



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 1: Friday 16th September 2016

Dear Parents

It has been a very busy 2 weeks here at JCA! All of the children have settled into the year ahead with determination and perseverance. Our new children have settled so well. We are very proud of them.

Volunteers

Would you like to help in school? Would you like to listen to readers? Can you spare an hour or two per week? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, we would like to hear from you. Please let our academy office know. We would be delighted to gain more volunteers.

Attendance & holidays

We were so pleased with the attendance last year. We finished the year achieving 97.4% , which places us in the top 5% of schools in the UK for attendance. This was achieved through working so well together. It was also mirrored in the excellent learning which took place last year. We are starting to see a lot of holidays during term time creeping in! Please know that we cannot authorise holidays during term time. See the link below as a representation of attendance percentages and what they mean. Please help us to be the best that we can be.

Follow this link on our website to find out more about attendance at JCA:

<http://www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Attendance-statistics.pdf>

Dates for the year ahead

Please see the final page of this newsletter for all future dates. Please note that this list is not exhaustive and individual parent work shops, school trips and additional events will be added as we progress throughout the year. We feel that it is important to share all major events so that you don't miss these. You should have all received a small date card, as a handy reminder for your purse of wallet. If you didn't get one, please ask at the academy office.

INSET Day– Friday 23rd September

Please be reminded that we will be having a staff training day with an external trainer and 6 other local schools on Friday 23rd September. The academy will be closed to children on Friday 23rd September.

Communication from school will be sent via email on Thursday 22nd September.

Kind regards,

Mrs Swinburne

www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk

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Junior Leadership Team

Information Section

Thank you so much for supporting your child in making an application to be part of the Junior Leadership Team (if your child is in Y3,4,5 or 6). The deadline for applications was today. We have received a lot of applications and we are looking forward to reviewing them. We like to make the application process as fair as possible. For House Captains, School Council and Ambassador roles, the children will have an opportunity to present to each class. Junior Leader roles will be selected to present to children and then shortlisted to present to the Headteacher and our Governors.

The Junior Leadership Team play a vital role in helping to shape the direction of our academy. We will announce our new members once presentations and interviews have taken place.

Extra-Curricular Update

Our extra-curricular programme has started for the new academic year. We are once again very pleased with the selection of clubs on offer. We do still have places available for Year 1 & 2 recorders or Year 3 & 4 Music and Ukulele club. If your child is interested in a place at these clubs, please let our reception know.

Open morning for new children

We will be holding our annual Open Morning on **Saturday 12th November, 10am-12pm**. Please let any friends or family members know that we will be holding this. We are very proud that JCA is now an oversubscribed school. Equally, we are very proud of our academy and always enjoy the opportunity to show our academy to others. It is important that parents have a chance to see if JCA is right for their child, have an opportunity to chat with staff members and view our excellent educational facilities.

Special Mentions

Special mentions of the week are awarded to pupils whom teachers felt have really stood out during the week for demonstrating excellent Jerry Clay Learner traits and a fantastic attitude to their learning, consistently being the 'best that they can be' every day. Well done!

Special Mentions for Friday 9th & 16th September 2016

Reception– Thomas Cooney

Year 1– Tyler-James Asquith & Erin Pudsey

Year 2– Luke Ibbetson & Erin Pudsey

Year 3– Isaac Sellars & Jake Ward

Year 4– Spencer Denning & Harriet Burrows

Year 5– Jack Bentley & Abeeha Zahoor

Year 6– Milly Trei & Emily Gaskin

Well done to all of our Special Mentions for consistently 'striving to be the best they can be'.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Foundation Stage

Please open the separate Foundation Stage letter for news about what has been happening in our Reception class.

Year 1

Year 1 have made an excellent start to the year and have settled really quickly into routines and expectations. All the children are really striving to be the best that they can be!

Our topic for this half term is 'Toys Through Time'. We have already been comparing our toys to toys and games from the past and have set up a toy shop role-play area in the focus room. We have been working on writing sentences using punctuation and wow words. In Maths, we have been working on place value, one more and one less than numbers up to 20!

Miss Mitchell &

Mrs Ward



Year 2

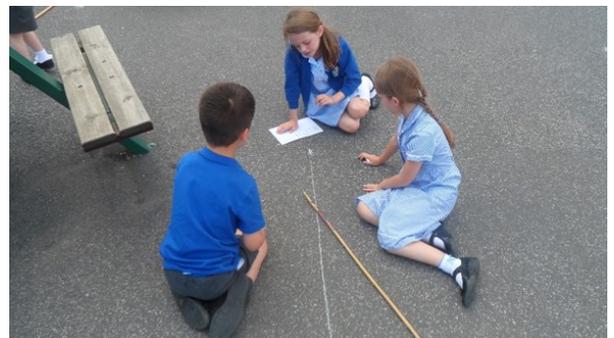
Year 2 have made a fantastic start to the year! They have shown a great attitude and have settled into the routines very well.

We have started our topic, 'Toys Through Time' and have already started to think about what it must have been like playing with toys from the past. In Literacy, we have started to look at our

sentence structure and have been successful in

up-leveiling our work. Place value has been our first unit in Maths – we have been looking at ordering numbers, sequences and greater and less than!

