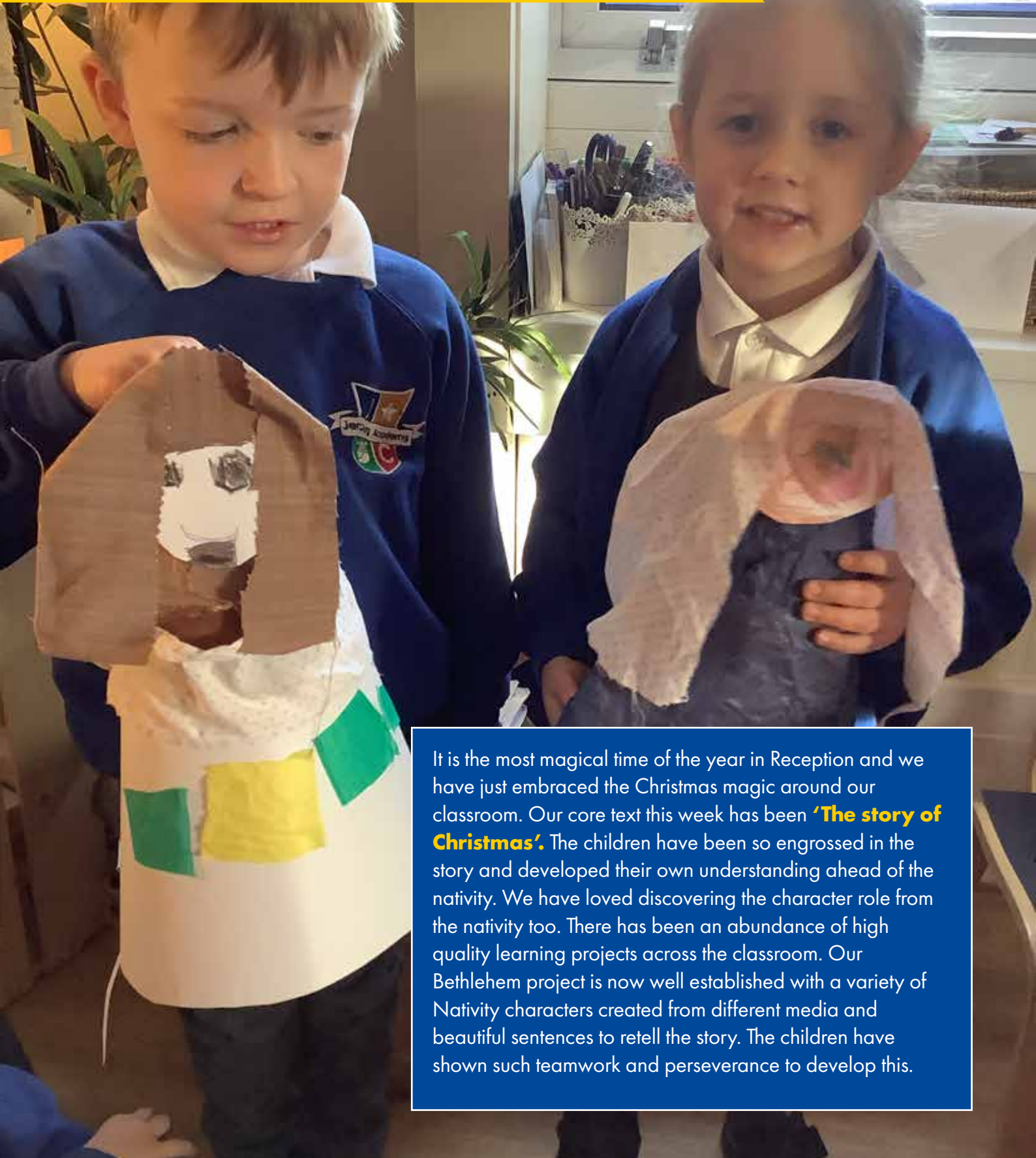
Class	This week	Year to date from the start of September
RECEPTION	96.40%	94.10%
YEAR 1	95.50%	90.00%
YEAR 2	95.80%	94.20%
YEAR 3	96.00%	95.00%
YEAR 4	97.20%	96.70%
YEAR 5	96.20%	92.50%
YEAR 6	95.50%	96.70%

97.40%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.10%	ACTUAL

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



RECEPTION



It is the most magical time of the year in Reception and we have just embraced the Christmas magic around our classroom. Our core text this week has been **'The story of Christmas'**. The children have been so engrossed in the story and developed their own understanding ahead of the nativity. We have loved discovering the character role from the nativity too. There has been an abundance of high quality learning projects across the classroom. Our Bethlehem project is now well established with a variety of Nativity characters created from different media and beautiful sentences to retell the story. The children have shown such teamwork and perseverance to develop this.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION

The highlight of the week has got to be the most wonderful performance of the **Nativity** on Tuesday and Wednesday! All of the children shone with confidence and were beaming on stage. We were so proud of the way they embraced the performance and we feel incredibly lucky to have been able to share this special memory with us.

