

# Accomplishing great things at JCA



## Our care shining through!

It is always a fantastic job to lead a Special Mention Assembly but I have been particularly proud over the last couple of weeks to hear teachers speak about the care and compassion shown by our children recently! As you know, care is a key learner trait at JCA and is one of the core values of Accomplish!

The last two weeks have been as action-packed as ever! All classes are working so hard at the moment and our presentation drive continues across school! You will find more information about what each class have been doing across the curriculum throughout our newsletter.

**Please also note, our Summer Fair will be on Saturday 4th July, 11 am-3pm.**



# Attendance winners

As you know as a school we continue to focus on excellent attendance as this is essential for children to make the best progress. As a whole school we have set a target for the year of **97.4%**

Class	This week	Year to date from the start of September
RECEPTION	<b>97.50%</b>	96.20%
YEAR 1	<b>92.60%</b>	96.80%
YEAR 2	<b>99.30%</b>	97.60%
YEAR 3	<b>96.70%</b>	96.50%
YEAR 4	<b>92.60%</b>	96.20%
YEAR 5	<b>96.40%</b>	95.20%
YEAR 6	<b>94.80%</b>	96.30%

<b>97.40%</b>	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
<b>96.40%</b>	ACTUAL

<b>97% +</b> AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET
<b>BELOW 95%</b> CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS
<b>90% &amp; BELOW</b> PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# RECEPTION



Reception are very invested in our new theme: Circle of Life. The sunshine has provided the perfect backdrop for our learning about plant life cycles: the children have been keen gardeners, planting new seeds and pulling out old weeds! We have also investigated human life cycles – looking at our own baby and toddler photographs, it has been lots of fun guessing who is who!

## Learning journey

Our learning has been centred around the texts “The Little Green Hen” and “The Tiny Seed”

The children have enjoyed exploring plants and flowers in the creative areas, as well as printing with apples using paint. We have looked at how we can use natural materials to create art work and weaving. Over the next few weeks, we intend to develop these skills further to create a James Brunt inspired land art project.



# RECEPTION



## Maths

In Maths, we are developing our knowledge of numerical patterns and concentrating on numbers 11-15. The children have enjoyed playing games to practice counting forwards, adding one more and taking turns listening to their friends. They also used concrete materials, and part-part whole models to represent the numbers 11,12 and 13. The children are very interested in the height of their seedlings, and have been regularly checking upon their progress and discussing them using mathematical vocabulary.

## Literacy

We have been learning to re-tell "The Little Green Hen" using story telling language, using the small world area. They have also written super sentences to describe the hen with beautiful handwriting. We have started to learn about capital letters during our handwriting sessions, and the children are starting notice capital letters all over the school now!

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 1

We have had an exciting start to the new term, as we have started our new theme:

### **Incredible Creatures.**

Our first focus creature is polar bears! We have looked at the polar regions in Geography and developed our oracy skills using our new core text: Leaf, which is all about Leaf, a polar bear, who is lost in the wild wood.



In **English**, we have enjoyed making predictions, listening to the story and creating story maps. This week, we have been exploring our main character's feelings at the beginning, middle and end of the story through speaking and listening and role play. The children thoroughly enjoyed creating shadows to explore the characters and to re tell the story.

We have now completed our **Maths** unit on numbers up to 50 and have been busy applying our knowledge to estimate on a number line and find one more and one less. We can't wait to get started on our new unit about measuring length, height and mass.

During **Science**, we are learning all about plants, trees and leaves! The children have all planted a seed and will observe the growth over time recording their observations. Last week, we went on a nature walk to discover the different types of trees living within our school grounds. This week, we have started to learn a poem called 'deciduous and evergreen' which we are looking forward to performing to you at Wednesday library.



### KEY DATES

**Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip**  
**18th May**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 2

What a fantastic week in Year 2! The children have loved immersing themselves in their new theme and being inquisitive to probe questions too.

In **History**, we have begun exploring the Great Fire of London! We used sources to interpret what London was like in 1666 and how the fire started. The children have also been enthralled by our new topic texts in the reading corner!

