

# Accomplishing great things at JCA



## Well done to our Year 6 children!

Firstly, a huge well done to all of our Year 6 children who have completed their SATs tests this week. They have worked so hard all year and approached the week so calmly and confidently; they were all a credit to the school. It has also been lovely to see the caring nature of the rest of the children in school. I have heard so many kind words of encouragement towards our Year 6 children throughout the week!

*Please see within the newsletter the exciting learning that has been happening across the school within the last 2 weeks.*



Next week, we celebrate our **Creative Arts Week**.

The Trust-wide theme for this year is 'The World Through My Eyes'. As ever, we look forward to sharing our work throughout the week on Twitter. A reminder that our Creative Arts Gallery is on Wednesday 11th June from 5:30pm.

# 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>98.90%</b>	96.40%
YEAR 1	<b>99.30%</b>	96.10%
YEAR 2	<b>98.10%</b>	95.90%
YEAR 3	<b>98.90%</b>	95.00%
YEAR 4	<b>98.10%</b>	97.30%
YEAR 5	<b>98.10%</b>	96.50%
YEAR 6	<b>99.60%</b>	95.60%

<b>97.40%</b>	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
<b>96.10%</b>	ACTUAL

**97% +**  
AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

**BELOW 95%**  
CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

**90% & BELOW**  
PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN



# RECEPTION

## Circle of life

Reception are continuing to demonstrate such intrigue and inquisitiveness into our theme 'Circle of Life'. They have sustained their own projects to follow their lines of enquiry, particularly following tractors, milking animals and animal offspring. Outside, children have been creating their own large-scale animals to milk and organising their own farm into different pens.

## What the ladybird heard

After exploring 'The Little Green Hen', this week our core text was 'What The Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson. Reception loved the key phrases from the story and particularly enjoyed the main characters, 'Hefty Hugh' and 'Lanky Len'. In our writing areas, we have created story maps and written our favourite parts of the story

## Phonics

Reception are thriving in phonics with their sounds and blending. They are striving to read their set 1 special friends (th, sh, ch, ng, nk, qu) and read them in words. Please continue to focus on these sounds in their sound books for home reading. Each week, we change books on a Tuesday. All children will then come home with a new ditty sheet, red or green book, in their reading folder.





# RECEPTION

### Maths

After becoming experts on 2D and 3D shapes, we are now striving with our teen numbers. Using our sentence stems, we have investigated how many tens and ones a teen number has to help us spot patterns with 2-digit numbers.

### PE

This half term, Reception have loved their P.E lessons outside in the sunshine! They have been developing their throwing and catching skills, hand eye coordination and balance.



### Creative Arts week

Next week, the whole school, and trust, will be celebrating Creative Arts week. As mentioned in Library and on ParentMail, we would appreciate if every child could bring in a photo of their special place by Monday 19th May. Their special place could be their house, a holiday destination, a sports club, religious place of worship, a relative's home etc. Photos could be a printed copy or emailed to school via [jcainfo@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:jcainfo@jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk) with FAO Mrs Johnson as the subject.



# YEAR 1

Year 1 had a wonderful day at the **Yorkshire Wildlife Park** on Thursday! We enjoyed walking around observing different animals and talking about their habitats. As part of our visit, we also had a workshop where we learned all about the different adaptations a polar bear has to survive in the Arctic! It was a fantastic day and we were all so proud of the children's behaviour and inquisitiveness!

In **English**, we have started to retell our core text: Leaf, in our own storytelling voice. We have enjoyed using vocabulary from the original story to develop this; we are also striving to use conjunctions to include longer sentences!

We have enjoyed exploring length, height, mass and capacity in **Maths**. This has included lots of practical learning and listening to stories to develop our understanding. This week, we have taken part in lots of capacity challenges outside which has been lots of fun, in the sun!





# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 2



The weeks are flying by in our Summer term! Year 2 continue to be enthralled by our theme 'How can adverse weather cause change?'

In **Maths**, we have continued our learning on Fractions. We have been exploring fractions of amounts and using sentence stems to explain our working. We have then deepened this by comparing unit and non-unit fractions.

In **English**, we have been exploring our core text of 'The Great Fire of London' to help inspire us for our new genre on poetry. We have focussed on using alliteration and similes for effect as well as noting down key words for our WAGOLL. We cannot wait to begin writing our poems and publishing these!

In **DT**, we have enjoyed creating our spring pop-up cards! We have practised our skills of levers and sliders and used these to help us plan our design. We loved bring these pop-up cards to life.

In **PE**, we have loved learning the skills of javelin. Practising our technique of running up and arm positions to propel the javelin forwards.