In **Maths** this week, we have been recapping our numbers one to seven and representing them in a variety of ways. Our challenge this week, has been to create Christmas shapes by combing and adding numicon numbers. After rotating and adding to create a shape, we have accurately counted the numbers to find out how many altogether.

Our **P.E** sessions have been a bundle of fun with the parachute. We have focused on developing large movements and coordination to control the parachute and work as a team. On Wednesday, we had our final yoga session of the Autumn term. These have been an incremental part of our week and we have loved practicing our mindfulness throughout the days too. We will be sending P.E kits home to be refreshed ready for the Spring term.

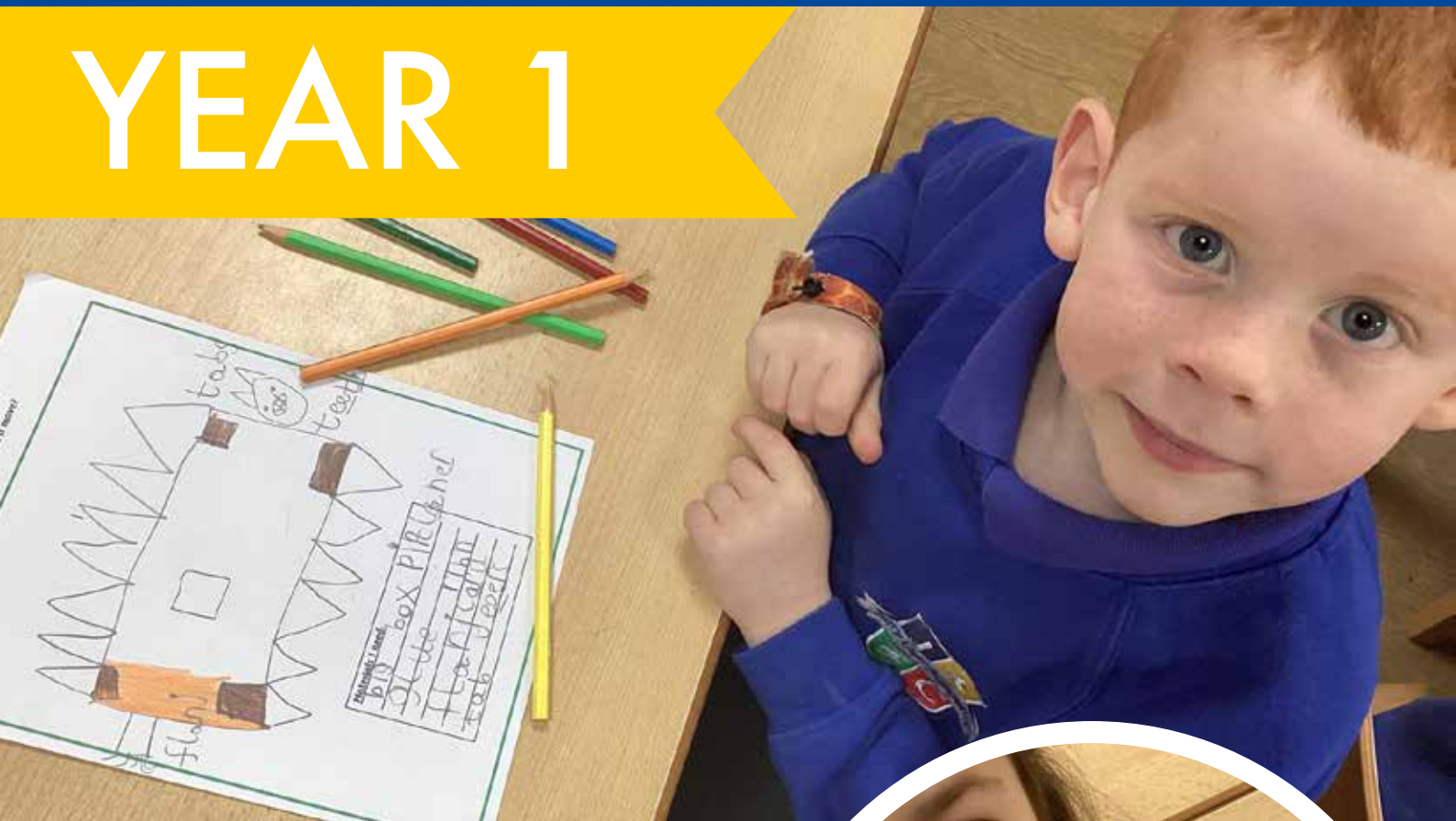
We know the build up to Christmas can be full of cardboard boxes and deliveries. If you have any spare **boxes** to recycle, we would really appreciate them for our provision and junk modelling.

