

# Accomplishing great things at JCA

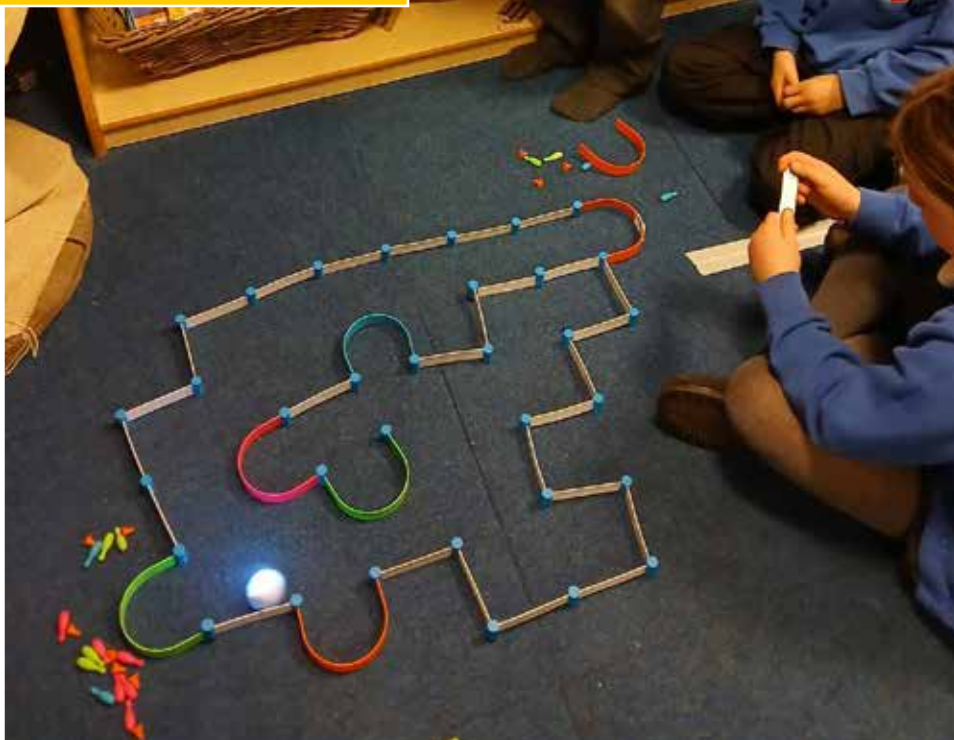
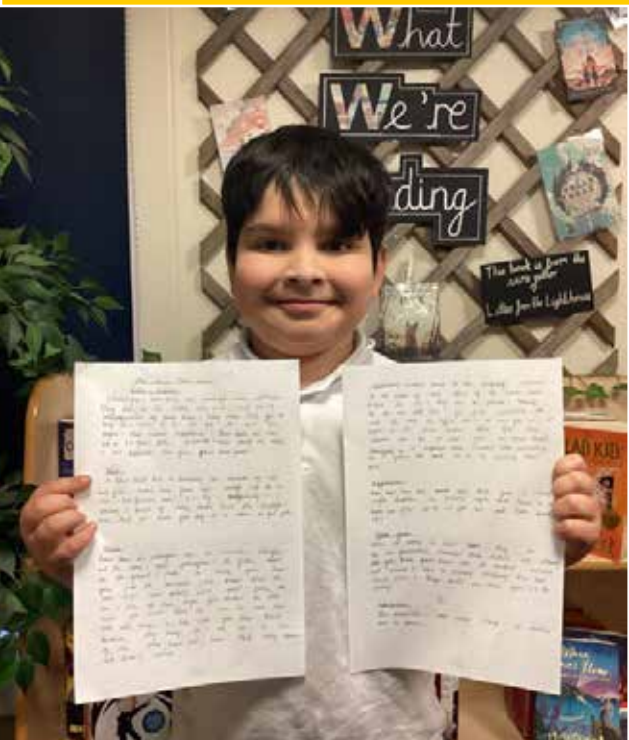


## A half term to be proud of...

It has been a brilliant couple of weeks at JCA! The children have continued to strive in all learning which has made for a really successful half term overall! This week in particular has been a record-breaking week for Diamond Dash achievements! Please do read our individual class pages to find out more information.

