

Accomplishing great things at JCA



A Spring Term to be proud of..

It has certainly felt like a quick Spring Term! That being said, we have certainly packed in a lot! From parent workshops to trips to sports events to World Book Day, we have thoroughly enjoyed the term!

Our newsletter covers the events of the last 2 weeks in school, including our Music Theme Week which has been a real success – it has been a particular highlight to hear the fantastic singing across the school throughout the week!

We wish Miss Karlsson all the best as she starts her maternity leave and we can't wait to hear the news about her new arrival!

I hope you all have a good, restful Easter break and we look forward to seeing all children back in school on Tuesday 22nd April!



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	98.90%	96.10%
YEAR 1	96.70%	95.90%
YEAR 2	92.60%	95.80%
YEAR 3	90.40%	94.60%
YEAR 4	94.10%	97.10%
YEAR 5	98.10%	96.30%
YEAR 6	91.10%	95.20%

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

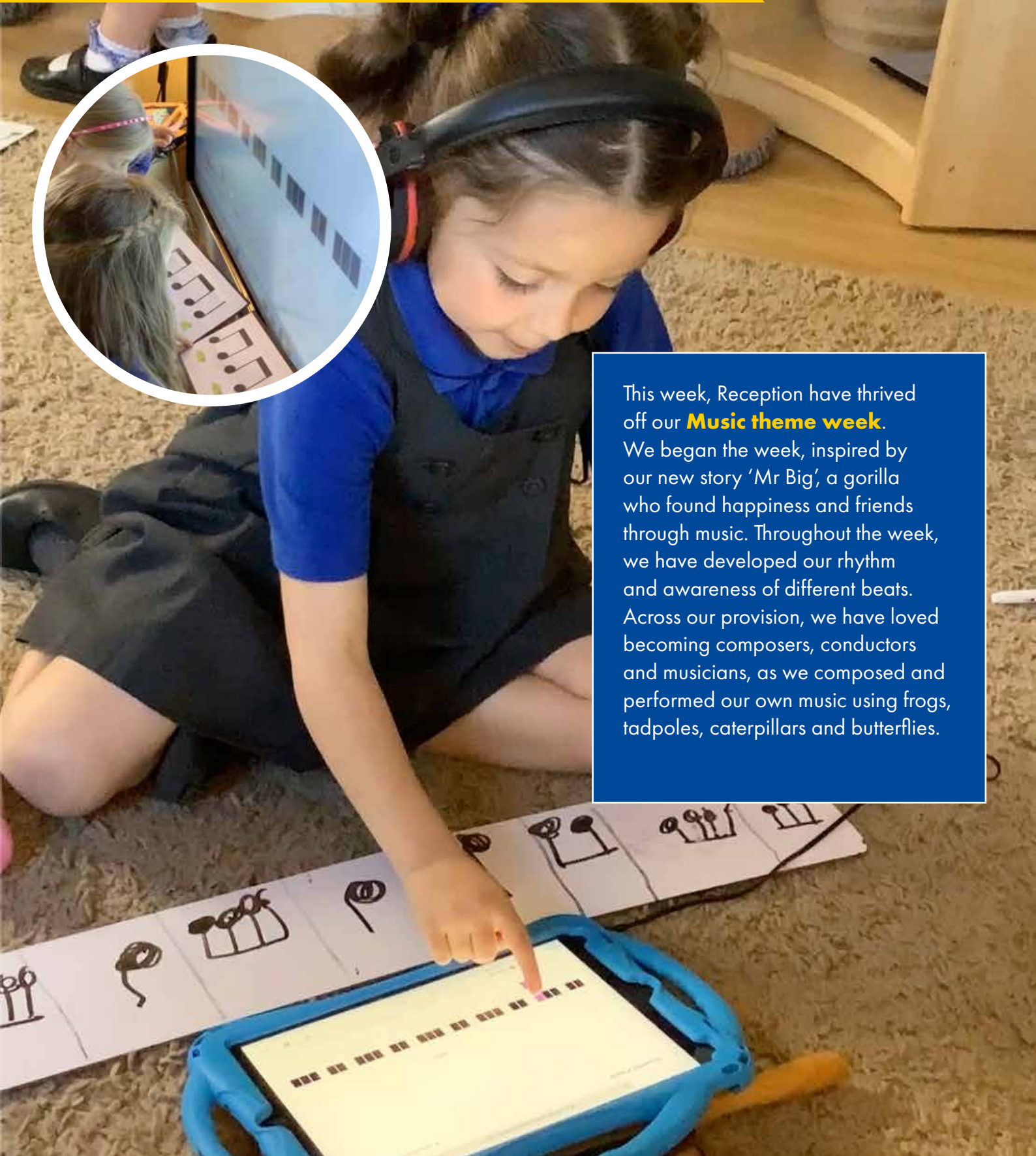


Reception have had a wonderful Spring term, full of magical memories and incredible learning. This half term the children have demonstrated such inquisitiveness and intrigue into our theme '**Under the sea**'. Over the last two weeks, we have enjoyed reading 'The lighthouse keeper's lunch' and completing our projects on lighthouses and clay sculptures. We are eagerly looking forward to our aquarium workshop on Tuesday 22nd April.

In **Maths**, we have explored representing the number 9 and 10. Throughout the week, we have created number sentences to represent different combinations of adding groups and even used the commutative process to switch the groups around.

Our **phonics reading** journeys are flying and we are so proud of the progress all our children are making! Please continue to practice daily reading and sounds over the Easter holidays.

RECEPTION



This week, Reception have thrived off our **Music theme week**. We began the week, inspired by our new story 'Mr Big', a gorilla who found happiness and friends through music. Throughout the week, we have developed our rhythm and awareness of different beats. Across our provision, we have loved becoming composers, conductors and musicians, as we composed and performed our own music using frogs, tadpoles, caterpillars and butterflies.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1



Exploring the stories of Paddington and The Robot and the Bluebird has made for an excellent term in Year 1. The children's learning attitudes are continuing to grow and flourish; we have especially appreciated learning more outside the classroom as the weather has improved too! Last week we were even treated to a visit to the **Magical outdoor library** to read outside!

