



Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 2: 15th September 2017

Dear Parents

Another week has very quickly passed by and the children have continued to impress us with their excellent attitudes and determination this year.

Parking on Jerry Clay Lane

Unfortunately, as the new year begins I have had reported to me, incidents of cars parking over residents drives on Jerry Clay Lane. Please can I ask that you are considerate to the residents on our lane. I have received photographs of the offending cars and will be speaking to individuals personally. I have requested that Mr. Rady increases patrol on a morning and after school to ensure that the lane is running efficiently and safely for all. I do acknowledge that parking is limited; however, we do have the village carpark at the top of the lane to utilise to ease such traffic.

Homework/ supporting your child at home

As your child is starting to take home regular homework, please can we ask that they are encouraged to bring it back on the specified day of return. As a school, we do keep a record of homework that is handed in on time. It is so important as the children get the opportunity to evaluate and mark this work in class. If not completed, they are missing out on this core part of the day.

Attendance & punctuality

Please can I remind you all about the importance of attendance at our school. Days missed, mean lost learning. We take attendance incredibly seriously, as we are constantly striving for the very best for your child. Please do ensure that you call our school office on **01924 303665** to report your child's absence. Please can we ask that you always call before the start of the school day and leave a message on our absence line. If we do not receive a call, we will always contact you on the first day of absence for a reason for your child not attending.

Our attendance target is 97.4% this year. We were pleased overall with last year's attendance; however, holidays taken during term time did make our total percentage diminish towards the end of term.

Please can I also reiterate that the school day **begins at 8.50am** and the official registers are taken at 9am. On arrival, the children are given early morning tasks to complete. It is so important that your child does not miss this important part of the day. Many thanks for supporting us with this.

Year 5 & 6 Trips

Letters have gone out for the Year 5 visit to London and the Year 6, five day residential trip. Please can we ask that expressions of interest are received **by Friday 22nd September**, so that we can set up our ParentPay system.

Have a relaxing weekend,

Mrs. T Swinburne



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School Trips

As you know at Jerry Clay, we seek to offer your children as many opportunities as we possibly can. Yes, I know we are ambitious for your children, as I know that you are too. However, within that ambition, we are eager to ensure that everything we provide is of the best value that we can possibly find. Many of you will not be aware, but we do subsidise all school trips to ensure that these never go beyond £15, as we are so aware of the climate we are currently living in.

Likewise with our residential trips, we work very hard to find the best value. Obviously inflation does and is taking hold, so therefore prices do inevitably go up for visits and the coach travel.

We are always interested in your feedback.

A big quest of JCA's is ensuring a quality education for all. If at any point you feel that any trips or residentials are becoming unaffordable, we welcome this feedback. Telling you well in advance of a bigger trip, ensures that you can spread the cost over a year. If a consensus is agreed, we can always change the amount of days a residential takes place, to ensure that our children can take part in future years.

One of the biggest successes to date of JCA is the amazing parent partnerships we have, based on open and honest feedback. In order to provide the best vocational education for your child, we welcome this.

If you have any comments to make, please do this at the point of returning any residential/ trip letters so that we can personally evaluate.

Many thanks for your cooperation and partnership working for the very best for your child.

Learning across the school this week

Year 1

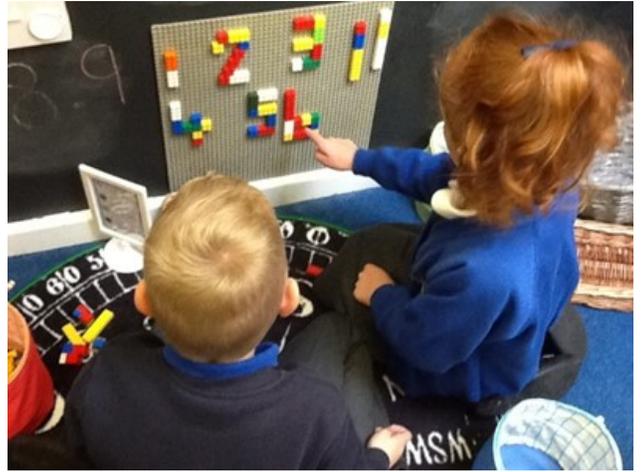
Year 1 have made a brilliant start to the new year and have settled in beautifully! We have enjoyed getting to know our new routines and striving at new challenges. We have started our new topic 'Dungeons and Dragons' and have enjoyed exploring our own castle in our focus room and learning the different parts of the castle.