Mr Palin & Mrs Khan



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 3

Year 3 have made a great start to the year, they have settled back into school well and the classroom is always immaculate at the end of the day!

We have started to do work centred around our topic- 'Audio Visual' and had the pleasure of a visit from Andy Sellars (Grace & Isaac's dad), who talked to the children about overcoming the challenges that partially sighted people may face. Thank you Mr Sellars! You were inspirational! In Literacy this half term we are reading Roald Dahl's the BFG and some excellent descriptive work has already been produced, with much more to follow! We have also focussed on place value in Maths, including ordering three digit numbers and adding and subtracting 10 and 100.

Mr Wilcock & Mrs Wilkinson



Year 4

Year 4 have made a great start! They have really impressed us with their super attitudes to learning.

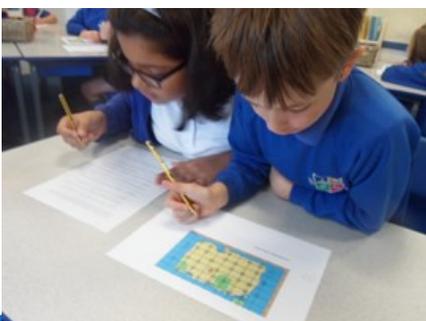
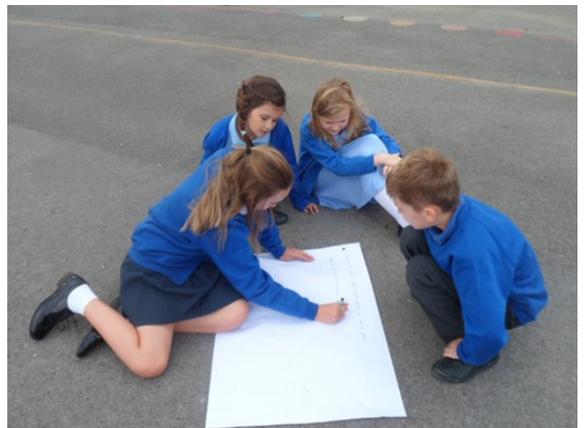
We have started our topic 'Audio visual' by explaining how light allows us to see and by exploring if light can pass through different materials. In literacy we are reading the BFG and we have been using exciting adjectives and similes to describe the BFG and the other gruesome giants. We started off in Maths by learning about Roman Numerals. The children made great progress in a short time, drawing clocks with Roman numerals, working out numbers to 100 (C) and beyond and following a treasure trail to put their knowledge to the test. Well done!



Mrs Elliott & Mrs Hart

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to the new school year! We have fully embraced our new topic 'What's Out There?' finding out about how day and night is created as well as investigating what the Earth looks like from different aerial views and perspectives during Art lessons. We have also been investigating different theories of how the world began. In Literacy, we have been looking at the features of fantasy stories, and in Maths we have been continuing to develop our number skills-reading large numbers and organising them in sequences. A very busy but enjoyable first couple of weeks!



Miss Harling & Mrs Saynor

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

Year 6

The children in Year 6 have come back to school well and are keen to learn. We have started our Action Story genre in Literacy and the children have enjoyed completing some of their work in the Outdoor Learning Area. In Maths we have been looking at the place value of numbers, focussing on the rounding of whole and decimal numbers. We are still working hard on our



times tables and are quickly working through the 'Diamond Dash' challenge sheets. Our topic has started and we enjoyed showing the size differences of the Sun, Moon and Earth using our bodies on the field. We are eagerly awaiting the election of our school leadership team!

Miss Brook & Mrs Smith



Parents Questionnaire

Many thanks to lots of you that completed the parent questionnaire which was in the annual reports. We were very pleased with the extremely positive responses and would like to thank you for the contribution that you are making to help us continually improve our academy. It is important that you keep telling us your opinion so that we can act on any suggestions. Please know that you don't need to wait until the annual questionnaire to give us your opinion or suggestions. At every event you will always be provided with a parent comment card and at every parents evening, you will be asked to complete an evaluation. We also have a suggestion box in the foyer of the academy office where you can post your suggestions. To view the results of our Parent Questionnaire, please follow the link to our website:

<http://www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk/parent-surveys/>



Dates for your diary **2016-17**

December – Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance

Parents Evenings

23/11/16 and 24/11/16 – Parents Evening
29/3/17 and 30/3/17 – Parents Evening

Reports

17/3/17 – Interim reports to parents
14/7/17 – Reports out to parents

Theme Weeks

18/11/16- Global awareness day
wc 10/10/16 - Maths Week
7/02/17-E-safety
2/03/17-World Book Day
03/04/17- Wrenthorpe Week
22/05/17-Creative Arts week
21/06/17 – Art gallery
27th & 29th June – Creative Arts performances
Wb 17th July –Celebration week

SATS Week

Y6 SATS – wc 8/5/17

Performances

8/11/16 – Reception Nativity performance

Workshops

RWI Phonics parents meeting-great for Reception parents- 4th October 9.15am
2/12/16-Reception Christmas activity morning

Sports Day

16/06/17– Sports day
23/06/17-Reserve sports day

Summer Fair

Provisional -1/07/17

Open morning

12/11/17 – Academy open morning

Trips

05/06/17 until 09/06/17– Carlton residential for Year 6 pupils