In **English**, we have loved drafting and publishing our robot descriptive writing, using adjectives and similes to create a picture for the reader. These look beautiful and will be made into our Year 1 Robot magazine which we will place on our bookshelf.

For the past fortnight, we have been very busy at the **D&T** table. After designing our robots, we have enjoyed making them using the tools and materials. We have been building up to this moment for a few weeks so it has been lovely to observe the excitement!

Year 1 have immersed themselves into the **music theme week** this week. The children enjoyed creating the rhythm of our class song "Round and round" using the language of frogs and tadpoles. We have also enjoyed, and excelled at, composing our own rhythms using our bodies as percussion; we spent time reading each other's and practised performing these too!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



What a fantastic Spring term we have had in Year 2. The children have already been on a fantastic learning journey so far and are making such incredible progress. It was brilliant to share this with you all in person during parents evening.

In **Maths**, we have started our new unit on 'Mass and Capacity.' We have explored different ways to measure mass in grams and kilograms as well as using scales to compare mass.

For **English**, we were so excited to receive a book delivery all the way from Africa! Sunny the meerkat sent us his book of 'Meerkat Mail' which has inspired our postcard writing. We have recounted our trip of Wakefield Cathedral to help start our planning.

This week, we have loved our **music theme week**. We started the week by learning music notation and practicing different ways in which we can clap to a beat. From this, we composed our own scores to link in with our song 'Music in our soul.' We trialled our composition pieces and discussed that we should focus on using two different ones in our instrumental. Using different percussion instruments we then performed and recorded our song. We are so proud of it!

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3

Year 3 have worked incredibly hard this spring term and are thriving in all aspects of their learning. In Literacy, they have been improving their oracy skills through lively debates on whether animals should be kept in captivity. Their persuasive arguments and confident speaking have been impressive, as well as their turn taking and listening skills.



In **maths**, the children have been developing their understanding of capacity and volume. Using jugs and water, they have been measuring and counting intervals on a scale, improving their practical and problem-solving skills.

During **Science** lessons, they have been experimenting with light to explore how shadows are formed and how different materials reflect light, making exciting discoveries along the way.