In Literacy, we have been writing our weekend news on a Monday so that we can persevere with our sentence writing.

We have been striving to make

sure we have capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and beautiful handwriting. This week, we started our new story 'Zog' and we have been using our storytelling skills to retell the story.

In Maths, we have been learning about place value and have been practising reading, writing and counting numbers to 10.



Year 2

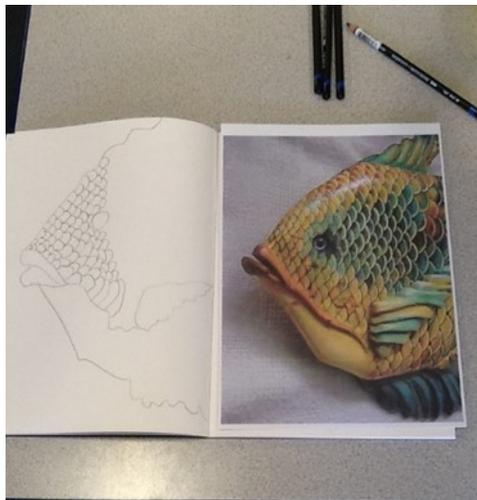
Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the year! We have settled into the routines and have already been striving in every subject. We have started our topic, 'Magnificent Miners' and have discussed how it feels to be down a mine. This discussion led to a fantastic diary entry as a miner. In Maths we have been learning about place value, in particular representing different numbers using dienes. Some of us have done this in different ways rather than just partitioning the number into tens and ones.



'Striving to be the best we can be'

Year 3

Year 3 have had a brilliant start to the academic year! They have really settled into the school routines, and are beginning to demonstrate their potential for challenging themselves to strive to achieve their best. We have started our new topic 'The Lost World', where we are largely focusing on the Great Barrier Reef. The children have worked particularly hard and shown great inquiry skills when thinking about the location



of the reef, what sea creatures live there and how you would feel if you lived on the reef. This ultimately resulting in children utilising exciting descriptions to complete a narrative of a fish lost at sea. They have also begun to develop their artistic skills, where over the term, children will produce intricate observations of fish using different techniques with the assistance of our art specialist Miss Bairstow. Finally, in Maths, we have been focusing predominantly on place value, in particular, identifying different ways of identifying and comparing numbers to 1000.



Year 4

Year 4 have made a super start to the new school year and are already impressing me with how determined and enthusiastic they are with their learning. We have launched straight into our topic 'A Hero's Journey' by inventing our own superheroes. The children have fantastic ideas for costumes, powers, arch-enemies and wrote exciting stories where their hero saved the day! We have now started to ask when the earliest stories of heroes were written

and have begun to learn about Ancient Greek myths which are just as exciting as our modern day super hero stories. The children have produced terrifying descriptions of the Gorgon Medusa in Literacy using ambitious adjectives, verbs and adverbs. In Art we have begun working with Miss Bairstow and are using Greek theatre masks as our inspiration. We learned to sketch a face in proportion before sketching our mask face with exaggerated features. We are now working on creating 3D effects using different tones of charcoal.



In Maths, Year 4 have made a brilliant start and have quickly learned the Roman numerals up to 100 and are now exploring aspects of place value including rounding numbers. In Science we have begun to learn about how living things are suited to their habitats.

