



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 7- Friday 18th November 2016

Dear Parents

This week has been fabulous! I was particularly impressed by the quality learning which was happening outside for year 3 this week. Year 3 got to spend the day as a Viking with Adam and

Jerome (our outdoor teachers). The learning really highlighted the need for quality, real-life learning opportunities. The children were inspired by their learning and this has continued into some excellent writing in class. This certainly poses the question, how can we expect learning to embed if we do not provide our children with a memorable curriculum? This is something we are passionate about at JCA! Learning should provide our children with experiences that stay with them forever! Primary education should be memory-making! A quote from a pupil in year 3 says it all, "Our Viking day was the best day in my life".



## **Parents evening—Tuesday 22nd & Thursday 24th November**

We look forward to welcoming you all into school next week. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss how well your child is doing in school, looking particularly at areas of strengths and areas for development.

We will be hosting a book fair at the parents evening. The fair will be on the corridor during the two evenings.

## **Fabulous open morning**

Thank you to all our Junior Leaders, Playground Pals and musicians who helped at open morning. We were so proud to

listen to the confident way in which the children spoke to our guests. They demonstrated a real pride for the academy. We are so excited by the journey our academy is going on.



Kind regards,

*Mrs T Swinburne*





## Meet Mrs Nicol, our new Chair of Governors

Welcome to the Governors section of our newsletter. Here you will be able to meet our Governors, and also learn more about what they do and why, and why they are such an important part of our school.

Sue Nicol is our newly appointed Chair of Governors. She has spent her working life in education, teaching in mainstream and special schools, working in Educational Social Work, and having management and leadership roles in secondary schools. Now she is retired, she enjoys bee keeping, planting apple trees in Wrenthorpe Community Orchard, and being part of the exciting, positive community of Jerry Clay Academy.



She looks forward to meeting you at the many Christmas events - Governors all have badges with their names on, so please do come and say hello.

### Attendance

**We have had an excellent week of attendance this week. As you all know, we strive very high to have high attendance all of the time because we know that the more we are at school, the more we learn!**

Reception—93.74%

Year 1-98.22%

Year 2-97.81%

Year 3-95.87%

Year 4-98.17

**Year 5-98.55%**

Year 6-97.02%

**Well done to Year 5 who are currently leading with the highest attendance since September.**

Attendance for the whole school, since September is **97.11%**!

We are aiming for 97.4% this year.

### Special Mentions

Special mentions of the week are awarded to pupils whom teachers feel 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. **This week we are focusing on the caring learner trait.** Well done! To our Special Mentions.

### Special Mentions for 18th November 2016

Reception-Scarlett

Year 1- Evie

Year 2- Ruby E

Year 3- Raine

Year 4- Joshua

Year 5- Kyran

Year 6- Holly

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Foundation Stage

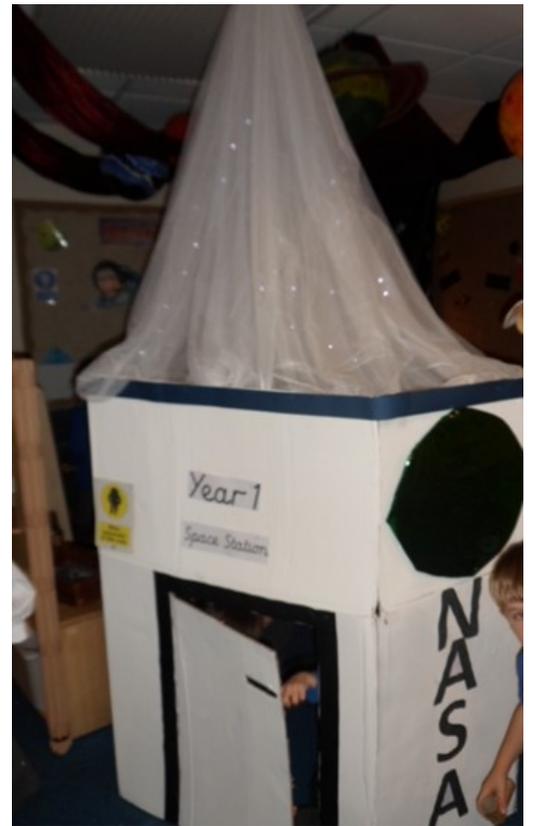
Please see the Foundation Stage letter.

### Year 1

Year 1 have been really busy over the past 2 weeks completing a variety of activities for our alien Orb. We have been able to create and label a map for Orb to show him how we get to school and our different buildings and plants on our planet. The children have also been learning about different kind of plants, labelling different parts and finding them in our school to show our alien.

