



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 8 Friday 2nd December 2016

Dear Parents

## Christmas is coming to Jerry Clay Academy!

It was an absolute privilege to host our annual Christmas morning for Reception children and parents this morning. Thank you for coming along. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did! Christmas is a magical time for children (and adults). It is important for us to make it as special as possible, as well as ensuring that the values of Christmas time are shared.



Please do take note of our Christmas calendar dates. We hope to see many of you at our Christmas Sing Along. This will be a fabulous community opportunity for us all to come together, enjoy singing some favourite Christmas songs, listen to the choir and enjoy some festive refreshments.

## Staffing news

As some of you may already know from our children, Mrs Hoole, our part-time SENCo and PPA Teacher has been successful in attaining a full-time Class Teacher position at one of our 'Outwood Together' special schools. We are very pleased for Mrs Hoole and know that she is now ready to take on a full-time opportunity. I know that you will all join me in thanking Mrs Hoole for her work as SENCo and PPA teacher. She has successfully taught many of your children throughout the whole school and supported parents on their child's educational journey. We wish Mrs Hoole lots of luck for the future, as she takes on this new challenge in her career. As Mrs Hoole is still part of our group of schools, we know that we will still see her lots!



I am pleased to announce that Mrs Smith will be taking over as SENCo for the academy. Mrs Smith has been off school for the last couple of weeks with a broken knee! However, is now making a full recovery and has been in for handover meetings with Mrs Hoole, ready to take over in January. If your child does have special educational needs, Mrs Smith will be your key point of contact and will be working three days a week.



Kind regards,

Mrs Swinburne

[www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk](http://www.jerryclayacademy.wakefield.sch.uk)

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# 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 had a very busy couple of weeks and it is beginning to look a lot like Christmas! We have loved rehearsing our nativity with year 2 on the

stage in the hall and have been singing our hearts out practising our songs! We hope you have got your tickets!

We have also been very busy continuing our learning about our alien 'Orb' and have been showing him our creative arts. We have been designing, planning and creating our own alien on plates and biscuits and have even been doing some sketching in our art books!

In literacy, we are starting to write a letter to Orb to persuade him to stay in our classroom and in maths we have been learning read and write our numbers to 20 in words and numerals.



*Miss Mitchell &*

*Mrs Ward*

## Year 2

It has been a busy couple of weeks in Class 2! Whilst we have been practising for the Nativity (which we can't wait to show our parents), we have also continued our learning in topic. We have designed and started to create a mural about Wrenthorpe to show our alien about where we live. We have also started to create a leaflet to give him as

much information as possible about our school!



In Literacy, we have finished writing our stories set in a familiar setting (school!). These have been based on the story of 'Beegu'. In Maths, we are starting to learn about multiplication and division. We are continuing to develop our reasoning skills!

*Mr Palin & Mrs Khan*

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 3

Year 3 have had another excellent two weeks and are continuing to work extremely hard. In Literacy we have written newspaper reports that link to our class novel, 'The Saga of Erik the Viking,' and are now moving onto creating our own Viking character so we can create a 'Viking legend.' In Numeracy we have moved on

to looking at measurement and went outside to think about the different ways that we can measure different objects and distances. In Topic we are continuing to learn all about the Vikings and before the end of

term each child will be taking on the role of a Viking, to decide whether or not we should relocate and settle in another country.

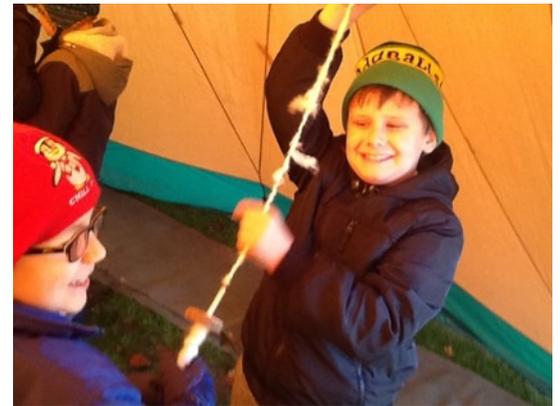
*Mr Wilcock & Mrs Wilkinson*

## Year 4

Year 4 have been working so hard on their maths, using all of the mental and written methods for addition, subtraction and multiplication to solve problems. They are also trying so hard to learn their times tables in Diamond Dash! Keep it up. In literacy we have been writing newspaper articles about the daring adventures of Erik the Viking and his intrepid crew. We have learned to grab our readers' attention with catchy headlines and keep them hooked with emotive language, quotes and humour.

