

Accomplishing great things at JCA



A brilliant World Book Day!

This week, we celebrated World Book Day in style with a parade before children continued their learning in class, reflecting on them as a reader and looking at what makes their reader identity. It was fantastic to see so many of you attend the parade and brilliant to see such a great effort with the outfits for the day!

Also on World Book Day, a number of our children attended the West Yorkshire Games Cross Country Competition – well done to all involved; a fantastic achievement to qualify for this round!

Next week, we look forward to welcoming many of you to our Future In Minds Anxiety workshop and Year 6 attend their trip to the Community of Resurrection!



West Yorkshire Cross-country Finals



We are bursting with pride! Well done to all of our amazing cross-country runners!
We had a fantastic afternoon at the West Yorkshire Finals.

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	96.10%	96.80%
YEAR 1	95.60%	95.90%
YEAR 2	95.90%	98.10%
YEAR 3	95.00%	95.20%
YEAR 4	97.20%	96.30%
YEAR 5	96.20%	96.70%
YEAR 6	95.20%	94.10%

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



RECEPTION



The weeks are flying by in Reception and the children continue to amaze us with their passion and enthusiasm for learning.

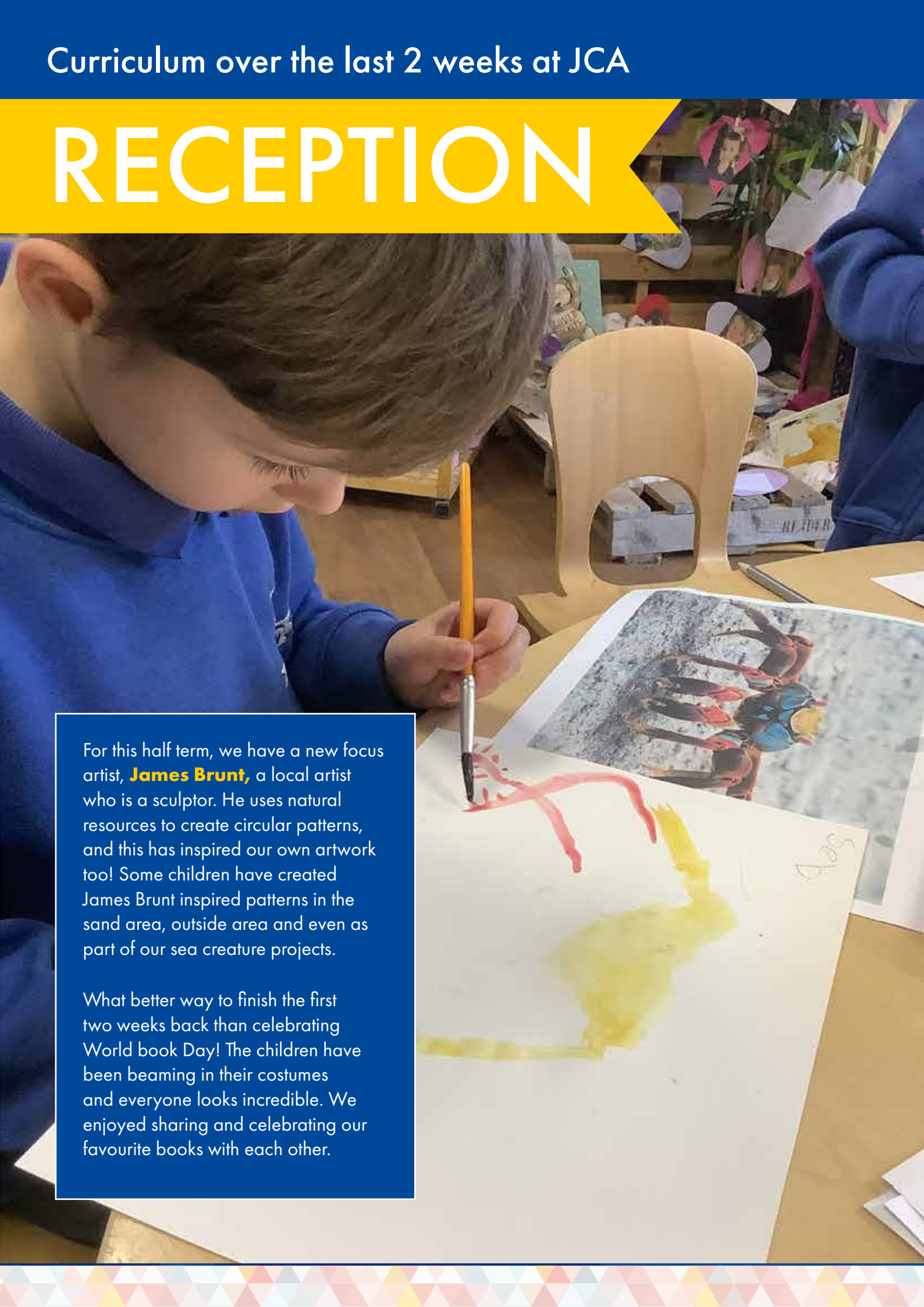
This half term, we have started our new learning focusing on '**under the sea**'. So far, we have loved our core texts, 'Rainbow Fish' and 'Tiddler'. Reception have shown a keen interest in sea creatures, and we have followed their enquiry through group projects.

