

# Accomplishing great things at JCA



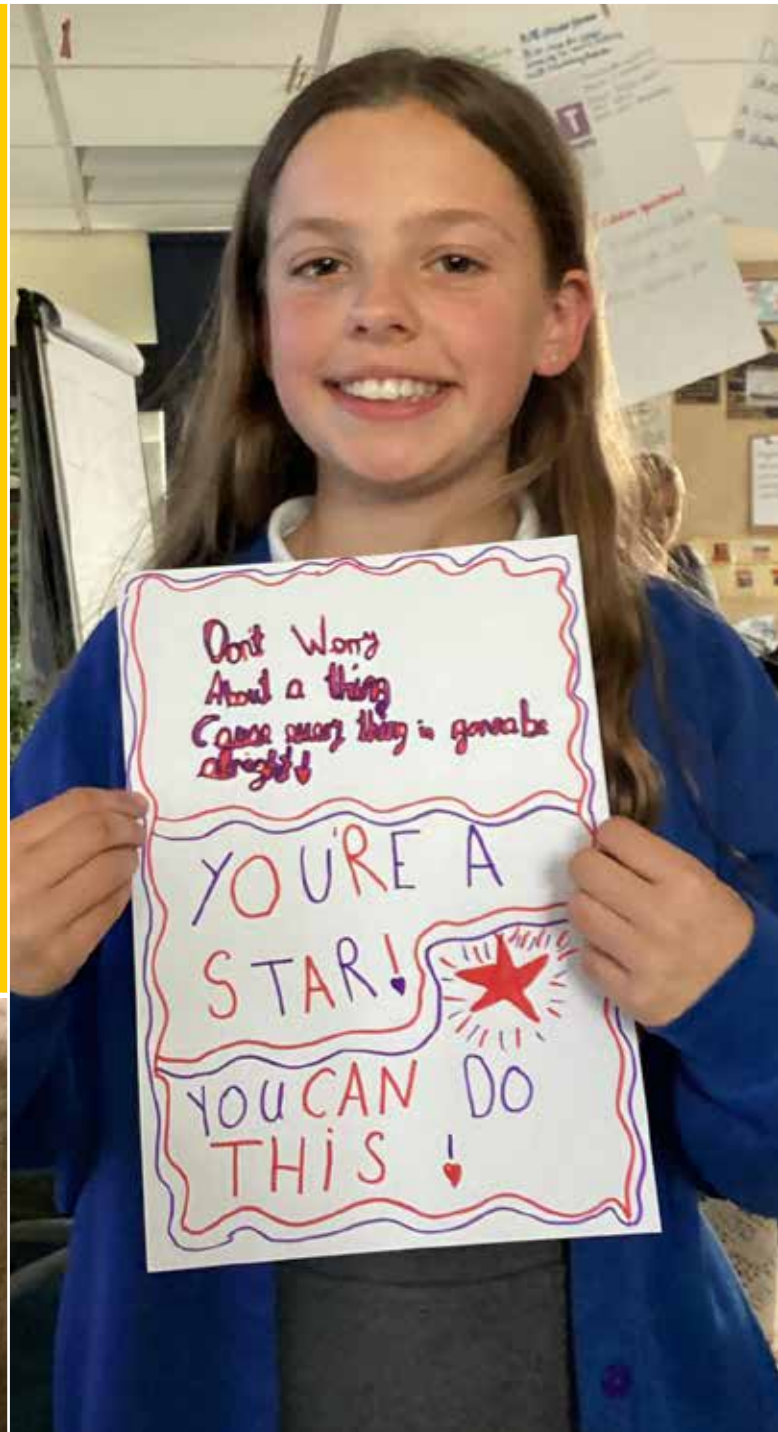
## Well done to Year 6!

A huge congratulations to all of our Year 6 children for completing their SATs this week. Every child has shown tremendous dedication throughout their time at JCA, especially over the past few weeks, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work, resilience and determination they have demonstrated. It has been wonderful to see the children approach the week with such confidence, positivity and support for one another.

Across the rest of the school, children have continued to enjoy their curriculum learning. I have particularly enjoyed speaking with children about how they have extended their learning at home and hearing the enthusiasm with which they share their experiences.