In **Maths**, we have started our new learning on Fractions. We have defined what a fraction is and how it can be represented in different ways. We have also been using concrete resources to find one half and one quarter of a number.

In **English**, we have been using our knowledge of the Great Fire of London to gather vocabulary for our poems. We have been striving to include adverbs, alliteration and similes. We cannot wait to publish these!

In **PE**, we have enjoyed exploring different skills within athletics. We have practiced our skills in throwing to see how accurate we can be with hitting a target.



### KEY DATES

**Visit to Emergency Services Museum  
Friday 12th June**

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# YEAR 3



In Year 3, our theme '**The Great Outdoors**' has inspired a range of exciting and meaningful learning opportunities. The children have shown great enthusiasm as they explored local history, studied land use in **Geography**, and developed key skills in Maths and **English**. Through hands-on activities, discussions, and creative tasks, they have made strong cross-curricular links and deepened their understanding of the world around them.

In **Maths**, we focused on money and time, practising addition and subtraction, converting between pounds and pence, and solving real-life problems such as shopping and budgeting. In Writing, the children drafted persuasive letters based on 'Charlotte's Web', writing to Mr Arable to convince him to keep Wilbur. They practised using rhetorical questions, emotive language, and strong arguments.

In **DT**, we looked at different ways to join materials together and created amazing nature photo frames.

In **History**, we learned about the Rhubarb Triangle and rhubarb growing in Wakefield, researching a local family involved in the trade.

We looked at shadows in **Science** during our light topic exploring how our shadows change throughout the day.

In **P.E.**, we enjoyed outdoor lessons, developing athletic skills such as the long jump.

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 4



Year 4 have had another superb fortnight here at Jerry Clay. We have been focused on our new history topic, the **Victorian age and the Industrial Revolution**. We learnt about George Stephenson's 'Rocket' at the Rainhill Trials. We will be having a guest speaker in school next week, with special thanks to the Broadhead family for agreeing to share their train collection and facts about the Rainhill trials. We have lots of questions prepared and can't wait to share our newfound love of steam engines!

We have booked our trip to the **National Railway Museum** this term, please keep your eyes peeled for the consent forms and ordering of lunch. Year 4 are very excited for this trip.

In **English**, we have continue reading and writing about 'The Railway Children'. Including drafting and publishing a diary entry from the perspective of Bobbie, Peter or Phyllis. We have used lots of examples of great diary writing including Anne Frank's own diary.

In **maths**, we have started decimals and have demonstrated how fractions and decimals are linked. We have worked hard to say and represent decimals using lots of manipulatives.

