



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 7 Friday 17th November

Dear Parents

## **Open Morning**

Our Open Morning was a huge success last Saturday. Every year we are getting more and more parents coming through our doors. We were certainly over-awed with the turn out! Our Junior Leaders and Playground Pals made us all incredibly proud by showing all of our visitors around the academy and talking about their learning. Visitors commented on how much they know about the academy. We know they do, as their voice is so strong in helping our academy to continually develop.

## **Parents evening**

As you all should know, our term 1 parents evening is next Tuesday and Thursday. You will be all receiving your appointments today. If for any reason you have not received an appointment, please contact your Class Teacher or the office to ensure that you have one.

## **Book sale at Parents evenings**

There will be a Scholastic book fair in operation at the Parents Evenings. This will give you an opportunity to browse books and perhaps make some purchases for Christmas! The book sale will be in the Year 1 focus classroom.

## **Christmas Calendar**

As well as a reminder of all key dates on the back of the newsletter, I have also produced a Christmas reminder calendar. Christmas is such a special time of year and we certainly know how busy it can become!

## **Christmas lunch**

You should have all received a Christmas Lunch letter which is taking place on Wednesday 20th December. I have attached a copy of this to the weekly email also. Please can we have these returned as soon as possible so that all our arrangements can be made.

## **Library time in Reception & Year 1**

Due to the amount of parents that are able to come to our library time, we are proposing that Library times will take place in the hall from next week. Year 1 will take place again on Thursday 30th November at 3pm and Reception class on a Friday 24th November at 3pm.

Kind regards,

Mrs. T Swinburne



# Our Junior Leaders Strategy

Our Junior Leaders have been working so hard over the last couple of weeks. Please see below the key items they have been working on:

**Head Boy/ Girl & Deputies**—Overseeing all of the committees and working on a rota at lunch times. Manners are so important to us at JCA and we are using the Heads and Deputies to support over the lunch time period with manners and general lunch time support in the hall. This is working brilliantly well.

**Head of Charity**— Our Head of Charity has been working hard to prepare for our first charity event of the year—a cake sale on **Thursday 7th December**. Please see the flyer within the children's newsletter. Help with cakes would be very much appreciated. All monies raised will be going to the Downs Syndrome Society.

## **Our charities this year, as decided by our children are:**

International: World Vision

National: Levi's Star- Children's Brain Tumour Charity

Local: Downs Syndrome Society

**Head of ICT:** Oliver has been working hard to create a coding club in school. He has been creating the coding club content and will be delivering this over the next couple of weeks.

**Head of Outdoors:** Abby is really looking forward to coordinating the development of our 'Magical Outdoor Classroom'. The building of this will commence on Monday 27th November.

**Head of Sports Development:** Isabel has been working hard on developing more clubs, particularly for girls at lunch time. Watch this space as Isabel develops this. She has also planned, in liaison with Mr Rady a new Sports display board for our children that will be placed on the playing fields.

**Head of Playground:** Abeeha has been coordinating our Playground Pals well and within the next week will be launching our new area on the playground; our whole school mud kitchen!



# Our Junior Leaders Strategy

**Head of Creative Arts:** Jacob has coordinated many of our music events brilliantly and has now created a designated display in the hall for our music of the week and Special Mention themes.

**Head of Communication:** Orlaith has been working on the children's newsletter. She felt that it was really important to highlight the important events, etc., that were happening in school. Please see the 1st children's newsletter attached to the email.

**Chair of the School Council:** Noah is working alongside the whole of the School Council to launch our first ever 'Healthy Tuck Shop'. This will be happening on a Friday and there will be more information very soon!

**Head of Health & Safety:** Oliver has launched the Anti-Bullying & E-Safety strategy for the school and as part of anti-bullying this week, he led an assembly about this.

Oliver is also working on the ongoing safety of JCA Lane. He has ordered some new bollards for the road which we feel will act as a deterrent to drivers wanting to park in those spaces.

**Head of Operations:** Freya has worked rigorously to support our Corridor Ambassadors, Tidy School Ambassadors and Librarians. She has ensured their rotas are always up-to-date and that they are where they need to be. The librarians will be doing a new book order over the next week. We always try to react to the children's interests within our library.