We are all looking forward to Creative Arts Week next week, and many children are already excitedly talking about the activities and opportunities ahead.

**A reminder that next Friday is an INSET day and school will be closed to children.**



# 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>99.60%</b>	96.90%
YEAR 2	<b>94.80%</b>	97.50%
YEAR 3	<b>94.80%</b>	96.40%
YEAR 4	<b>96.70%</b>	96.10%
YEAR 5	<b>92.80%</b>	95.20%
YEAR 6	<b>100.00%</b>	96.40%

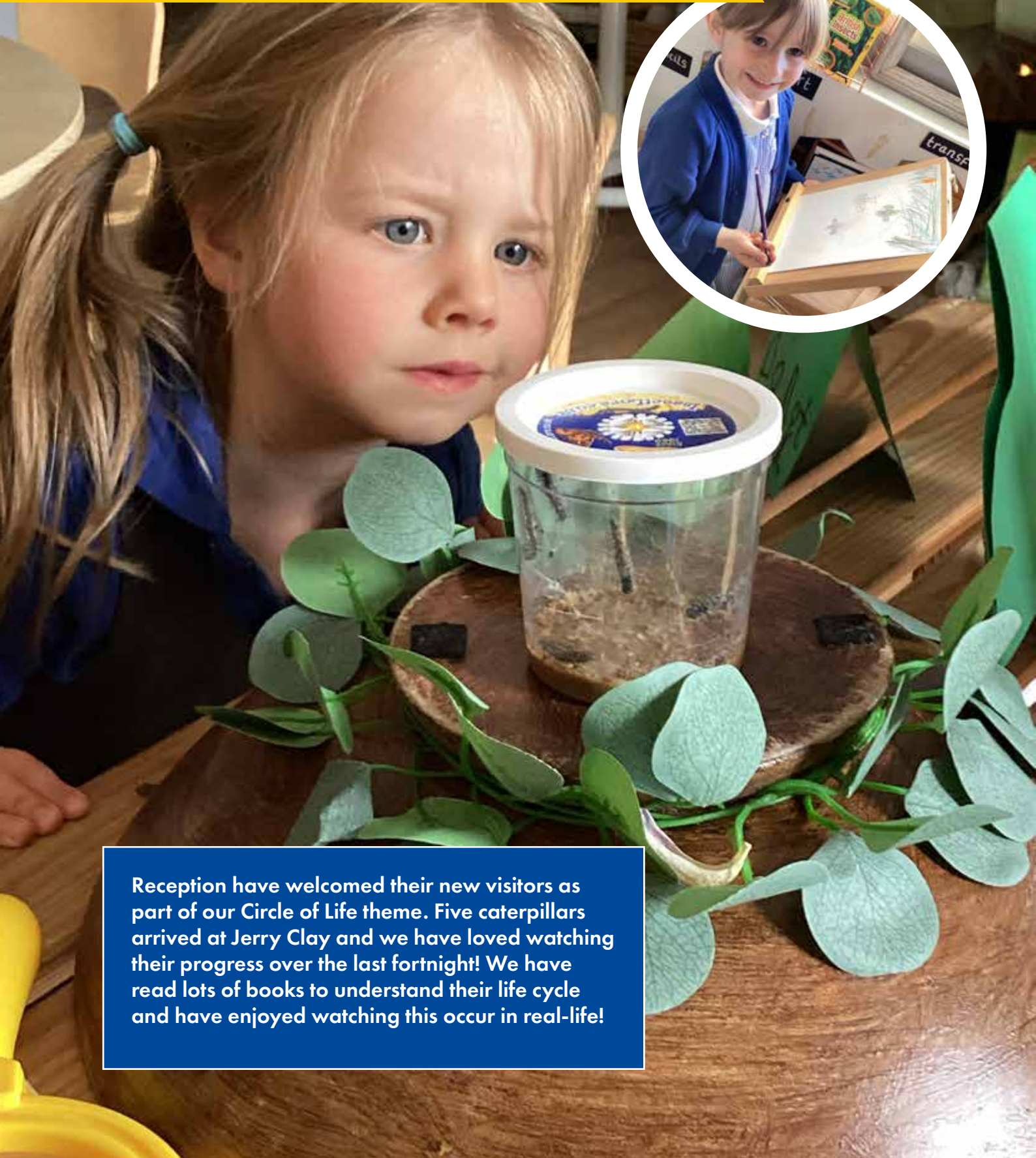
<b>97.40%</b>	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
<b>96.40%</b>	ACTUAL