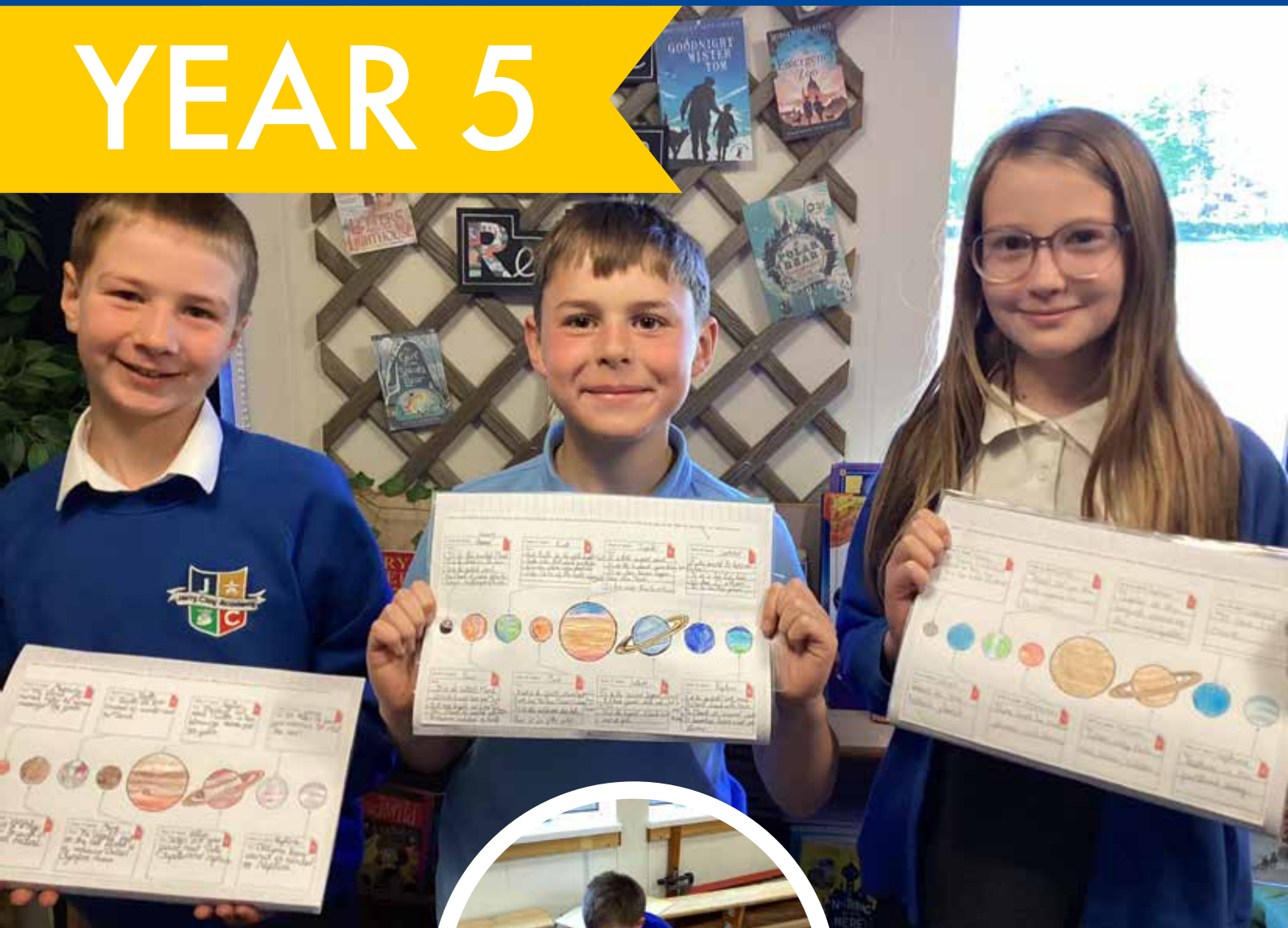
In **PE**, we have enjoyed starting our athletics and outdoor adventurous activities unit. Splitting into house teams to prepare for sports day and track our timings in sprinting. We have lots of great sports leaders in class who have taken time to lead practice and prepare equipment for our team sports. We even managed to fit a few relays in!

### KEY DATES

**Trip to the National Railway Museum  
17th June 2026**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 5



Year 5 have made a fantastic start since returning to school, showing great enthusiasm and determination in all areas of their learning. Our current topic of **Space** has truly captured their imagination, and we are thoroughly enjoying our core text, 'The Jamie Drake Equation', which has sparked curiosity and thoughtful discussions.

In **History**, we have been exploring the exciting events of the Space Race between the USA and the Soviet Union. Working collaboratively in groups, the children created detailed and engaging posters outlining key moments in this historic period, before confidently presenting to the class.

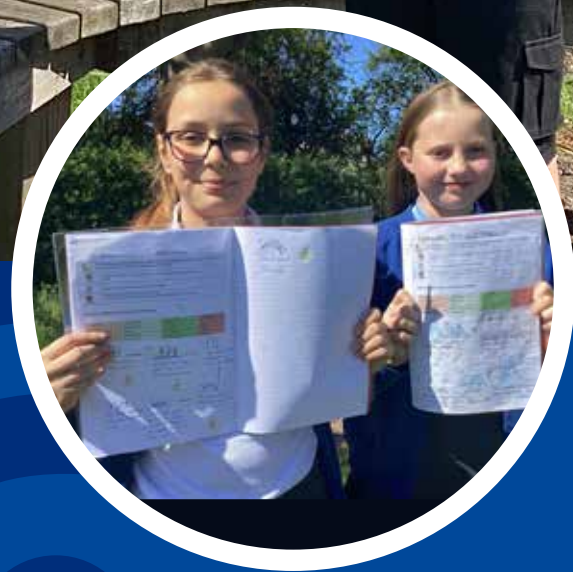
**Science** lessons have been equally engaging, with pupils researching fascinating facts about the planets in our solar system. They have carefully recorded their findings and even begun learning a fun and memorable song to help them recall the unique features of each planet.