After half-term, we welcome Mrs Thackray (Senior Admin) and Mr Galloway (Caretaker) to Jerry Clay! You will still all see Mrs Moss and Mr Rady frequently around school, both of whom will now work in the Accomplish Central Team, overseeing all schools within the Trust.

Finally, the PTA Summer Fair has been confirmed for Saturday 5th July 2025 – please look out for more information on this closer to the time.



# 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	<b>97.80%</b>	96.10%
YEAR 1	<b>96.30%</b>	95.50%
YEAR 2	<b>94.60%</b>	95.70%
YEAR 3	<b>94.10%</b>	95.30%
YEAR 4	<b>95.20%</b>	97.30%
YEAR 5	<b>98.50%</b>	96.30%
YEAR 6	<b>90.00%</b>	95.20%

<b>97.40%</b>	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
<b>95.90%</b>	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 class and the children are flourishing in all that they do! Can you believe we are halfway through the school year?

The last two weeks have been our final weeks of our theme '**Frozen planet**'. Throughout the half term, Reception have taken a keen interest in animals and we have continued to follow their line of enquiry. We have also explored our significant person, Ernest Shackleton, and his expedition to the Antarctic. Outside, we have created routes and obstacles to ski through and celebrated the winter Olympics.

In **Maths**, we have consolidated our understanding of numbers to 10 and this week, we focused on odd and even numbers. We have investigated what odd and even numbers look like and used a variety of resources to explore different representations. Now we know that even numbers are all in pairs and odd numbers have an odd on out!



# RECEPTION

With last week being mental health week and this week being valentines day, in class, our learner trait focus has been **kindness**. This week, our core text has been 'Super Duper Me' and we celebrated what makes us unique and special. Reception Class have also been celebrating and recognising strengths in each other and sharing our kind words on our kindness tree. Following their keen interest in yoga, we have created a yoga area in our classroom, where the children have taken turn to be the yoga instructor, select calming music and choose yoga poses or breathing techniques to practice.

After half term, we are very excited to start our new theme '**under the sea**'. We will begin by exploring and following the children's interest in fish, their gills and breathing underwater.

Thank you for all you kind donations of milk bottles and egg cartons. It is greatly appreciated and has really enhanced our learning.

After half term, we would really appreciate any donations of bubble wrap and generic recycling for our junk modelling. E.g bottle, boxes, netting.

*Wishing you all a lovely half term!*



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 1



Year 1 have had a very busy and productive fortnight. Our Paddington workshop was a wonderful success yesterday; thank you so much for attending and sharing our learning! We have been writing and publishing letters, which we are looking forward to sending home through the post! Please read these with us when you receive them and celebrate our successes!

In **Maths**, we have been getting even speedier at our recall of number bonds to 10; we have also been applying our knowledge of teen numbers to represent, compare and order them carefully.

In **RE**, we are learning all about the Islamic faith, including special objects, their place of worship in the Mosque. We have just started to learn about Ramadan.

We have been busy in **Art** completing our sketches of Paddington's face, inspired by our artist R W Alley. In this unit, we have been experimenting with using hatching using sketching pencils, pens and charcoal to create light and dark.

In **PSHE**, we have been learning about relationships, specifically focussing on friendship. After many discussions about what we look for in friendship, we have been monitoring how full our buckets are at different points in the day. We all strive to be bucket fillers!



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 2

Year 2 are continually impressing us with their learning journey! They are enthralled in our current learning and keep striving higher and higher!