<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 have welcomed their new visitors as part of our Circle of Life theme. Five caterpillars arrived at Jerry Clay and we have loved watching their progress over the last fortnight! We have read lots of books to understand their life cycle and have enjoyed watching this occur in real-life!

# RECEPTION

### Learning journey

To support our understanding of the caterpillar life cycle, we have read many non-fiction books as well as the stories of "The Crunching, Munching Caterpillar" and "The Woolly Bear Caterpillar". We have studied them carefully, talked about their process of transformation and demonstrated this in different ways and considered how we can care for them and make sure they feel safe and welcome at our school.

### Maths

In Maths, we have been discussing and verbally counting the numbers to 20. We have continued to explore doubles, looking at how doubles and symmetry are present in insects such as ladybirds and butterflies. Recently, we have practically explored "How many more" beginning to introduce the concept of addition using role play and different resources to count carefully.

### Literacy

We have been creating caterpillar diaries to note the progress and changes that we see. The children have also started to write sentences in their own play, which has been wonderful to see!



# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 1

In **English**, we have started to retell our core text: Leaf, in our own words and with a storytelling voice. We have enjoyed using vocabulary from the original story to develop this; we are also striving to use conjunctions to include longer sentences!

We have enjoyed exploring length, height and mass in **Maths**. This has included lots of practical learning in our outdoor garden provision area. The children enjoyed utilising the giant wooden balance scales to describe and compare the mass of objects.

In **Art**, we have experimented using printing techniques with leaves and natural materials to create a mood board in the style of Sandra Dieckmann – the illustrator of our core text 'Leaf'.

In **P.E.**, we have been practising running, jumping and throwing activities in preparation for sports day demonstrating excellent teamwork, perseverance and care.

In **Geography**, we are learning about hot and cold climates around the world. On Wednesday, we carefully studied world maps, observing symbols and keys to find out more information about the Arctic and Antarctic regions.



### KEY DATES

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

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 2

The weeks are flying by in our Summer term! Year 2 continue to be enthralled by our theme '**How can adverse weather cause change?**' and have enjoyed learning about our significant individuals of Samuel Pepys and King Charles the 2nd.

In **Maths**, we have continued our learning on Fractions. We have been exploring fractions of amounts and using sentence stems to explain our working. We have then deepened this by comparing unit and non-unit fractions.

For **English**, we have been creating a diary entry to recount the first day of the Great Fire of London. We have been striving to use time adverbials and subordinating conjunctions to add more detail.

In **PE**, we have loved practicing for Sports Day! Using the tennis rackets as a larger surface area to practice the egg and spoon race and evaluating where we need to be looking and the steadiness of our hands.

In **Art** for our final landscape we will be producing a scene from the Great Fire of London. Therefore, this week we have been looking at the different effects oil pastels and soft pastels can make when creating flames.



### KEY DATES

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

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 3



Year 3 have had a fantastic few weeks of learning and have shown great enthusiasm across all subjects.

In **English**, we have continued reading our class text 'Charlotte's Web', which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. They recently completed and published persuasive letters to Mr Zuckerman, explaining why Wilbur should be saved. The use of ambitious vocabulary and thoughtful rhetorical questions was particularly impressive and demonstrated how much their writing skills have developed.

In **Maths**, we have wrapped up our unit on time. The children worked hard to understand durations, including calculating start and end times, as well as using calendars to solve a variety of problems. They showed resilience when tackling tricky



questions and have become much more confident in applying these skills independently.

In **Art**, the class completed evaluation pages for their photo frame projects. They used mixed media to create a 3D effect in their sketchbooks, reflecting on what went well and what they would improve next time.

