

Accomplishing great things at JCA



Looking ahead to Summer 2!

This week has been a fantastic first week back in school! It has been brilliant to see children's enthusiasm across the curriculum, and in particular, Year 2's enthusiasm after their trip to the Emergency Services Museum!

We have also been busy preparing for next week's **Creative Arts Gallery** which you are welcome to attend from 5:30pm on Wednesday 11th June – we look forward to seeing you there.

Please find information about the learning in each class throughout the rest of this newsletter.

We also have some fantastic news to share that Mrs Johnson is expecting her first child in September! A huge congratulations go to Mrs Johnson and her family!

From September, Miss Harling will be the Reception Class Teacher and we look forward to meeting our new Reception families at our New Starters Meeting on Monday evening. We will announce other staffing updates and class teachers for next year in due course; we are very lucky to have a staff with expertise working across different year groups!



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	92.20%	96.20%
YEAR 1	97.00%	96.00%
YEAR 2	93.30%	95.80%
YEAR 3	94.80%	94.90%
YEAR 4	94.40%	97.00%
YEAR 5	96.70%	96.30%
YEAR 6	93.30%	95.30%

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

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



After an incredible **Creative Arts** week and a restful half term, Reception have returned striving higher than ever for their final half term. This half term we have sparked our new learning from our theme '**miniature worlds**' with a focus on minibeast. Following the children's interest, we have started to investigate minibeast with multiple legs and how something so small can fly, leading to our 'wings' project.

Our core text this week is '**Mad about minibeasts**'. The children have loved exploring all types of minibeasts, some more well know and others more obscure. They have started their investigations on different types of minibeasts and have particularly enjoyed constructing their own minibeasts throughout their play.



RECEPTION

In **Maths**, we have created minibeast maths stories to explore addition. Using sentence stems 'first', 'then' and 'next', the children have started to create their own minibeast math stories to represent and write addition number sentences.

This week, we enjoyed a mindful **yoga** session to learn new breathing techniques and also extend our repertoire of yoga poses!

In our **PE** sessions, we have enjoyed practicing a range of Olympic sports before preparing for our own Sports Day!



KEY DATES

Creative Arts gallery
Wednesday 11th June

Sports day
Friday 20th June (am)

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

Year 1 enjoyed a very **creative Arts** week before the half term! We explored the theme "The World through my eyes" as a class, considering who, where and what is important to us. We also enjoyed looking at the work of different artists, creating our own paint brushes like our artist and using similar techniques to them to create a landscape.

In **English**, we have been working on a poem all about our beautiful place. We have edited this so that it is beautiful, using adjectives to describe our place and it is almost ready to showcase at our Creative arts gallery on Wednesday 11th June.

We are all flying with our **phonics** learning at the moment! We are striving with our word challenges, and have been using our reading routine of "Special friends, fred talk, read the word" to support each other during phonics games and provision.

We have enjoyed exploring volume and capacity in **Maths** in our water area outside. We have started to learn about equal groups and arrays this week, to support our understanding of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, and how this linked to multiplication.



KEY DATES

Phonics screening check
w/c 9th June

Outdoor learning afternoon
Tuesday 10th June

Art gallery
Wednesday 11th June



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2

Wow! What an incredible start to the final Summer term! Year 2 have had an amazing week brimming with exciting learning and the children have been striving higher than ever!

As part of our theme, we started the half term with an excellent visit to the **National Emergency Services Museum**. It was an amazing opportunity to explore the journey of our emergency services and extend our understanding of the Great Fire of London. The NESM team were blown away by Year Two's knowledge and their enthusiasm. A huge thank you also to our volunteers for supporting us on our visit! We are so lucky to have a supportive community!

In **Maths**, we have started our new unit of time! This week, we have developed our understanding of the different hands on the clock to be able to read and draw the time at o'clock and half past. Our knowledge of fractions have helped us with this too!

In **PE**, we have loved practicing for Sports Day! Using the track to practice our races of egg and spoon as well as the three legged race.