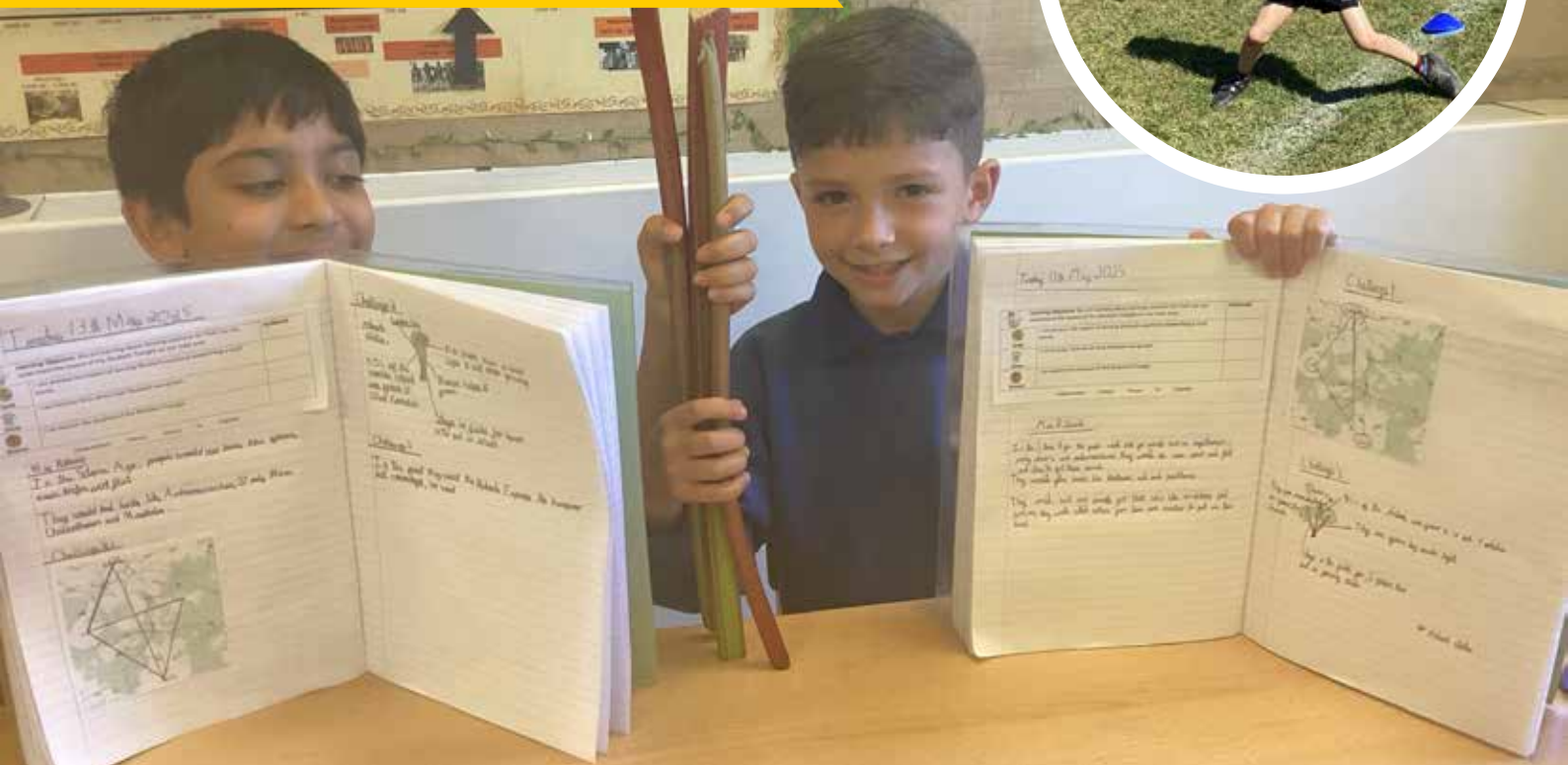
### KEY DATES

**Visit to Emergency Services Museum-  
Wednesday 4th June**



## Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# YEAR 3



In Year 3, our theme 'The Great Outdoors' has inspired a wide range of exciting and meaningful learning opportunities. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm as we have explored local history, studied different types of land use in **Geography**, and developed key skills in **Maths** and **English**. Through hands-on activities, engaging discussions, and creative tasks, the children have been making strong cross-curricular connections while deepening their understanding of the world around them.

In **Maths**, we have been learning all about money. The children have been practising how to add and subtract amounts, convert between pounds and pence, and solve real-life problems involving shopping scenarios and budgeting.