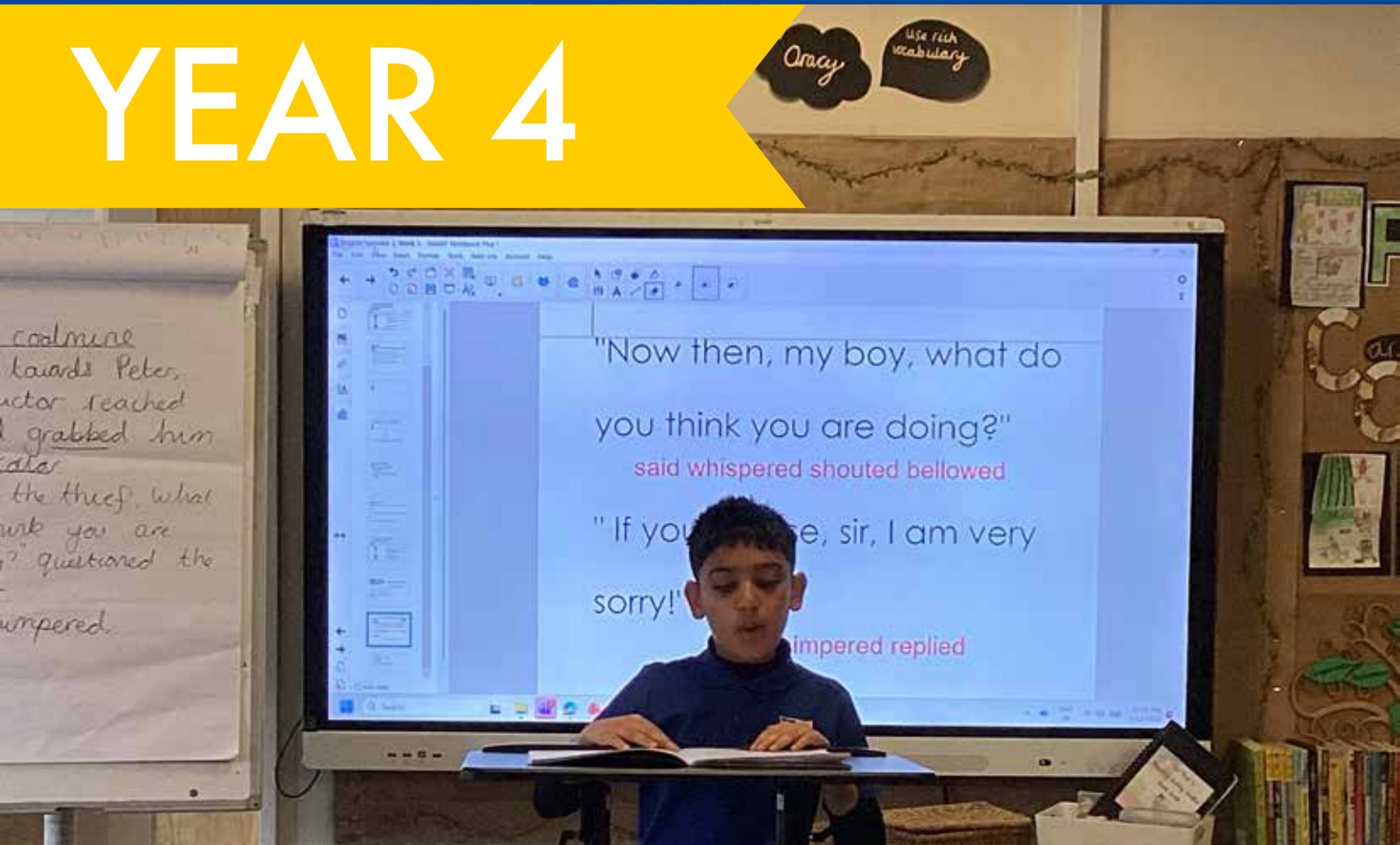
In **History**, we have been learning about how Potoven Lane got its name and exploring the rich history of Wrenthorpe's pottery community, which has sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

### KEY DATES

**The Great Yorkshire Show**  
**Tuesday 14th July**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

# YEAR 4



Year 4 have been thriving in the sunshine over the last few weeks. We have been helping with planting, gardening and taking care of our environment. Our wellbeing warriors have been busy sharing new sign language words across school and year 4 have taken this role very seriously. We have been finishing the sentence, "It makes me smile when..." daily. We would love to hear your sentences!