Reception **Christmas party** will be on Wednesday 18th December in the afternoon. As it is Christmas jumper day, we can celebrate in style too!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



Year 1 is buzzing with anticipation and excitement at the moment, as we are working hard on preparing our nativity ready to perform next week! We have been busy learning the songs and actions, alongside learning our lines for "A Wiggly Nativity!" The children are very excited to share this with you soon!

In **English** we have been working on using our striving vocabulary and compass directions in order to describe where dragons are on the maps that we created. This has combined our Geography and English learning, and the children have even been drawing their own maps at home!

Subtracting has been our focus in **Maths**; we have developed our understanding using lots of different strategies to help, including counting backwards, crossing out, taking away objects and counting back along a number line.

In **DT**, we have been developing our skills of attaching a tube (Flange) and exploring a WAGOLL dragon machine before we designed our dragon machines carefully. We are looking forward to making these next week!



KEY DATES

**A Wiggly Nativity -
Tuesday 17th December at 2pm**

**A Wiggly Nativity -
Wednesday 18th December at 9:15am**

**KS1 Christmas party -
Thursday 19th December pm**
(Please send party clothes in a bag)

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



The weeks are flying by in Year 2 and we are cherishing the magical memories we are able to make together during this festive period. We have been rehearsing our nativity 'A Wiggly Nativity' and we are so excited to share this with you next week. We also designed and created our own baubles to decorate our magical JCA Christmas tree!

In **English**, we have been completing our final draft of our non-chronological report ready to hot write and then publish. We have been challenging ourselves to uplevel vocabulary and use a range of conjunctions.

In **Maths**, we have started our new unit on money. When identifying different coins, we have applied our knowledge of shape and their properties to help us recognize the similarities and differences. Applying our place value and addition skills, we have begun to count and add amounts of coins and notes.

As part of our **DT** project, we have followed a series of instructions to create pastry for our 'tin miner pasties'. It was vital that we followed each step accurately and enjoyed bringing our designs to life.



In **Computing**, we have loved our unit on 'games testers!' We have been using the laptops to test a range of games and dig deeper into how they work. We have looked inside each game at the algorithms that make them work.

KEY DATES

Key Stage 1 Nativity

Tuesday 17th December @2pm

Wednesday 18th December @9:30am

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

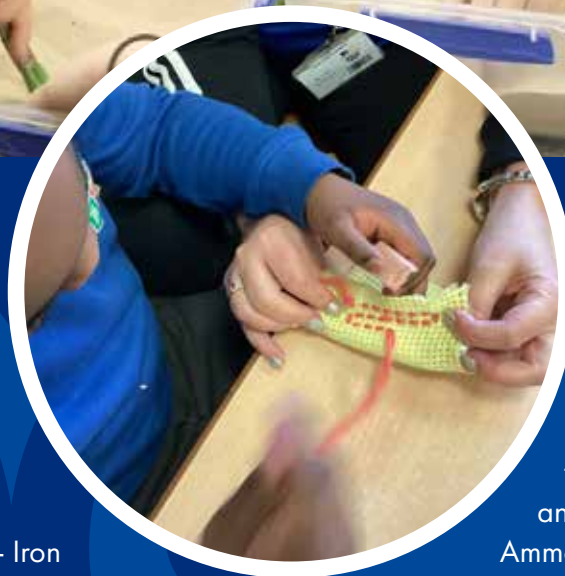
YEAR 3



What a brilliant and magical end it has been to our Autumn term! Our topic of 'The Lost World' has been a great source of enthusiasm and inquisitiveness for the children and it has been wonderful to watch this blossom. This week the children showed off their knowledge of the Stone Age- Iron Age on our trip to Experience Barnsley. It was an immersive trip where they made cave paintings, foraged for food and dug in the sand to uncover relics - like real archaeologists.