In topic we found evidence that the Vikings settled in our area, looking at maps to find Viking place names, and discovered that Wrenthorpe may have been a Viking farm and Altofts a Viking house. We are eager to find out more about what life might have been like in Viking times and we were lucky to have the chance to experience this for ourselves when Adam and Jerome visited us for our Viking Day. We

cooked Viking stew on an open fire, learned to prepare fleece and spin yarn to make clothing and made our own ancient rune stone. Our final job as Viking children was to weave a willow longboat and send our brave warrior 'Brant' to his final resting place in Valhalla with a noisy parade and ceremonial burning. A truly memorable day!



*Mrs Elliott & Mrs Hart*

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 5

In Year 5, we have been continuing our research into our topic: 'Never Had It So Good?' We enjoyed collecting information about the past- thank you so much for helping your child by completing their questionnaires. We evaluated them to see the major differences, as well as some similarities-the children enjoying listening to some of the music from different decades particularly Wham! We are now starting to investigate some of the major technology

changes over time.

During Art work, we are focussing on Colour, Mixing and the

impact of colour on a piece of Art work. In Literacy, we are focusing on Stories with Dilemmas; as part of this our focus at the moment is on improving our sentence structures using more advanced punctuation types. A class record 24 out of 31 children achieved 10/10 on their spelling test this week-please continue to support your child in practising their spellings at home- thank you. *Miss Harling & Mrs Saynor*



## Year 6

Year 6 have been working exceptionally hard over the last few weeks and have really enjoyed looking at rationing. We had many children who were very shocked by the lack of food people had with a few children declaring that they would starve to death. In Science, we have been looking at how the body works during exercise and we have especially looked at the role of the heart. Last week we had a very fun and interesting day at Stanley St Peter's Primary School as part of a transition project that we are taking part in. The children were a credit to



our school and really enjoyed working with other children creating freeze-frame drama pieces. We will be working again with St Peter's children and we are all looking forward to this.

*Miss Brook & Mrs Smith*





# Sports news



## Year 2 Dance Workshop

Harris, Daniel, Molly, Charlotte and Logan were chosen to represent our school at the Year 2 dance workshop on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November. The event was held at St. Paul's school. Our children thoroughly enjoyed the event and were extremely enthusiastic. Their behaviour was fantastic!



## Governors news

### **Meet one of our Governors—Keith Orrell**

Keith Orrell MBE was a chief GCSE geography examiner, has written textbooks and edited geographical magazines. In his retirement he has worked tirelessly for the community and previously served as Chair of Governors. Keith is passionate about the Wrenthorpe community and developing its cohesion. He now continues to bring his wealth of experience and wisdom to the Governing Body as a Community Governor



### **Thank you to Joyce Denning**

We would like to personally give thanks to Joyce Denning who will complete her service to the JCA Governing Body in December. Joyce has given so much time to support the work of the school. We are so grateful for the support and guidance that Joyce has given to us over the years. However, we know as a Grandparent to pupils within our school that she will never be a stranger. Thank you Joyce!



Christmas

Bake Sale!

**Christmas bake sale on Tuesday 13th December**

We will be hosting a Christmas Bake Sale to raise fund for our chosen local charity this year, Rainbow Trust. Please help by bringing in some lovely treats on this day.

We would appreciate any of these Christmas treats:

Cookies

Doughnuts

Buns

Brownies

Cakes

You name it! We need your support. Thank you for donating some yummy contributions!

Remember! Be sure to bring a maximum of £1 per child. Parents are very welcome to buy some cakes after school.

**Thank you for your support,**

**Anna Skirrow- Charity Manager & the Junior Leadership member**

Please join us for our



Seasonal Singalong!

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

In the School playground.