A special thank you to **Mr Broadhead** for sharing his knowledge and passion for steam engines with our class this week. We thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the importance of the Rainhill Trials and seeing it being recreated! We know that a lot of care and effort went in to preparing the model engines and sharing them with us. Every child commented on how interesting the story of George and Robert Stephenson's invention and how it still impacts us today.

In **maths**, we have been comparing and ordering decimal numbers. We have noticed that decimals are between whole numbers and have compared this to our knowledge of fractions. We can speedily work out how to divide whole numbers to make them ten times and a hundred times smaller. We are proud of the resilience the children have demonstrated with bringing all their learning together with fractions, decimals and percentages as we know how important they are in life.

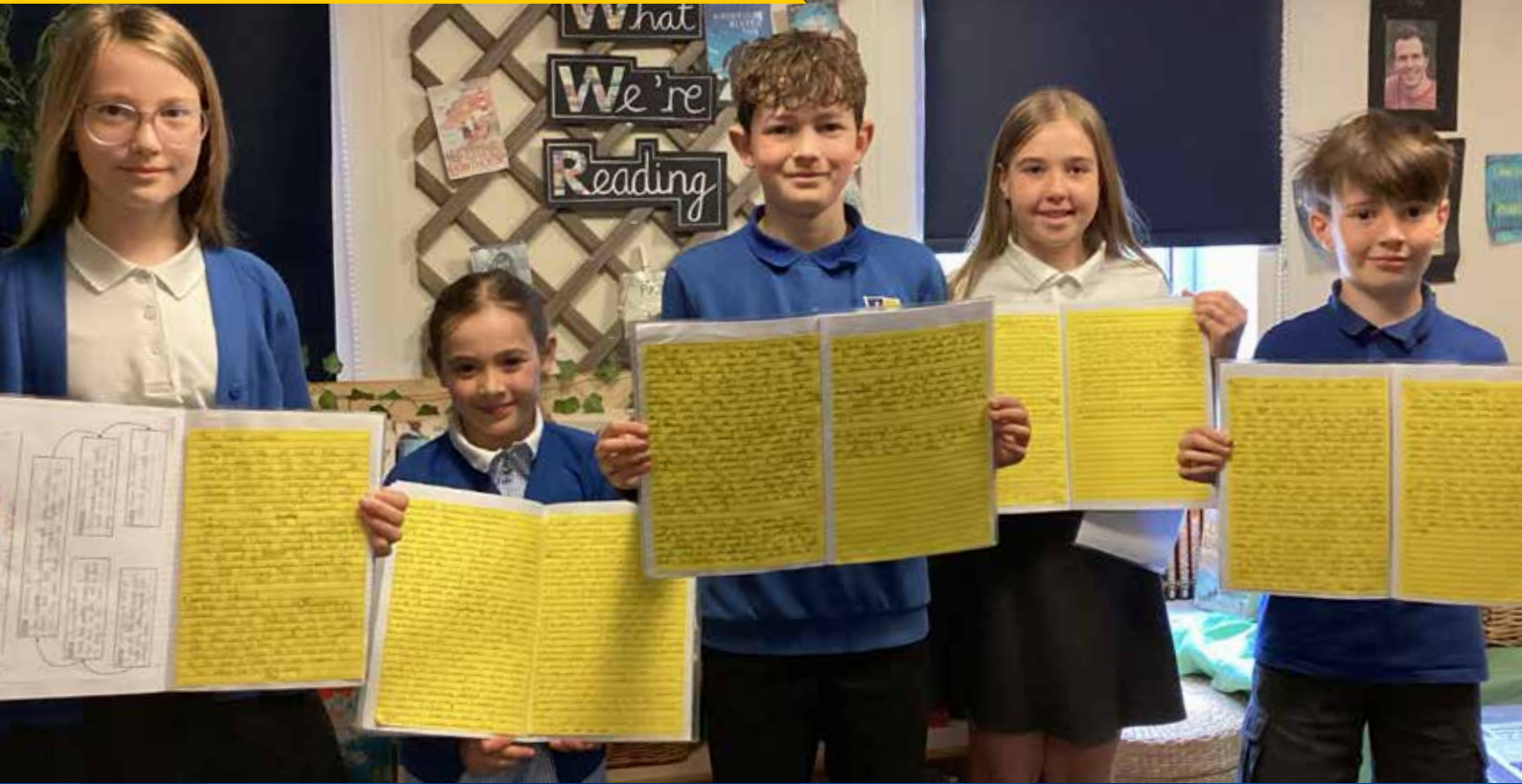
It has been great to hear all the real-life examples the children have been using to help them with this learning at home-including sharing pizza and cake! We have lots planned for creative arts week next week linked to one of our favourite stories, The Explorer, so please watch this space!