Year 3 have flourished this Autumn term and have shown such a thirst for knowledge. Some of the things we have really enjoyed and are proud of from this term are:

Prehistoric Britain Trip - Our trip to Barnsley Museum was fantastic, it really brought all of knowledge and enthusiasm to life. The children showed brilliant enthusiasm throughout the day and their learning has been apparent in their depth of knowledge surrounding Prehistoric Britain.



Our final Art and DT products - the children have worked exceptionally hard on their Art and DT pieces, building on and adapting their skills from previous year groups. They thoroughly loved exploring textures and collaging to create their Ammonites as well as tackling the challenge of sewing to make their own special Christmas baubles.

Ukulele - What a pleasure it has been to see the progress the children have made in their ukulele sessions with Mr Pitchforth! They have learnt a range of chords, how to strum and a whole range of technical songs.

For the Spring term we will be focussing on our new theme of '**What is Community**' and beginning to explore the human and physical characteristics of our local area. We will look at what it means to be part of a community and also compare this to community within the time period of the Vikings.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



What a brilliant couple of weeks we have had in Year 4. The children are showing excellent learning attitudes and are making us so proud with their efforts.

In **Maths**, we have finished looking at different times tables and how we can apply these into different word questions. The children used Base 10 to help represent the different times tables and used their knowledge of exchange to explain the different answers.

In **English**, the Children have published their Anglo Saxon letters. They have worked hard to include lots of exciting vocabulary as well as rhetorical questions and fronted adverbials. I am also impressed with how much historical detail they have included in their work, really connecting their learning across subjects.

In **History**, we have been archaeologists excavating the site of Sutton Hoo in East Anglia. We discussed the artefacts we found and what made them significant in figuring out who was buried there.

In **DT**, the children are well on their way into creating their own pneumatic dragon. The children conducted market research with Year 1 asking them key questions which then helped them with the design process. We cannot wait to make these in the final week.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5

Year 5 have thoroughly impressed us with their fantastic attitude and motivation to learn.

In **Maths**, we are focusing on Fractions. We have learnt how to add and subtract fractions with different denominators and the children have shown great resilience on this topic. We have started to learn how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers and mixed number into improper fractions.

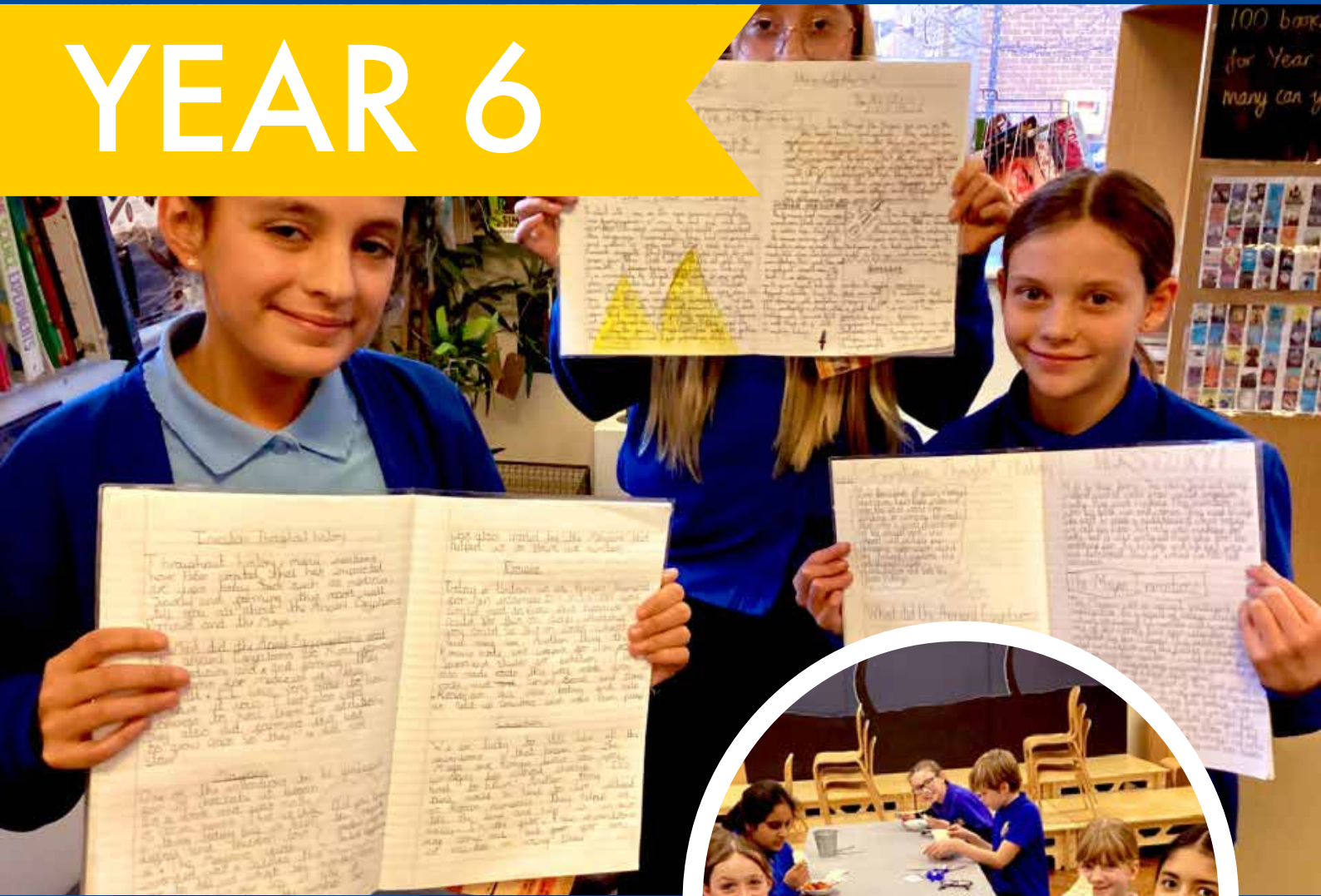
In **English**, we have finished publishing our diaries entries based on our core text, 'The Emergency Zoo.' The children worked hard to include ambitious vocabulary, emotive language and a range of sentence types.