This week, we were also lucky to spend time in the **outdoor library**. The children took part in a book-themed quiz and enjoyed reading for pleasure.

In **PSHE**, Year 5 have been revisiting essential first aid skills. They have learned how to safely place someone in the recovery position and practised this with care and confidence. It has been wonderful to see them developing such important, life-saving skills.

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 6



Year 6 have been working so hard these past couple of weeks. The children have shown fantastic attitudes and resilience, and we are so proud of them.

In **English**, we have been continuing to practice our fluency and emphasis in our reading lessons and have looked carefully at a variety of texts to confidently answer a range of question types. We are also working hard to write a balanced argument based on the idea of whether social media should be banned for under 16s. This produced some very thoughtful ideas and discussions.

In **Maths**, we have been revisiting and revising co-ordinates and reflecting and translating shapes. We have also created posters and used online resources to create helpful revision for us. We have enjoyed working in partners to talk through our methods and carefully check our calculations.

In **Geography**, we have been looking at extreme weather and focused on tsunamis. The children showed great enthusiasm and even got to act as Weather Forecasters telling us all how a tsunami is formed and what the effect is.

### KEY DATES

#### **SATs Week**

**Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May**

#### **Residential meeting**

**Monday 1st June at 5.30pm**

# Highlights of the Week from X

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 14h

Year 2 enjoyed outdoor learning in Maths today! They were able to find half of a number by drawing the whole and splitting it into two equal parts @JCANumeracy #fractions



0 2 126

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · Apr 27

Our children are absolutely loving our new Trim Trail! Thank you to the amazing @jca\_pta for this amazing resource!



2 2 19 949

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 23h

Year 2 practised their throwing skills in athletics yesterday. They trialled whether standing with their feet together or putting one leg forwards was easier to hit a target @JcaPhysicalEdu #athletics 🏈



0 2 145

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · Apr 24

Year 5 had a lovely morning at the Outdoor Library 📖 We completed a book quiz, chose a new book and spent the rest of the session reading.



1 2 19 878

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · Apr 27

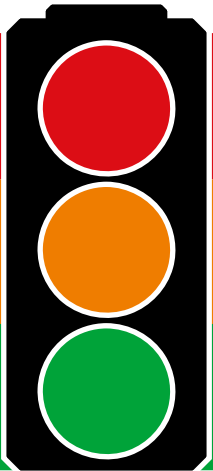
Year 5 have been busy recapping their understanding of first aid and learning how to safely put someone into the recovery position. They then put their skills into practice. Great work building confidence and life-saving knowledge, Year 5!



0 13 317

# Dates for Your Diary 2025-26

<b>INSET DAYS</b>	Monday 1st September 2025
	Monday 24th November 2025
	Friday 30th January 2026
	Friday 22nd May 2026
	Monday 20th July 2026
<b>Parents Evenings</b>	Monday 1st December and Wednesday 3rd December 2025
	Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March 2026
<b>Coffee Mornings</b>	Monday 1st December and Wednesday 3rd December 2025
<b>Reports</b>	Friday 28th November 2025 – Interim Reports
	Friday 20th March 2026 – Interim Reports
	Friday 10th July 2026 – End of Year Reports
<b>Theme Days/ Weeks</b>	Thursday 5th March 2026- World Book Day
	wc 23rd March 2026 – Theme Week – TBC
	wc -18th May 2026 Creative Arts week
<b>Performances</b>	Friday 5th December 2025 – Reception Christmas Activity Morning
	Tuesday 9th December 2025 (9.30am) and Wednesday 10th 9.30am – Reception nativity
	Monday 15th December 2025 – Christmas carols around the tree (ASC)
	Tuesday 16th December 2025 (2pm) and Wednesday 17th (9.30 am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity
	Wednesday 10th June 2026 Art gallery evening
	w/c Monday 13th July 2026 – Celebration week
<b>Sports Day</b>	Friday 5th June 2026
	Friday 26th June Reserve Sports Day
<b>Summer Fair</b>	Saturday 4th July, 11 am-3pm.