In **English**, we have written, critiqued and edited our final versions of our African stories inspired by 'Pretty Salma'. To improve our writing, we have reflected on the structure of the story and how this impacts the reader's feelings and engagement in our story. We can't wait to publish our stories and share them with you!

In **Maths**, we have completed our learning on Money. To retrieve all our learning, applied our skills so far to solve two step money problems and strived to use mathematical vocabulary in our reasoning and explaining! Now we are beginning to explore multiplication and division!

In **Geography**, we have applied our knowledge of physical and human features to compare the similarities and differences between Wrenthorpe and a South African village.

In **Art**, we have constructed our African masks out of cardboard. Using paint to represent the vibrant colours of Lubaina Himid's work and building layers of cardboard for our details.



### KEY DATES

**Visit to Wakefield Cathedral -  
Monday 3rd March**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 3



A brilliant end to our half term for Year 3! The children have showcased incredible resilience and teamwork and have been determined to be 1% better every day!

In **English**, we have loved writing Haiku poems based on our text "Arthur and the Golden Rope". We have also read a variety of texts and enjoyed a peaceful morning in the magical library. We chose a new book and enjoyed reading it amongst nature, we also took part in a book quiz.

For **Maths**, we have begun our new topic on Fractions and have retrieved some of our key vocabulary and sentence stems from Year 2 to support our understanding. We have focused on unit and non-unit fractions, representing these in bar models as well as comparing and ordering them.

We reached our final outcomes in **Art!** These were clay amulets inspired by Celtic artwork and the artist Michael Carroll. We completed our evaluations where we reflected on similarities and differences in our final pieces in comparison to our focus artist. We also discussed what we would change or improve if we were to create our piece again.

Alongside all of these exciting activities, we also spent an afternoon with ISS education **cooking** a Viking feast! We practised different cooking skills including chopping vegetables, kneading dough and plaiting bread. Then, we were able to tuck into our delicious feast of chunky vegetable soup and homemade plaited bread.

### KEY DATES

**Trip to the Synagogue -  
Tuesday 25th February**

**Parent Workshop -  
Tuesday 11th March**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 4



Year 4 have had a fantastic half term. They have worked incredibly hard in all their subjects and I am so proud of the progress they have made and the maturity in attitudes.

In **English**, we have published our own non-chronological report all about different Rainforest animals. The children worked very hard to include factual adjectives as well as technical vocabulary to up level their work. We have just started using our core Text 'The Explorer' to create our own Explorer story. They have already impressed us so much with their creativity with their vocabulary and sentence choice; we are so excited to get writing.

In **Maths**, the children have worked hard calculating perimeter. They have understood and mastered this

unit and we are looking forward to our new unit of fractions after half term.

In **Art**, we have been creating our own rainforest using acrylic paint on canvas. The children showed great care creating their background using blending to create a simple but effective sky and then drew and painted different trees, plants and animals to create a brilliant a foreground focusing on the size to make it look realistic.

### KEY DATES

**Parent workshop -  
18th March**

**Visit to the Gurdwara -  
27th March**



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic end to the half term and we have been super impressed with their enthusiasm for learning!

In **English**, we have planned, written and edited our brilliant non-chronological reports all about polar bears and their habitats. This work has been inspired by our core text, 'The Girl who speaks bear.' Their vocabulary, handwriting and the facts included have blown us away.

In **Maths**, we are developing our understanding of multiplication and division. We have mastered using the long multiplication method to help us multiply 2 digit numbers by 4 digit numbers.

In **Geography**, we have been identifying the animals that live in the arctic tundra. We worked in groups to discover how the food chain works and then independently wrote paragraphs to explain this.

In **Art**, we have completed our final piece. We have used a monochromatic palette to create our backgrounds and have worked attentively to sketch our trees on top. Year 5 are super proud of their creations and we can't wait to share them with you.