We have, of course, also been striving to create our wonderful **Art Gallery** as part of our whole school celebration of 'Branching Out'. It has been key to reconnect with our well-being through Art and we were so proud to be able to share it with you at our Art Gallery!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3



Year 3 have made a fantastic start to the final half term of the school year, showing real determination and enthusiasm in all areas of learning. The children have returned with positive attitudes and a commitment to doing their very best, which has been wonderful to see.

We've particularly enjoyed exploring our local area, diving into the fascinating **history of Wrenthorpe** and discovering how Potovens got its name. Our learning has taken us back in time as we looked at the village's pottery heritage and the impact it had on the community.

In **English**, we have been busy finalising our poems inspired by Creative Arts Week. The theme, "The World Through Our Eyes," gave the children a chance to express their unique perspectives and creativity through descriptive language and thoughtful imagery. It has been lovely to see the pride they've taken in their work and the powerful messages their poems convey.

We've also been keeping active in **P.E**, with lots of excitement building as we prepare for sports day. The children have been practising their relay races and the egg and spoon event, showing great teamwork and perseverance.

In **maths**, our focus has shifted to learning about time. We've begun by revisiting Roman numerals up to 12 and are now learning to tell the time to the nearest five minutes- an important and practical skill. Well done, Year 3, for all your hard work so far!

KEY DATES

Ukulele Big Strum at Wakefield Cathedral
Tuesday 17th June

Great Yorkshire Show
Tuesday 8th July

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4

What a fantastic first week back we have had! The children have come back eager and ready to learn for our last half term in Year 4!

In **English**, we have discovered our new core text 'Sherlock Holmes' by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. This has sparked interest in our class and the children are keen to read the other books which have all the cases he has to try and solve.

In **Maths**, the children have developed on their knowledge of decimals to work with money. They have added, subtracted and problem solved to master this unit.

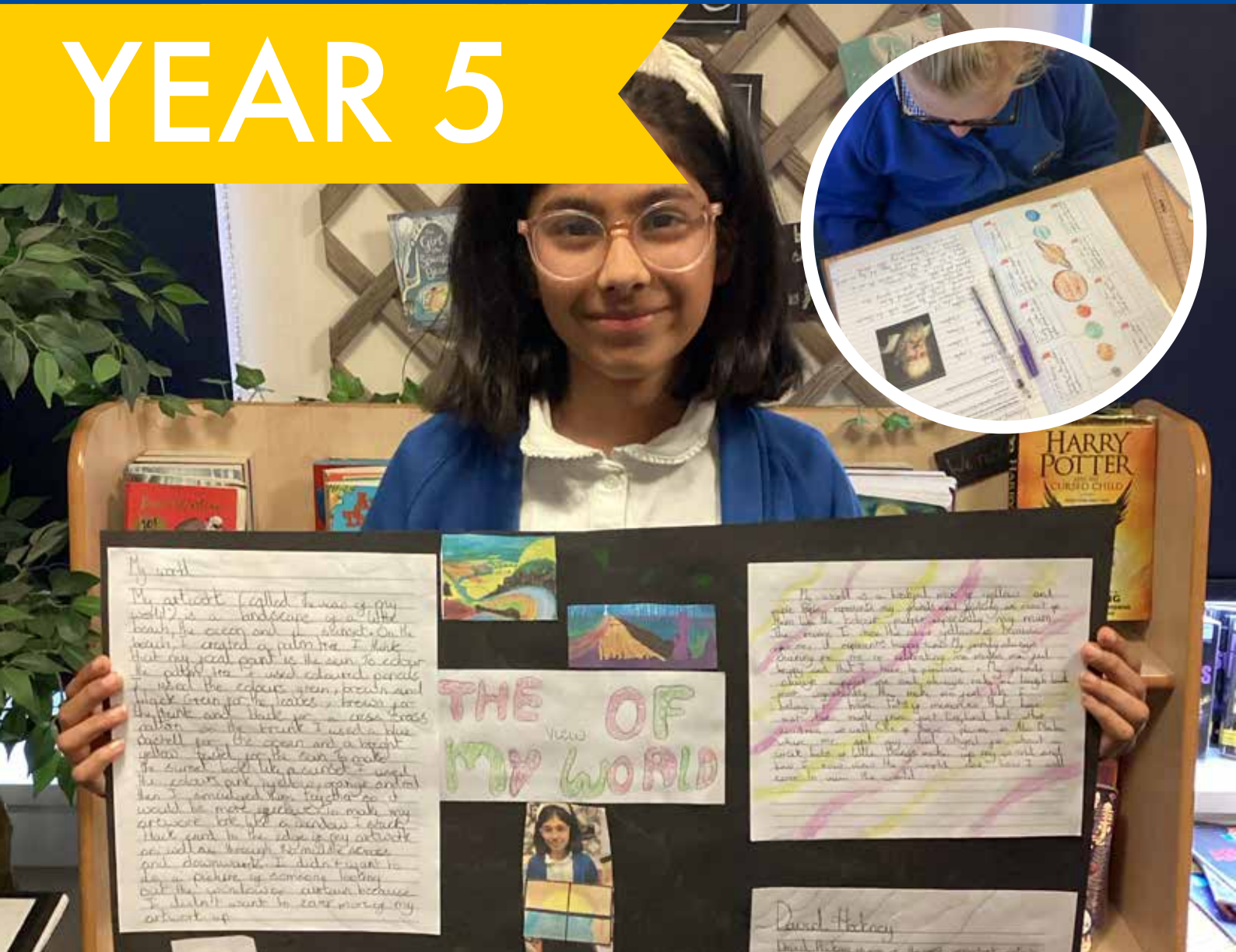
In **History**, tying in with our theme of the term, 'Grand Designs', the children have learned about the invention of canals and their use for trade in the country during the Industrial Revolution. They then discussed and debated who was most impacted, roleplaying different important people from the time.