**BELOW 90%**  
**Serious concern**  
**Persistent absence**

**90% - 95%**  
**Cause for concern**  
**Low attendance**

**AT LEAST 96%**  
**Expected attendance**

## EVERY DAY COUNTS...

Learning is a progressive activity. Each lesson and each day builds on another. If your child is absent for lessons that include demonstrations, discussions, experiments and other participation activities as part of the daily learning activities, they are missing learning that cannot be made up.

### BENEFITS OF GOOD ATTENDANCE

- Pupils with good attendance generally achieve higher grades.
- Pupils with good attendance generally enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Good school attendance helps to develop other responsible patterns of behaviour.

### SOME RISKS OF POOR ATTENDANCE

- Pupils are likely to miss learning activities that their classmates have taken part in, which could mean they fall behind.
- They miss out on social interaction with friends/classmates - this can have a negative effect on the wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Low attendance is associated with anti-social behaviour and poor learning behaviours

### THE LAW AND YOU

The Law states (Education Act 1996, Section 7) that all children of compulsory school age must receive an appropriate full-time education. As a parent/carer, you are legally responsible for making sure your child receives an effective education. Failure to ensure your child attends school regularly could lead to intervention from the Missing Education & Child Employment Service which has the power to implement:

**Fixed Penalty Notices • Prosecutions • An Education Supervision Order**

### TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

It is not a parental right to take their child on holiday during term time.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances and you have completed a holiday request form in advance.

If you choose to take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday you could receive a penalty notice of £80, per parent, per child.

### CAN I GET SUPPORT?

Absolutely! We appreciate the unavoidable events that affect our pupils and their families.

We believe that the most effective way to ensure your child remains on track is to work together to maximise support in their/your time of need.

Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to making sure your child is happy and getting the best out of their time at school. Talk to us.



# You might be eligible to Pupil Premium. What is the Pupil Premium (PP)?



The Pupil Premium is extra government money which is paid to schools to support children's learning and development. We can support you in finding out if your child could receive the extra money. We can choose how to best spend the Pupil Premium money and will work with you to make sure your child benefits from the extra funding.

## Who could benefit from this money?

Children from the reception year to year 6 may be eligible if they:

- are registered for Free School Meals (FSM)
- have been registered for FSM at any point in the last 6 years
- are or have been in care
- have parents in the armed forces \*If your child could claim for FSM but takes a packed lunch to school, it's still important you tell us. This will let us know if your child is able to receive the Pupil Premium.

Your child could benefit from:

- exciting new learning activities and experiences
- one to one or small group sessions
- extra tools, materials and equipment to help with learning in school or at home
- before/after school clubs or activities

## Why should I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Children who are registered for Free School Meals (FSM) are entitled to the Pupil Premium. Your child isn't automatically registered for FSM, even though all infant children are entitled to receive a free school meal.

## How do I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Follow the link below to the Wakefield online portal for parents:

<https://parentportal.wakefield.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

***If you need any support with this, please don't hesitate to ask the school office or myself personally on the gate.***

# Child Protection & Safeguarding

The designated Child Protection Officers for this academy are:

## **Mrs T Swinburne**

Trust Safeguarding Lead.

[Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk](mailto:Tracy.swinburne@amat.org.uk)



## **Mr T Palin**

Safeguarding Lead

[anthony.palin@jca.amat.org.uk](mailto:anthony.palin@jca.amat.org.uk)



## **Holly Dyson**

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

[holly.dyson@jca.amat.org.uk](mailto:holly.dyson@jca.amat.org.uk)



## **Helen Jones**

Designated Safeguarding Governor

[helen.jones@jca.amat.org.uk](mailto:helen.jones@jca.amat.org.uk)