'Striving to be the best we can be'

Year 5

Year 5 have made a great start to the year, the children have shown a real interest and focus on our new topic 'The Great Divide' where we are focussing on World War II. We listened to Neville Chamberlain's declaration of war and we created an interview in pairs about how people may have felt when they heard the news.

In Literacy, we have been working on developing our language skills to describe a sad setting, thinking about which

adjectives and

phrases work best to convey a sad atmosphere.

During Maths, we have been working on describing larger numbers in different ways and looking at the different representations we can use to show them.

In our Art lessons, we have been developing our use of shading techniques to create tone and form, and this week we looked at the drawings of Henry Moore, which were focussed on the London underground during World War II, people sheltering and keeping warm during air raids.



Year 6

Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the year, really showing that they are absolutely ready for the challenges of year 6. Of course, one key topic on our minds, at the moment, is Junior Leadership Roles and who will be awarded the role of Head Boy and Head Girl for the coming year! In Maths, Year 6 have been working on their

place value knowledge –

thinking carefully about the value of numbers up to 10 million and how these can be accurately rounded. In Literacy we have been starting our unit on balanced arguments and at the moment we are currently focusing on the topic of, "Should Year 5 have a residential trip to London?". We are creating some very good arguments for and against this. Our topic is still relatively new at this point and we are starting to look at the Mayan Civilisation. We have been thinking carefully about where we would like to focus our interests within this subject over the coming weeks.





Special mentions of the week



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

Week beginning: 11th September

Reception - Myla Robinson

Year 1– Alex Boja

Year 2– Scarlett Hurdus

Year 3– Ruby Endersby

Year 4– Jessica Asquith

Year 5– Harry Lamport

Year 6– Sam Aldred

Attendance winners

As you know as a school we are really focusing on excellent attendance. As a whole school we have set a target for the year of **97.4%**.

Please see overall percentages for each class, since September:

Reception—97.17%

Year 1– 99.64%- WINNERS SO FAR

Year 2– 98.15%

Year 3– 98.89%

Year 4– 98.89%

Year 5– 95.93%

Year 6– 99.28%

WHOLE SCHOOL, SINCE SEPTEMBER– 98.33%



Important dates for your diary

Events soon.....

Dates for your diary



Open morning

Saturday 11th November – Open Morning for new children

Parents Consultations

7th September 2017– Meet the teacher – 3:45-4:00 and 4:05-4:20

21/11/17 and 23/11/17 – Parents Consultations

13/3/18 and 15/3/18 – Parents Consultations

Reports

01/12/17- Progress checks sent home—Y1-6

9/3/18 – Progress checks sent home-Y1 –6

13/7/18– End of year reports sent home

Theme Weeks

16/10/17 – Cultural week

w/c 26/03/18– Whole school Outdoor Learning Adventure

w/c 21/05/18- Creative Arts week

Performances

13/12/17 and 14/12/17 – Reception nativity

18/12/17 – Christmas carols with KS2

19/12/17 and 21/12/17 – Year 1 and 2 performance

13/06/18 - Art gallery evening for all

4/07/18 & 5th July 2018 – Creative Arts evenings

w/c 16/7/16 – Celebration week for all

Parent Workshops & Assemblies

04/10/17 – Phonics Coffee morning for parents. 9.15

8/12/17 – Reception Activity Morning at 9.15am

29/03/18 - Reception assembly – Under the sea

21/03/18 - Year 1 & 2 assembly- Appreciation

Year 1 - 20/06/18 – Year 1 Creatures workshop

Year 2 – 8th 11/ 18 – Mining workshop

Year 3 & 4 – 06/12/17 – History Assembly

Year 4 -7/03/18 – Environmental issues

Year 5 & Year 6- 30/11/17- Historical workshop

Year 5 & 6 - 01/03/18 - Explorer gallery

Sports Day

15/6/18

29/6/18 (Back-up date in case of poor weather)

School trips

These will be communicated via your Class Teacher

Please see your classes 'Welcome PowerPoint' for all key dates on our website.

