



# Jerry Clay Academy Newsletter

Issue 11: Friday 19th January 2018

Dear Parents

Thank you to all of our parents that came to the Year 2 and Year 6 SATs information meetings this week. We had a fabulous turn out, even though the weather was particularly bad, so thank you for your support with this. I have emailed all Year 2 & 6 parents with the presentation from the evening.



## **Daily Read, Support & Sign Challenge**

From next week, we will be starting a new initiative in school called 'Read, Support & Sign'. We are looking for all of our children to read daily at home. Little and often is what will help with your child's read-

ing, writing and overall academic achievement. When your child has read at home, please can we ask you to sign your child's reading diary. If a child has read every day during the week, they will be issued with a numbered ticket. The numbered ticket will be entered into the 'Great Reading Draw' every Friday and could be picked out during

'Special Mentions'. If they are picked out, they will win a special prize.

Please encourage your child to read daily and please support us by listening to your child read (whenever possible) and sign their reading diary. Many thanks in

advance for supporting our 'Daily Read, Support & Sign' challenge.

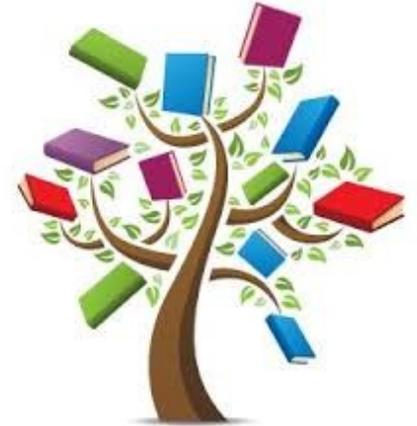


Kind regards,

Mrs Swinburne

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

Follow us on twitter @JCAWakefield





# Special mentions



Special mentions of the term were awarded to pupils whom teachers felt have really stood out during the week, demonstrating excellent perseverance and effort. Well done!

## **Week beginning 8th & 15th January:**

**Reception** - Daisy Trevena & Dougie Denning

**Year 1**– Prja Arree & Theo Elliott-Cook

**Year 2**– Maia Malerska & Alex Oleksiak

**Year 3**– Molly Routledge & Luke Ibbetson

**Year 4**– Seb Elliott-Cook & Charlotte Bland

**Year 5**– Joe Budd & Erin Gormanly

**Year 6**– Harris Nazir & Ben McNally

## **Attendance winners for the week**

**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, this week:**

### **Reception—99%**

Year 1– 98.71%

Year 2– 96%

Year 3–94%

Year 4– 94.33%

Year 5–98%

Year 6– 95.16%

**WHOLE SCHOOL, SINCE SEPTEMBER– 97.00%**

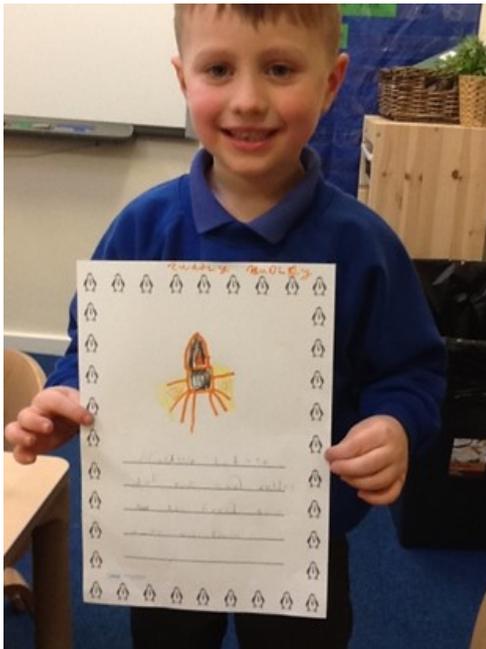
**The attendance is slipping backwards and we now need to get it right back up. Please support us with our quest!**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 1

Wow! What a busy two weeks we have had. This half term we have started our new topic; 'What Does It Mean To Belong?'. Thank you for all your beautiful family photographs! We have loved being able to share them with each other and we have displayed them on our topic board. In our topic, we created a timeline of all the important key events that have happened to us in our lives. We have been applying our learning into our continuous provision in our focus room, where we have been really challenging ourselves in our choosing.

In Literacy, we have been reading 'Cuddly Dudley'. We have loved our core text so much; we can now retell the story off by heart! We have begun writing our own retell and we are striving to include lots of exciting adjectives and vocabulary. We have also been persevering to use our 'high 5' to check our sentences.



In Maths, we have been learning about part whole models. We have been learning to partition our numbers into different groups so that we can count accurately to find the whole or a missing part. We have been striving to count on accurately in our head!



*Miss Mitchell & Miss Belford*

## Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy two weeks. Since coming back, we have started our topic; 'Do We Always Appreciate What We've Got?'. Whilst we are focusing on Africa for most of the topic, we have been looking at Wrenthorpe to begin with. This will enable us to compare Wrenthorpe with a place in Africa later in the topic. In Art we have started to look at African patterns. In Literacy, our focus has been on stories from other cultures. We have heard many stories from around the world and have re-told the

African story 'Pretty Salma'. In Maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have used objects to create equal groups.



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

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 3

Year 3 have made a fantastic start to the new term. All children have arrived back at school knowing the classroom routines and have fully engaged in our new topic 'What is Community?' We have been considering not only the local community but also other types of community, such as insect communities. From this, our Literacy book 'A Bug's Life' has encouraged children to think about how insects move and how they work together in their local community. In art, we have been following this same insect theme where we have been producing some fantastic observational drawings of butterflies. In Maths, we have been further developing our knowledge of multiplication and division through working very practically before building up to using column multiplication.