Their enthusiasm extends beyond core subjects as well. In Spanish, they are becoming more fluent with their greetings and colours, showcasing their growing language skills. During **DT** lessons, the children have been designing and constructing photo frames. The final products were excellent, they used lots of attention to detail when adding final touches.

Music week has been a highlight, where they enjoyed playing the ukulele and composing their own instrumentals to accompany our class song, Can't Stop the Learning. It has been a fantastic term, and we can't wait to see what they achieve next!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



What a fantastic half term we have had! It has flown by and the children have demonstrated fantastic learning attitudes throughout the curriculum.

In **English**, we are looking at acrostic poetry to end our amazing unit on the Rainforest. The children have written beautiful vocabulary and are trying to include different technical vocabulary such as alliteration and onomatopoeia.

In **Maths**, the children have impressed us so much with their knowledge on decimals. They have used place value counters to aid their understanding and have impressed with their reasoning and problem solving.

We were very fortunate to go and visit a Gurdwara last week in Leeds as part of our Sikhism unit in **RE**. The children showed great respect and enthusiasm for the religion as they were taught how Sikhs prayed, the activities that they do at the Gurdwara and were even lucky enough to try some food which they kindly brought us.



It was brilliant to hear our children's knowledge being applied. This was a fantastic trip which the children enjoyed so much!

The children have enjoyed composing their own music during this **Music Week**. We have been so excited composing our own music and learning about the value of notes and how to write these onto a staff. We are so eager to share our final performance!

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5

Year 5 have had a busy fortnight, and we have especially enjoyed **Music Week!**

In **English**, we have been focussing on poetry. We have learnt how to use similes, metaphors, personification and alliteration to make our writing engaging. Our poems are all about a snow forest, inspired by our core text, 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear'.

In **Maths**, we have been focusing on adding decimals with tenths, hundredths and thousandths. Moving forward, we will strive to find equivalent fractions and decimals.

In **History**, we have been writing essays to showcase all of our fantastic knowledge about the Romans. We then Year 5's enthusiasm and understanding of the Romans have blown us away.

Year 5 have been enjoying their bread unit in **DT**. They particularly enjoyed evaluating existing products. Testing 4 different breads, we rated them based on taste, smell, texture, size and appearance. We have designed our loafs of bread and are looking forward to making these next term.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Year 6 have had an excellent end to the Spring term – we are proud of how hard you have worked! A highlight of this was seeing all of our class proudly exhibiting their achievements at Parents' Evening through their own personally created presentations!

In **Maths**, we have been learning about angles in triangles and polygons. We have applied these skills within reasoning problems and are now starting to revise different areas from the curriculum.

In **Writing**, we have written letters in role from the perspective of passengers on the HMT Windrush. These were full of emotion and captured the thoughts of people who were on board – using evidence from previous history lessons.

During our **Music Theme Week**, we have learnt the lyrics to La Bamba and improvised and composed our own music using a range of instruments. We have also produced a video showcasing our outcomes of the week to be shared with the rest of the school.

KEY DATES

SATs Week - Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May - breakfast will be provided on these days – more information will be sent closer to the time

Last booster clubs week commencing Tuesday 6th May.

Highlights of the Week from X

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 3m
Year 3 have enjoyed sharing our musical talents this week. We proudly performed to an audience and loved cheering on our classmates. 🎵🎶
[@music_jca](#)



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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 4h
Year 6 have enjoyed watching a preview of our videos that we are going to share to celebrate our hard work and achievements in Music Theme Week! Well done to everyone and thank you to our instrumentalists for sharing your skills #JCAMusic



You reposted
JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · 18h
Reception have been immersed in Music and have enjoyed exploring and experimenting with composition in their play. We have become composers, musicians and conductors. 🎵🎶 @music_jca @JCAWakefield #MusicWeek #EYFS



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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 21h
Year 2 have fully immersed themselves into our music theme week so far! We have looked at clapping to different beats and representing these as symbols and then adding on the music notation @music_jca



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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 23h
Super composition from Year 1 today, so that we can use our bodies to create different rhythms! @music_jca



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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)
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