## KEY DATES

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

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 5



**Year 5** have continued to thrive in their learning about space this term and have shown fantastic enthusiasm across all subjects.

In **English**, the children have amazed us with their exciting space adventure stories. They have worked hard to include ambitious vocabulary, detailed descriptions and a range of punctuation to make their writing more engaging for the reader. Their creativity has truly shone through, with many imaginative ideas and thrilling storylines.

In **Maths**, we have been focusing on our 'Shape' unit. The children have learnt how to measure angles accurately using a protractor, calculate angles around a point and draw their own angles carefully and precisely. They have shown excellent determination and confidence when solving challenging problems.

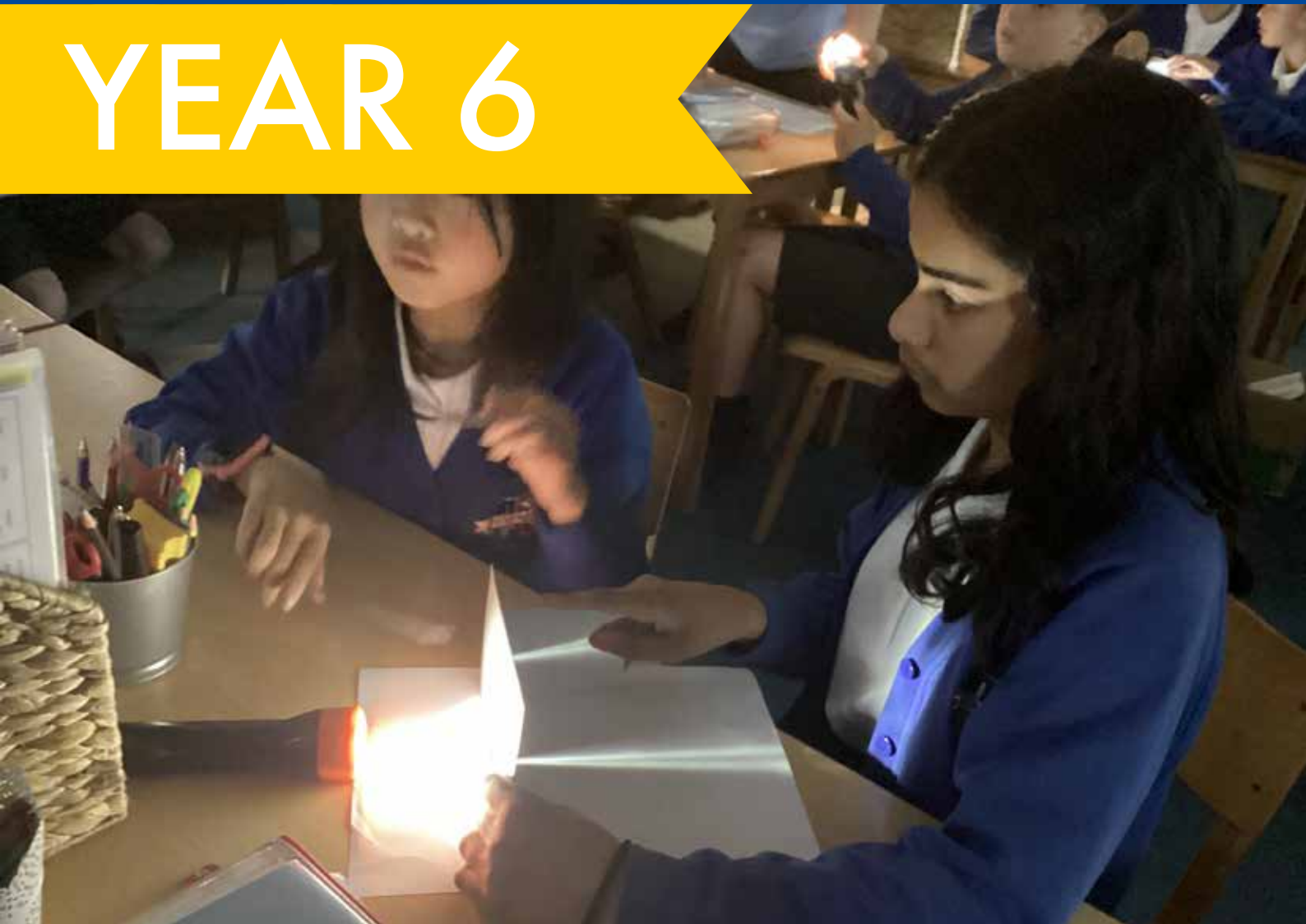
In **History**, Year 5 have been learning about the Space Race between America and the Soviet Union. We explored the achievements of astronaut Mae Jemison and discussed the impact she made as the first Black woman in space. We also linked our learning to segregation and explored how NASA helped to challenge segregation in America. The children have shown maturity and curiosity throughout these important discussions and should be very proud of all they have achieved this term.