*Miss Firth & Mrs Smith*

## Year 4



Year 4 have launched enthusiastically into their new topic 'How can small actions eventually change the world?' This half term we have taken saving the rainforest as a focus and have been exploring where the rainforests are and why they are so precious. We read a book called The

Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry in which the creatures living in a rainforest tree persuade a logger not to chop down the tree. We have enjoyed working with a partner to film very persuasive VLOGs of our own. In Science we invented our own rainforest creature adapted with adaptations suited to a layer of the rainforest, either the forest floor, understorey, canopy or emergent layer.

In Maths, we have been finding factor pairs, two numbers that multiply together to make a given number. We have using different methods to multiply two digit numbers by one digit numbers and have made a great start at learning the written method short multiplication.

*Mrs. Elliott & Mrs Hart*



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## Year 5

In Year 5 we uncovered a snow-topped clue for our new topic – it was a historical job advert with prompts like 'safe return doubtful' 'bitter cold' 'constant danger'. The children asked many interesting questions and also made predictions about what this job could be about. In the next lesson, we discovered that it was for a place on Ernest Shackleton's ship *Endurance* to go to Antarctica! We have just completed our job application forms for a role on board the ship.

In Literacy, we have been developing our persuasive writing techniques alongside reading our new class novel 'The Polar Bear Explorers' Club'. We were particularly interested in the description of the entrance to the club - adorned with animal antlers and horns as 'trophies', and furs for rugs. We have been developing our ideas to persuade the club not to use these as decorations. This week we have used real-life statistics to support our points.

In Maths, the children have been fantastic – we have been developing our multiplication skills firstly by using concrete resources and then moved on to formal written methods. We are now all experts at multiplying 4 digits by 2 digits!

*Miss Harling & Mrs Saynor*



## Year 6

Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the new term, showing plenty of perseverance and effort to all areas of their learning. In Literacy, we have focused on how we use adventurous vocabulary and varied sentence types effectively to hook the reader and create detailed images for the reader to visualise through our writing. In Maths, we have consolidated our knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages and put these skills into practice using multi-step worded problems. We have finished our Science unit by completing an investigation using electrical components in a circuit and combined this with our Literacy skills to write the whole experiment, making sure we included the use of lots of scientific vocabulary!



*Miss Brook & Mrs Wilkinson*

# Diamond Dash at Jerry Clay Academy



As you all should know, our children absolutely love Diamond Dash. We want to raise the profile again for times tables learning in school and at home. **From next week, we will be publishing all children who have passed Diamond Dash awards in the newsletter.** It is really important that your child practises as much as possible with their times tables. Times tables are needed for so many aspects of the Mathematics curriculum.

Below is a grid showing the awards on offer, which are designed to include all children within the Academy. The expectation for each award has been matched to the National Curriculum expectations. There are 8 levels available and these should be taken based on each child's ability, not their year group. Children will be encouraged to take the challenges regularly after practicing their skills in school and at home

## Supreme Champion – The Diamond Dash

All gold award children automatically entered.

Same format as the gold award, but in front of a live audience (the school). Parents of the entrants will be invited to attend this special assembly in July.

The winner will receive the Diamond certificate.

## Gold

Three teachers on panel taking turns to ask Qs.

2 Minutes on the clock. All correct answers and no hesitation.

All times tables and division facts up to (and including)  $12 \times 12$ .

Square numbers and square roots.

Gold Award certificate. Child will also be put forward to the Diamond Dash.

## Silver

All times tables  $12 \times 12$  on a multiplication grid.

Division facts on reverse of grid including square roots and square numbers.

Timed: 8 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

Silver Award certificate.

## Bronze

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 times tables on a multiplication grid.

Division facts on reverse of grid including square roots and square numbers.

Timed: 7 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

Bronze Award certificate

Apart from the Topaz and Emerald levels, each test is to be timed. There will be certificates given for each level of the challenge with badges also being presented to children who achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold challenges

We have now added the ultimate award—Platinum for children who have reached Gold and need that extra challenge!

# Diamond Dash at Jerry Clay Academy



## Sapphire

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 times tables in written form.

Division facts on reverse.

Timed: 6 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

## Ruby

2, 3, 4, 5, 8 times tables in written form.

Division facts on reverse.

Timed: 5 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

## Pearl

2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form.

Division facts on reverse.

Timed: 5 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

Pearl Award certificate to be given.

## Emerald

2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form ie.  $7 \times 2 =$

Times tables can be sat individually, but all three are needed to complete the award.

Not timed, but teacher discretion to decide whether the children are competent enough to receive the award.

All correct answers.

Emerald Award certificate to be given.

## Topaz

Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to the 10<sup>th</sup> number in the sequence ie. In 2s to 20.

Each one can be taken at a separate time, but competency in all three is required to complete the award.

Topaz Award certificate to be given.

## Pearl

2, 5 and 10 times tables in written form.

Division facts on reverse.

Timed: 5 minutes.

All correct answers within time.

Pearl Award certificate to be given.



# **Dates for your diary**

## **2017 –18**

**PLEASE ALSO SEE PAPER CALENDAR THAT WAS  
SENT HOME LAST WEEK FOR ALL DATES FOR THIS  
TERM**

### **Parents Consultations**

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

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

### **Reports**

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

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

### **Sports Day**

15/6/18

29/6/18 (Reserve date in case of poor weather)

### **Theme Weeks**

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

Adventure

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

### **School trips**

These will be communicated via your Class Teacher

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

### **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**

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> –February Supporting reading at home coffee morning – Watching RWI in action – CS

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

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> – Outdoor Learning adventure – whole school assembly-2.30pm

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