## News Team—The Owl Observer

Some of you may already have seen on our Twitter feed, the first JCA Newspaper created by our children. If you haven't, please see a copy of this attached to the email. I am sure you will all agree, that it is fantastic!

Children leading on learning and all wider aspects of school life is so important to the culture and ethos of our school. Children can do more than we can ever believe and we have a passion for developing life-long learning skills.



# Special Mentions of the week

Special Mentions are awarded to children who demonstrate our learner traits throughout the week.

For week beginning 10th & 17th November, our Special Mentions are:

Reception: Dylan Raw & Scarlett Fenwick

Year 1– Lucas Stephens & Jack Firth

Year 2– Henry Stringer & Amelia Brown

Year 3– Harris Hussain & Alex Hartley

Year 4– Melissa Denton & Owen Horner

Year 5– William Hurdus & Salina Carter

Year 6– Lewis Wingfield & Matthew Smailes

Well done to all of these children who have been 'striving to be the best that they can be'.

## Attendance

We review attendance every week and our whole school target is 97.4% for the whole year. We ask that every class should be aiming for at least 97.4% every week.

Please see the percentages for each class since September:

**Reception– 97.71%**

**Year 1– 97.4%**

**Year 2– 96.94%**

**Year 3– 97.12%**

**Year 4–98.82%**

**Year 5– 97.67%**

**Year 6– 98.69%**

Overall whole school percentage since September—**97.78%**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 1

Another busy 2 weeks for Year 1! We are really striving now to be the best that we can be and it is shining through our work.

In Literacy, we have started our core text, 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We worked outside to create a giant story



map to help us retell the story through role-play. We have then

worked on our sentence structure and used time connectives to create exciting storyboards.

In Maths, we have been comparing numbers. We started by finding 1 more and 1 less and now we are comparing groups of concrete resources and pictures to see if there is enough, not enough or just enough. Next week, we are going to begin comparing numbers using

more than, less than and equal to.

In Topic, we used compass directions to draw a map of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We used North, South, East and West and even began exploring 8 points such a North East! We have also been investigating the seasons and our world changes around us through different seasons.

We are very excited to go on our class trip to Pontefract Castle next week!

*Miss Mitchell & Miss Belford*

## Year 2

It has been another busy 2 weeks in Year 2! The biggest event was the outdoor learning day with Adam and



Jerome. Spending the day looking at mining, we learnt about how coal is formed and where it was found right across the UK.

We also learnt about the reason why coal was so important and learnt about why it is so precious. We used the willow from the outdoor area and burnt it to create our own charcoal, which we used to create our own mining image! At the end of the day, we were told the story about the Chilean miners – we talked about how they would have felt and the problems that will have arisen.



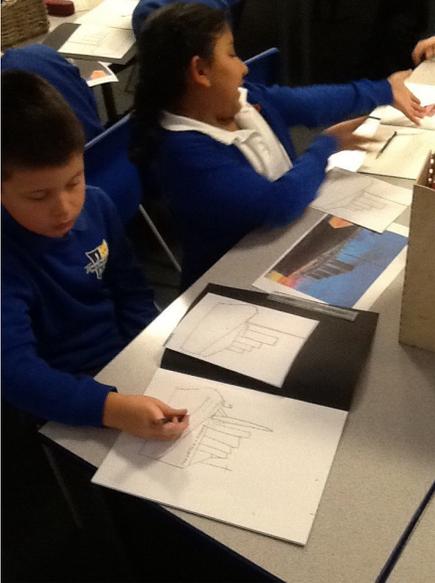
*Mr Palin & Mrs Fitton, Mrs Rex & Mrs Khan*