In **Art**, we have loved being inspired by our focus artist, William Morris, to create our final designs for our printing. We then practised the skill of using the polystyrene tiles to engrave different floral patterns to ensure our design would look effective when we create our final piece. We are so excited to start creating these next week!



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



Year 5 shone throughout **Creative Arts** Week! We thought about how we see the world and what is important to us. As a class, we were inspired by the work of David Hockney and were influenced by his artwork when creating our landscapes.

The children have had a great week back and demonstrated an eagerness to dive into our topic, 'A life through a lens'.

In **English**, we have drafted, edited and published our adventure stories set in Space. Moving forward, we are learning the features used in an information text and are keen to create our own. We have also enjoyed our reading lessons, especially working in pairs to annotate the text.

In **Maths**, we began our 'Statistics' unit. The class have been super excited to start this unit with many of them stating how confident they feel and it is their favourite unit yet! It is great to see children so engaged and enjoying their Maths.

In **Science**, we have been learning about the famous astronomer, Galileo Galilei. We researched his life, discussed the importance of his discoveries and wrote an explanation detailing the impact of his work.

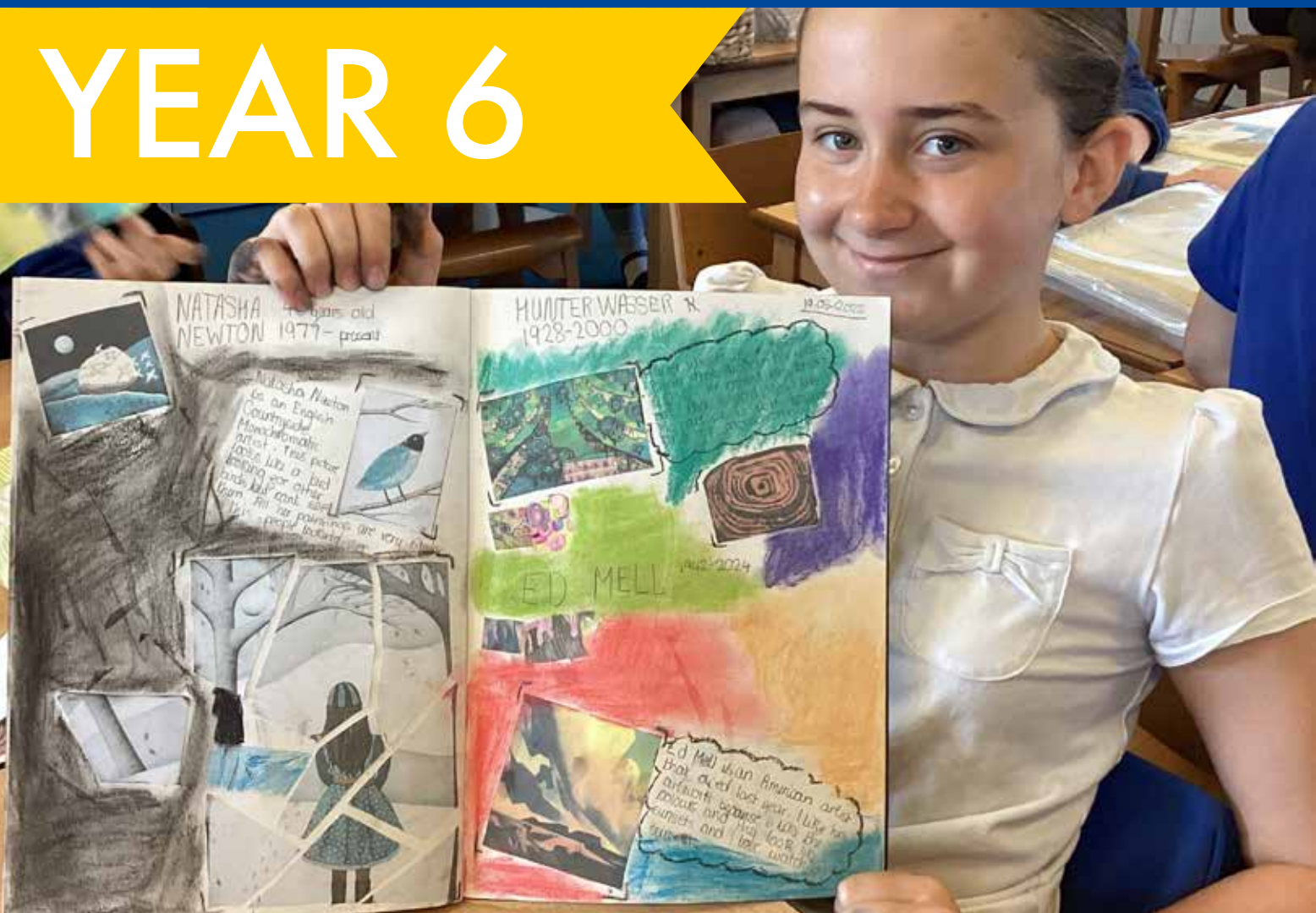
KEY DATES

London Residential
Monday 16th – Tuesday 17th

Mini Triathlon
Wednesday 25th June

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