In **DT**, the children have completed creating their Caesar Ciphers – now we can send secret messages!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had a fantastic term and many successes - from developing leadership skills to representing Jerry Clay in tournaments and trips. We continue to be so proud of all of them for their academic and personal achievements!

In **Maths**, we have continued to learn and consolidate all of our arithmetic methods and deepen our learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. We will be continuing to learn about fractions, decimals and percentages next half term. Please do have a look over the arithmetic methods booklet and revision guides that were sent home last week – these will support with revision.

In **Reading**, Year 6 have been reading 'A Christmas Carol' and identifying evidence to support characters' personalities. Throughout the term, they have continued to develop their understanding of vocabulary and confidence when reading longer

texts. We will be continuing this next half term and appreciate your support in ensuring that your child continues to read every day! We have also created our own Scrooge character descriptions and read these to each other.

In **Geography**, we have continued to learn about rivers and have focused on reasons why they flood and why dams are built. We also enjoyed a cooking session with Chef Jane where we prepared, cooked and tasted our Mayan inspired food!

Highlights of the Week from Twitter

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 9m
 We have been treated to 2 fantastic Nativity performances from our Reception class this week! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend!
 ✨ #shining #JCANativity



You reposted
Jerry Clay Academy DT @JCA_DT · Dec 9
 Year 4 were busy utilising their market research to create designs for their pneumatic dragon toys @JCAWakefield

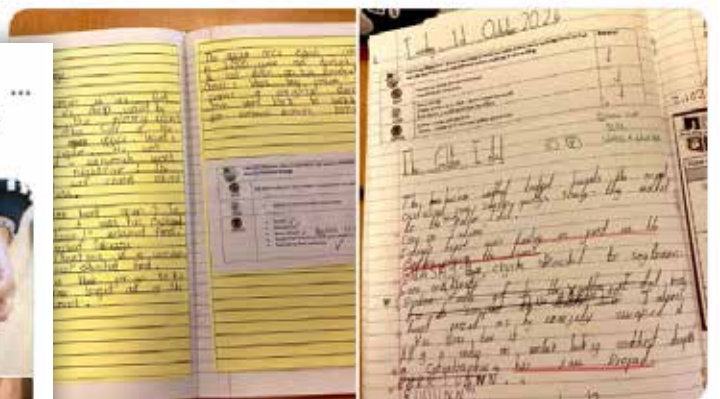


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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 20h
 Year 6 have had a fantastic afternoon with Chef Jane. She led an exciting cooking workshop to help us create some Mayan inspired food. Thank you so much for letting us try out new foods and recipes @JANEHINDMARCH #JCADT JCACurriculum



Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 22h
 Excellent to see progress within Y6 over the Autumn term. We have worked hard on sentence structure, spellings and punctuation and vocabulary choice. This child really has managed to capture the personality of Scrooge at the start of A Christmas Carol! #JCAChristmasmiracle



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You reposted
Jerry Clay Academy DT @JCA_DT · Dec 9
 Year 3 developed their running stitch and whip stitch skills as they work towards their sewn Christmas tree decorations @JCAWakefield



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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