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 3

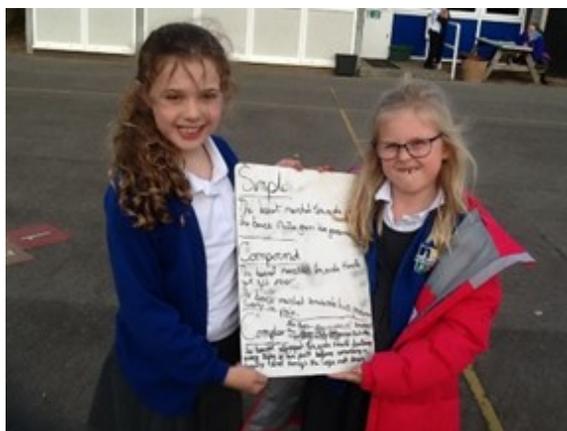
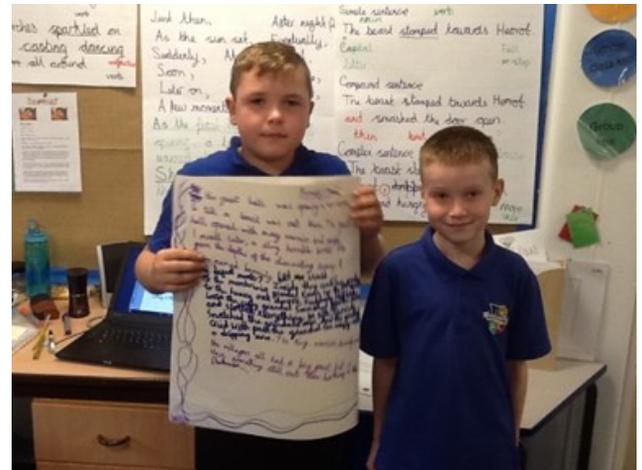
Year 3 have been developing their addition and subtraction skills, with a particular focus of using their knowledge of the column method to use the inverse to solve bar models and part-whole models. In Literacy, children have really engaged with the new book surrounding the Titanic. Here they have started to think about the time period this was situated within, specifically focusing on class differences. From this, they are thinking about putting themselves in a passengers position, where having this mind-set will benefit their writing when completing the diary entry in Literacy. Year 3 are really looking forward to their outdoor learning day next week to take their learning to the next level.



*Miss Firth & Mrs Smith*

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a busy few weeks. We have started to find out about the Anglo Saxon story of the hero Beowulf and are writing diary entries imagining that we were there to witness the



events. We are striving to use descriptive vocabulary to create vivid descriptions and time connectives to order the events. We have started to learn about different types of sentences, simple, compound and complex. In topic we have been comparing the climate zones of different parts of the world and have compared the climate in Spain and Denmark. In maths we have been learning about how we can use the inverse calculation to check our answers as well as practising our rounding skills to work out estimates. We have begun learning about measuring in metres and kilometres. We used a trundle wheel and measured the school cross country course at 435m –

not even half a kilometre! Most recently, we have been learning about the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

*Mrs Elliott & Mrs Hart*

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 5

Year 5 have been developing their multiplication and division knowledge, this week focussing on multiples and factors, including finding common factors. In Literacy, we are focussing on writing a story with a dilemma, we have discussed stories that include dilemmas and the different choices people might have to face. This week we have been working on developing the story of the Christmas truce during World War I, building up the setting and linking in clues to the dilemma for the main character. In Art, we are developing our understanding of drawing using perspective. We have been focussing on creating, to scale, background, middle ground and fore ground when drawing landscape images. We also really enjoying reading our 'Medio Pollito' Spanish stories to Year 2 last Friday.



*Miss Harling & Mrs Saynor*

## Year 6

What a busy fortnight Year 6 have had! We are thrilled by the amazing progress our children have made when looking at fractions unit in Maths. The children have learnt how to simplify, add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and although it has not been easy, every single child has persevered and strived high in all lessons. In Literacy, we have been focussing on our Reading skills and have been thinking carefully about how we can extend our ideas when answering a range of comprehension questions in detail. Following on from our Spanish week, we have continued to look at the artist Antoni Gaudi and have this week been thinking about the different elements that inspired him. As a next step, we will be thinking about how we can begin to take the elements from his work in order to create our own masterpieces.





# **Dates for your diary**

## **2017 –18**

### **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**

11/12/17- 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 & 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – Creative Arts evenings

w/c 16/7/18 – Celebration week for all

### **Parent Workshops & Assemblies**

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 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 (Reserve 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.