Our **writing** area has been very popular this half term and the children are striving to show their incredible letter formation and spelling. We have been creating story maps to retell the story of 'Tiddler', created sentences about Captain Cook's expedition and even started writing about our characters for world book day! We are striving to use our Fred fingers and action words to help us.



We love a **Maths** challenge. Last week, we were striving with our doubling, and we now know how to double numbers 1 to 5. This week, we have been exploring making two groups and counting how many altogether using stem sentences, part whole models and number sentences.

RECEPTION



For this half term, we have a new focus artist, **James Brunt**, a local artist who is a sculptor. He uses natural resources to create circular patterns, and this has inspired our own artwork too! Some children have created James Brunt inspired patterns in the sand area, outside area and even as part of our sea creature projects.

What better way to finish the first two weeks back than celebrating World Book Day! The children have been beaming in their costumes and everyone looks incredible. We enjoyed sharing and celebrating our favourite books with each other.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

What a super start to Spring 2 in Year 1; we have been working hard in all aspects of our learning, striving to even be 1% better than last half term!

Our new core text focus is **The Robot** and the **Bluebird**, and we have enjoyed finding out more about the characters and setting of this story. We have acted in role, explored our own scrap heap and worked hard to use adjectives carefully. This story is also full of helpfulness and good friendship which has encouraged us to think more closely about our friendship focus in PSHE.

In **Maths**, we have been working incredibly hard at using our existing knowledge to grow our Maths brains, this week we have been using our number bonds to 10 to help us to speedily create number bonds to 20 using a "magic ten".

Our **History** learning has centred around Rosa Parks and how she felt she didn't belong in society. We learnt about how her actions helped the government to change the segregation law!! The children expressed their understanding through drawings and have been so articulate in their views.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



On Monday afternoon, we started our week with a visit to the beautiful **Wakefield Cathedral**.

While exploring the features of the Cathedral, we took part in a workshop to explore the Christian beliefs, signs and symbols to reflect on our Christianity unit in **RE**. The workshop leaders were really impressed by our knowledge of Christianity and our inquisitiveness to find out even more!

In **Maths**, we have continued our unit on division. After revisiting equal groups and division, we have explored using sharing as a method of division. We worked practically using counters before progressing to drawings for our pictorial representation.

In **English**, we created 'Pretty Salma's fruit salad' and have used this to plan and start to our draft our own version of the instructions.

On Wednesday, we had our yoga session which is key for taking time to be mindful and develop our mental wellbeing. Each day, we have continued to take time to practice mindfulness activities to regulate ourselves and learn to be present, calm and in the moment.

What a fantastic way to finish the week celebrating World Book Day! We had such a special day celebrating the magic of reading, our favourite stories and characters. During the day, we explored our own reading journeys and represented these in our own unique ways.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the new half term! We have introduced our exciting new book, **How to Train Your Dragon**, which has sparked a lot of enthusiasm among the children.

In **maths**, we have been exploring fractions, working hard to understand equivalent fractions while showing great resilience.

Our **computing** lessons have been particularly engaging, as we have been creating videos about different aspects of the Vikings. This project has allowed us to demonstrate excellent teamwork, and we have been clear and confident presenters.