In **Writing**, we are drafting persuasive letters based on the book 'Charlotte's Web'. The children are writing to Mr Arable to convince him to keep Wilbur. They have been learning how to use

persuasive techniques such as rhetorical questions, emotive language, and strong arguments to make their writing more powerful and convincing.

Our **History** lessons have focused on the fascinating story of the Rhubarb Triangle and the tradition of rhubarb growing in Wakefield. The children researched a local family involved in the rhubarb trade and were captivated by how farming practices have evolved over time. This work linked closely with our **Geography** topic, where we explored different types of land use and compared various kinds of farms.

In P.E., we've also been enjoying time outdoors as we develop our athletic skills, particularly javelin and shotput. It's been a fantastic term full of discovery, creativity, and outdoor fun!

### KEY DATES

**The Big Strum at Wakefield Cathedral**  
**Tuesday 17th June**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 4

What a fantastic couple of weeks we have had, enjoying learning in the sunshine! The children have shown great determination in all of their learning and we are so impressed with their attitudes and eagerness.

In **Maths**, we have been mastering decimals. We can now partition, add, subtract and convert decimals. This has been a new and challenging unit for the children but they have taken on the challenge and succeeded in understanding the strategies needed.

In **English**, we have been writing a diary entry as if we were one of the Railway children going to the railway station to watch the steam trains. The children have used amazing expanded noun phrases, time adverbials and written in first person. We are excited to share our final published pieces.

In **Geography**, the children have enjoyed taking part in some field work. They used a map of the school to identify different trees on the school field. We then plotted these on to the map and wrote down the four figure grid reference.

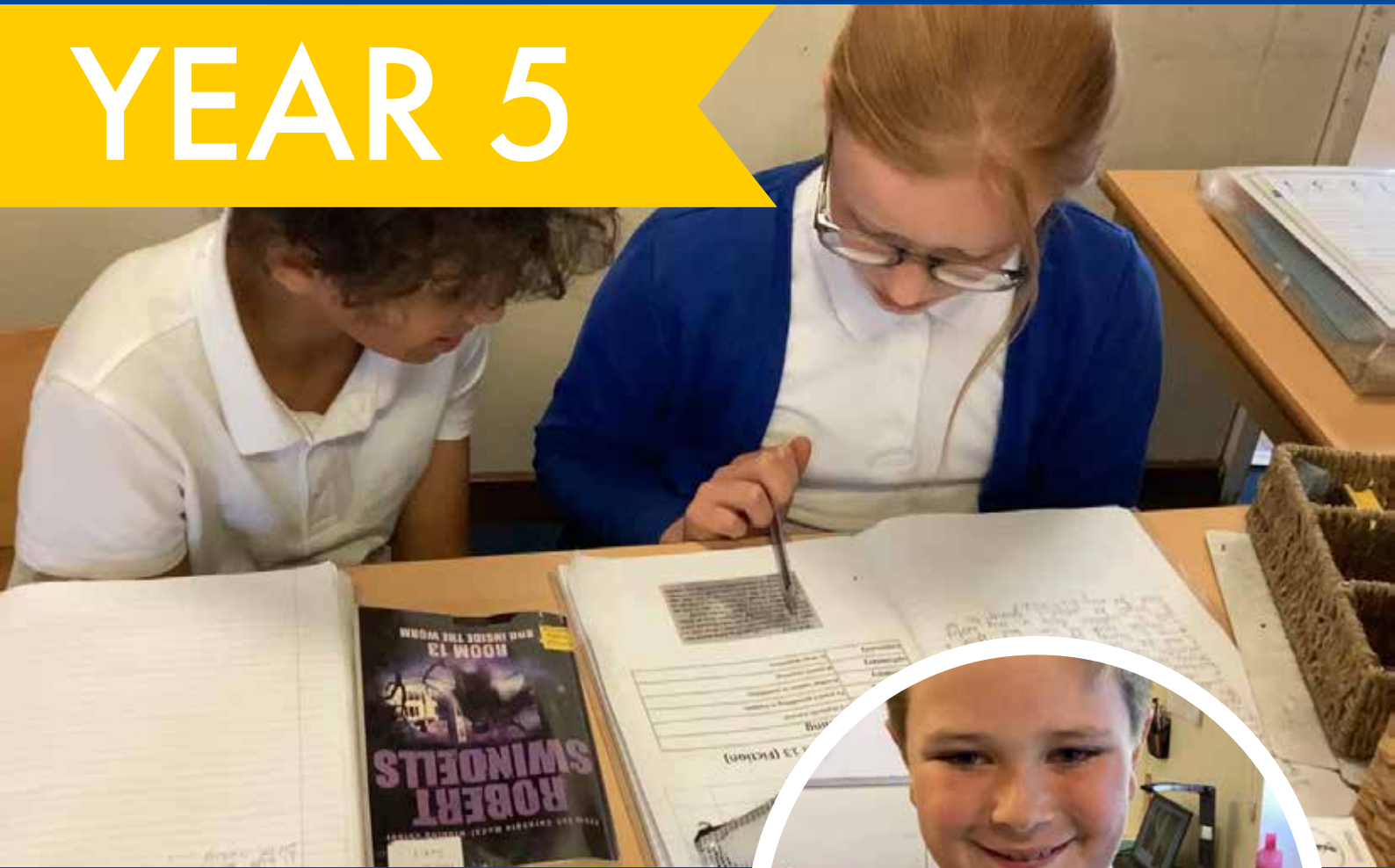
In **Art/DT** we are beginning the process of creating our own cushion. This week we conducted some market research to understand what type of design would appeal to different people.





## Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# YEAR 5



Our brilliant Year 5 pupils have been absolute stars this term! They have truly shone in all their learning, demonstrating fantastic enthusiasm and curiosity. Their passion for our current space topic has been out of this world, with engaging discussions, creative projects, and a real thirst for knowledge about the topic. We're so proud of their stellar efforts!

In **English**, we are writing an adventure story set in space. We have planned fantastic stories, which follow the structure of opening, build up, climax, resolution and ending. We are focussing on our sentence structure to help us include longer descriptive sentences as well as short sentences to create tension and suspense. We look forward to sharing these with you!

In **Maths**, we have started our new topic, diving into perimeter and area. The children have shown great determination and teamwork to calculate complex reasoning problem.

In **Art**, we have created mood boards and landscapes inspired by Max Ernst. We used collage to highlight background and foreground.

In **History**, we have been studying the life of the famous astronaut, Mae Jemison. We have looked at the key events in her life and created a timeline to show these.

### KEY DATES

**London Residential Meeting**  
**Tuesday 3rd June**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 6



Year 6 have shown great learning attitudes the past few weeks. Lots of time outdoors in the sunshine! The children have shone as bright as ever during SATS week and they have worked really hard. We are so very proud of them all!

In **English**, we have been continuing to focus on our reading, covering a range of genres to help us when answering different question types. We have also been making the most of the sunny weather and having plenty of time to read for pleasure. We had a Book Book session where we used a book cover and blurb to ask and answer questions about what the story could be about.

In **Maths**, the children have been working together to calculate arithmetic questions and explaining the methods they have been using. We have been revisiting and revising fractions, decimals and percentages, using these skills in multi- step problems making sure we checked our calculations carefully.



In **History**, we have continued learning about the Tudor period. We looked at the social hierarchy at the time and how crime and punishments were decided. The children were very inquisitive about what punishments were classed as minor or severe.

In **RE**, we looked at individual commitments that the children have and how they impact them. Some really great discussions about how they rank their commitments differently to each other and why.

### KEY DATES

**Residential meeting**  
**Monday 2nd June at 5.30pm**

**Castleton Residential**  
**Monday 23rd -Thursday 26th June**



# Highlights of the Week from X

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 10h**  
Wonderful to see some wonderful accomplishments from Reception as we place them on the Accomplishing great things board to show everyone in our community space 🌟



2 9 324

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · 14h**  
What a fabulous day Year 1 have had @YorkshireWP 🌟🌟🌟



28 370

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · May 13**

Year 3 have been learning about our local area in History. We found out about the history of The Rhubarb Triangle. We looked at how farming of rhubarb has changed overtime and how it was transported. The children were overflowing with facts! @HistoryJCA #rhubarbtriangle



1 11 417

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · May 13**  
In Geography, Year 4 have enjoyed taking part in some fieldwork to locate and identify different trees around our playground. They then plotted these onto a four figure grid and wrote the coordinates down for others to find 🌳 @JCA\_Geography #fieldwork



3 11 842

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · May 12**

Fun in the sun in our Year 1 outdoor provision - Science, Maths, Writing and Reading challenges!



16 492

**Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · May 12**  
Wow, what a team! 🌟. A fabulous start to the week! This afternoon, Year 6 have enjoyed some reading time in the sunshine, experimenting and exploring colour and shape in artwork and finished off the day using Blooket to retrieve our knowledge on the Tudors.



1 22 1.1K

# 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)