### KEY DATES

**Brownlee Triathlon**  
**Friday 19th June**

# Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

## YEAR 6



Year 6 have shown great learning attitudes the past few weeks. Lots of time outdoors in the sunshine! The children have shone as bright as ever during **SATS week** and they have worked really hard. We are so very proud of them all!

In **English**, we have been continuing to focus on our reading, covering a range of genres to help us when answering different question types. We have also been making the most of the sunny weather and having plenty of time to read for pleasure.

In **Maths**, the children have been working together to calculate arithmetic questions and explaining the methods they have been using. We have been revisiting and revising fractions, decimals and percentages, using these skills in multi-step problems making sure we checked our calculations carefully.

In **Science**, we have been investigating light. We used light and mirror to measure incident angles and angles of reflection. The children showed their knowledge of Maths and Science during this session and were keen to learn about scattered lines of refraction too.

During SATs week, we focused on **graffiti art** and have been creating our names in different styles that reflect us as well as taking inspiration from our artist Keith Haring.

### KEY DATES

**Residential meeting**  
**Monday 1st June at 5.30pm**

**Residential**  
**Monday 15th -Thursday 18th June**

# Highlights of the Week from X

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · May 8

An excellent week in Reception! Our "Circle of Life" theme is completely engaging us and we have also been learning how to count in different ways in Maths. Superstar learning! @jcaeyfs

2 17 458

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 15h

A huge thank you to Mr Broadhead for delivering a talk to year 4 about the Rainhill Trials and the Industrial Revolution. We really enjoyed hearing the story of 200 years of invention and wonder. Thank you for your generosity.

13 196

**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · May 8

A lovely afternoon creating positive affirmations ready for Monday! We are raring to go!

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**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 18h

Year 4 using their Oracy skills to read dialogue. We have focused on using speech marks and reporting verbs accurately in our writing.

1 12 378

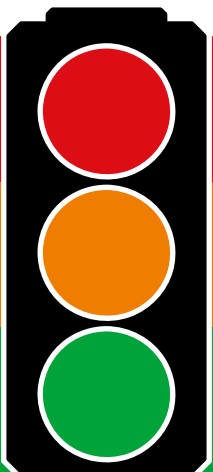
**Jerry Clay Academy** @JCAWakefield · 16h

Thank you to Rai-Léyah's family for their incredibly kind gesture of providing an ice cream for all children for her birthday - there were so many smiles and so much gratitude this afternoon ❤️ Rai-Léyah will never be forgotten

1 1 29 653

# 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)