A highlight of this half term so far was our inspiring trip to **Sinai Synagogue**. The children impressed everyone with their knowledge of the Sabbath and were eager to learn even more about Jewish traditions. They had the opportunity to try challah, a special type of bread, and wear a kippah as part of the experience. It was a wonderful trip that deepened our understanding of different cultures and beliefs.



KEY DATES

**Parent Workshop -
Tuesday 11th March**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



Year 4 have had a fantastic couple of weeks engrossed in their learning. They have blown me away with their fantastic attitude towards their learning and incredible hard work in their writing.

In **Maths**, the children have been challenging themselves to convert between mixed number and improper fractions. This has been tricky but they have made themselves proud with their determination to complete the tasks and get the answers right.

In **English**, we have been creating our own story based on the text 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. The children have impressed us so much with their fantastic vocabulary and interesting sentence structures. We are so excited to hot write and publish this next week.

In **PE**, the children have enjoyed starting our new unit of Tennis. We have focused on throwing and catching as well using the forehand stroke to aim accurately towards their partner.

World Book Day has been a special day! We have loved seeing the amazing costumes and delving into the fantastic books and characters. We read in the 'weirdest' places and then created our own reading journeys including the best books they have read from their earliest memories to now. It was magical to see!

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 brilliant couple of weeks of learning and their writing has shone!

Exciting things are happening in **maths**! Year 5 have started a new topic on fractions and are already mastering the skill of multiplying a whole number by a fraction

In **English**, the magic of storytelling has taken hold! We've been immersed in the traditional tale "The Lime Tree's Curse," and the children have truly shone as they've begun crafting their own captivating versions. Their writing is filled with impressive flair and creativity, demonstrating a wonderful understanding of narrative and language. We're so excited to see their stories unfold!

In **Spanish**, we have been recapping numbers 1-20 and developing our knowledge of 20-50. We have enjoyed a game of snakes and ladders with a Spanish twist.

In **Art**, Year 5 have created fantastic evaluations for their Art pieces. They have explained in detail their choice of colour, who/what influenced them and how they created the mood.

Year 5's World Book Day was absolutely enchanting! We saw a fantastic array of costumes, each representing a cherished character, and the buzz of excitement was amazing.



KEY DATES

Hindu temple visit
Thursday 24th April

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have shown an excellent attitude towards their learning in the start to this half term.

In **Maths**, we have been learning about ratio and proportion and have been solving different worded questions involving these.

In **Writing**, we have published our August vlogs and have been learning about persuasion. Year 6 showed some excellent debating skills when role-playing different characters from the story of Wonder.

In **DT** and **Computing**, we shared our micro:bit toys with Year 1 and created our evaluations of our final products.

In **Geography**, we have been learning about how earthquakes and tsunamis link. We created a short documentary explaining this. We have also had a fantastic Outdoor Afternoon. Year 6 have deepened their understanding of volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis by re-enacting causes and effects and creating earthquake-proof buildings. Both Adam and Kay from Eden's Forest commented upon how excellent their teamwork skills were, how much they demonstrated their enthusiasm for learning and their polite manners. An absolute credit to Jerry Clay Academy - well done Year 6!



KEY DATES

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 · 2h

Year 5 have had a fantastic morning filled with shield making, colosseum building, s'more eating and fun learning! Their knowledge and enthusiasm shone. 🌟



3 likes, 74 retweets

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2h

Year 5 have created fantastic evaluations of their final art pieces. They have explained their choice of colour, what/who influenced them and how they created their mood. @JCA_Art



3 likes, 74 retweets

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 2h

Year 6 have been using sentence stems and persuasive features to participate in debates about whether August (Wonder) should return to school or not. #Accomplishoracy



3 likes, 74 retweets

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 8h

We are proud, once again of some of our Junior Leaders who spoke so articulately about their roles in school & how they help to drive our curriculum.

#AccomplishOracy #Proud 🌟🌟🌟



3 likes, 74 retweets

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 22h

Year 3 have been writing setting descriptions based on our book "How to Train your Dragon." We have used brilliant imagery to describe the cave filled with sleeping dragons. @JcaWriting #writing #year3 🐉🐉



7 likes, 293 retweets

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)
Summer Fair	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



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