Before the half term, Year 6 embraced our **Creative Arts** Week exploring our theme "The World through my eyes." We thought carefully about things in our lives that are important to us and how we could express and include these in a landscape art piece. Our work included a variety of artist inspiration where we looked at colour, shape and mood to consider what would work well in our own individual pieces. The children have worked incredibly hard on these and are looking forward to showcasing these at our gallery.

In **English**, we have begun our core text 'The Tempest' delving into the world of Shakespeare. We have used the beginning of the text to identify the key characters and their relationship to one another. From this, we have explored the use of figurative language in the opening scene where Prospero conjures a storm. We used the storm scene to create personification sentences and our own poems called Prospero's Spell.

In **Maths**, JCA holiday tours have begun. Over the next few weeks, the children will be looking at holiday destinations and deciding on where their ideal holiday would be. This week, we have focused on using our statistic skills to help with our choices. We have needed to read and interpret climate and rainfall graphs and then research our own destinations to find a place we think we would enjoy! Next we will explore the distance and time it takes to get to our places using our conversion skills.

In **RE**, we have explored the Islamic faith focusing on the Five Pillars of Islam. We looked at what each of the pillars mean and how they are ordered. We discussed the meaning of the Ummah and why it is important to Muslims.

KEY DATES

Castleton Residential
Monday 23rd -Thursday 26th June

Highlights of the Week from X



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