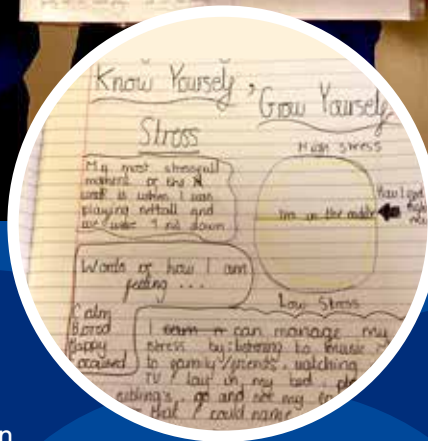


### KEY DATES

**Hindu temple visit**  
Thursday 24th April

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 6



We have been so impressed with how hard Year 6 have strived this half term – they have ensured that it has been so successful!

In **Maths**, for the last fortnight, we have been developing our algebraic skills - learning how to substitute, find missing value and write our own equations and formulae.

In **Science**, we have been deepening our learning about how we see. We have learnt about the different parts of our eyes and used torches to investigate angles of incidence and reflection.

In **Reading**, we have been reading Floella Benjamin's 'Coming to England' and R J Palacio's 'Wonder'. We are continuing to work on our reading stamina – please continue to ensure that individual reading books are read daily.

In **DT**, we have been finalising our micro:bit toys. We have sewed together our final designs, tested our micro:bit programs. Next half term, we will be evaluating these and sharing them with our KS1 audience.

As part of **Children's Mental Health Week**, we talked about our own stress and worries and how we can control and manage these situations. We created our own Positivity Pocketbooks to promote our self-worth. For Safer Internet Day, we read 'Unplugged' by Steve Antony and explored the pros and cons of technology and planning in periods of time to be 'unplugged'.

### KEY DATES

**Outdoor Learning Day -  
Wednesday 5th March**

**Mirfield Community of  
Resurrection trip - Tuesday 11th March**

**SATs Week - Monday 12th May -  
Thursday 15th May**

# Highlights of the Week from X

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Feb 10**  
Celebrating writing in Year 6! We are so proud of our writing outcomes based on our visual story flashbacks. We worked so hard to include emotive language and to switch tenses to demonstrate memories being re-lived. [#JCAWriting](#)



**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Feb 9**  
Year 5 have had a fantastic week planning, editing and publishing their non-chronological reports. They have written about polar bears and their habitats (the Arctic Tundra). Some of the class taught Reception about their fantastic facts.



**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 18h**  
Year 1 discussed Florence Nightingale's impact on society in the past and present during History! [@HistoryJca](#) [#accomplishoracy](#)



**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 15h**  
This week in PSHE, Year 6 have read 'Unplugged' to follow up our Safer Internet Day assembly. We explored the pros and cons of being 'unplugged' from technology and spent time enjoying the outdoors! We also created Positivity Pocketbooks. [#JCAPSHE](#)



**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 16h**  
In Year 3, we had a creative afternoon finishing our art cycle. We evaluated the clay amulets we made last week. First, we explained how we made the amulets. Then, we noted our stars and wishes based on our final pieces. [@JCA\\_Art](#)



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# Dates for Your Diary 2024-25

<b>INSET DAYS</b>	Monday 2nd September 2024
	Friday 29th November 2024
	Monday 6th January 2025
	Monday 21st July 2025
	Monday 22nd July 2025
<b>Parents Evenings</b>	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
<b>Reports</b>	Friday 28th November – Interim Reports
	Friday 28th March 2025 – Interim Reports
	Friday 11th July 2025 – End of Year Reports
<b>Performances</b>	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
<b>Sports Day</b>	20/6/25 (4/7/25 Reserve Sports Day)
<b>Summer Fair</b>	5/7/25

# 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](mailto:Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk)



## **Mr T Palin**

Safeguarding Lead

[Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:Tony.palin@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)



## **Aimie Johnson**

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

[aimie.johnson@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:aimie.johnson@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)



## **Helen Jones**

Designated Safeguarding Governor

[helen.jones@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:helen.jones@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)