In Literacy, we have continued with our topic by using adjectives to write a description of our alien Orb. We have produced beautiful sentences with amazing adjectives to describe Orb's appearance, movement and personality.

In Maths we have been learning our number bonds to 10 and practising counting forwards and backwards to 20 so that we can count down our rocket in our JCA space station.



*Miss Mitchell & Mrs Ward*

### Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed completing a variety of tasks to help show our UFO visitor around both Wrenthorpe and the school. We have been able to follow a specific route around school using a map as well as using a key to create our own maps. In art, we are starting to plan a mural to show what is in Wrenthorpe! We have also been looking at aliens in our Literacy work, learning about the story of Beegu. We have created our own alien ready to write a story based around it.

In Maths, we have moved onto looking at data and we are starting to record our own data in different charts.

*Mr Palin & Miss Khan*



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 3

Year 3 have continued their excellent start to the new half term and are producing some outstanding work. In Numeracy we have started to look at Multiplication and Division, using arrays to consolidate our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. In Literacy we have written non-chronological reports about Vikings and have now started to look at newspaper reports, ready to report on events in our class novel, 'The Saga of Erik the Viking.'

In Topic we are building our knowledge of the Vikings, learning about Valhalla and Viking beliefs. We were also lucky enough to have Adam and Jerome working with us this week and experienced a day in the life of a Viking! We used tools to complete jobs that the children would have done, ate Viking stew and also prepared a Warrior called 'Brant' for his journey to Valhalla. This topic is proving thoroughly enjoyable so far due to all the hard work of the children, keep up the good work!



*Mr Wilcock & Mrs Wilkinson*

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 4



Year 4 are fascinated by the Vikings who invaded Britain many years ago. As part of our topic 'Why do we speak English?', we are researching in depth about the Vikings - starting with Viking warriors. We have found out all about their weapons, armour and warfare and have made our own Viking shield as well writing detailed reports about Viking raids and singing a Viking song.



In Maths we have been having a big push on our times tables and division facts and using them to carry out mental calculations. In PE we have developed our work in gymnastics on apparatus using

*Mrs Elliott & Mrs Hart*

## Year 5

Year 5 are engrossed in our new topic 'Never Had It So Good?' where we are on a quest to find out about life in 20<sup>th</sup> century Britain and how our life compares. We particularly enjoyed listening to an air raid siren in Literacy and finding out about the Blitz.

This week, we have written Questionnaires about the Past to find out from Grandparents and Parents about what their life was like growing up. The children are looking forward to discussing these with you in order to develop their understanding of the past from reliable sources!

In Maths, we have been developing our multiplication and division skills using the formal written methods. The children have shown excellent perseverance and are starting to show a good application of their times tables.

*Miss Harling & Mrs Saynor*

## Year 6

Year 6 have been working extremely hard over the past fortnight creating imagery poems based on World War 2 and Remembrance Day. We have looked, in detail, at using personification, metaphors and similes and how this could be used successfully within our own work. The children have all completed some fantastic work and many of them are not proud of place on our Remembrance Day display outside Year 4. In Maths we have been focusing on fractions and although we have found aspects of this difficult, we have really persevered with our learning. We are now able to add, subtract, multiply and divide with fractions. World War 2 is still our focus in topic lessons and we have been focussing on the impact the war had on the lives on children in the UK. Most recently, we have looked at what happened during evacuation and why this was necessary. There have been lots of interesting discussions about the war, leading to some high quality work being produced.

*Miss Brook & Mrs Smith*



Please join us for our



Seasonal Singalong!

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, from 3:30pm

In the School playground.



## **Dates for your diary**

### **2016-17**

#### **Parents Evenings**

22/11/16 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**

7/02/16-E-safety

2/03/16-World Book Day

03/04/16- Wrenthorpe Week

22/05/16-Creative Arts week

21/06/16 – Art gallery

27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June – Creative Arts performances

Wb 17<sup>th</sup> July –Celebration week

#### **SATS Week**

Y6 SATS – wc 8/5/17

#### **Performances**

5/12/16– A magical Christmas night for Reception & Year 1-3.30pm-5pm

8/12/16 – Reception Nativity performance

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
December – Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance

Monday 12th December– Seasonal sing along—3.30pm– all are welcome

#### **Workshops**

2/12/16-Reception Christmas activity morning

#### **Sports Day**

16/06/17– Sports day

23/06/17-Reserve sports day

#### **Summer Fair**

1/07/17

#### **Trips**

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