Friday 9th October 2026

Accomplishing great things at JCA

Teamwork in abundance!

The week started with an assembly to celebrate the success of Wakefield Trinity and it has inspired so much teamwork across the school! The children have supported one-another so well throughout the week and I look forward to seeing this continue!

This week, I have also been pleased to see so many examples of the impact of our new 'One Life' PSHE curriculum. Children are immersing themselves so well within this and are constantly reflecting on their feelings and emotions in a variety of positive ways.

Please read our newsletter which showcases the learning across all classes across all curriculum subjects!







ACCOMPLISH
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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	**98.50%**	98.00%
YEAR 1	**99.30%**	97.90%
YEAR 2	**100%**	99.50%
YEAR 3	**99.30%**	99.10%
YEAR 4	**98.50%**	99.30%
YEAR 5	**98.50%**	97.10%
YEAR 6	**96.40%**	95.90%

97.40%	**WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET**
98.10%	**ACTUAL**

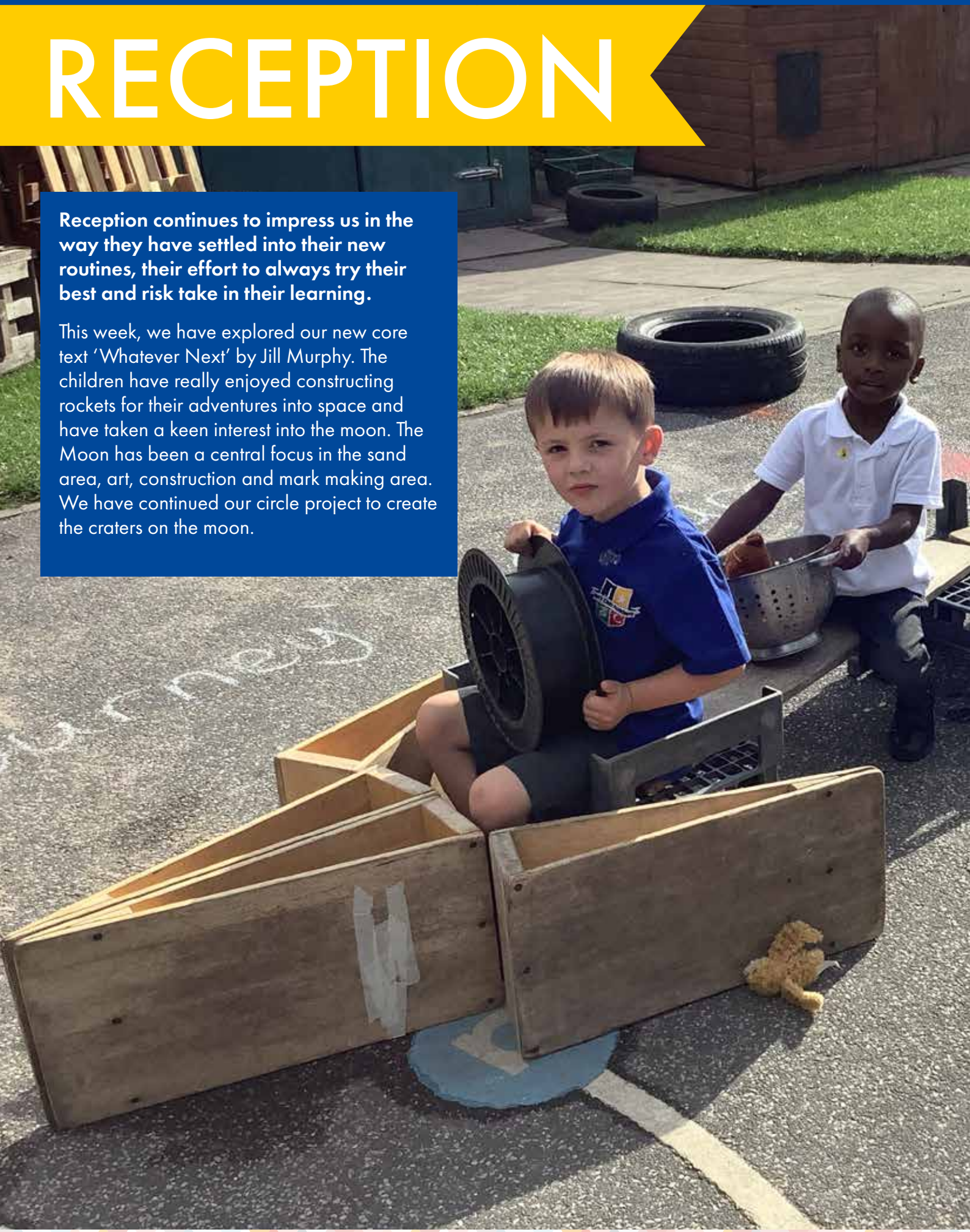
97% +
AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

BELOW 95%
CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW
PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Reception continues to impress us in the way they have settled into their new routines, their effort to always try their best and risk take in their learning.

This week, we have explored our new core text 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. The children have really enjoyed constructing rockets for their adventures into space and have taken a keen interest into the moon. The Moon has been a central focus in the sand area, art, construction and mark making area. We have continued our circle project to create the craters on the moon.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Literacy

Reception have been exceptional in our phonics sessions and are continuing to learn their set 1 sounds. This week, we introduced our sound blending board to begin to make and read words. We have been so impressed on how amazing their reading has been. We can't wait to show you in Friday library. Links to the virtual classroom has been sent home on parentmail with our focus sounds and Fred talk for this week.

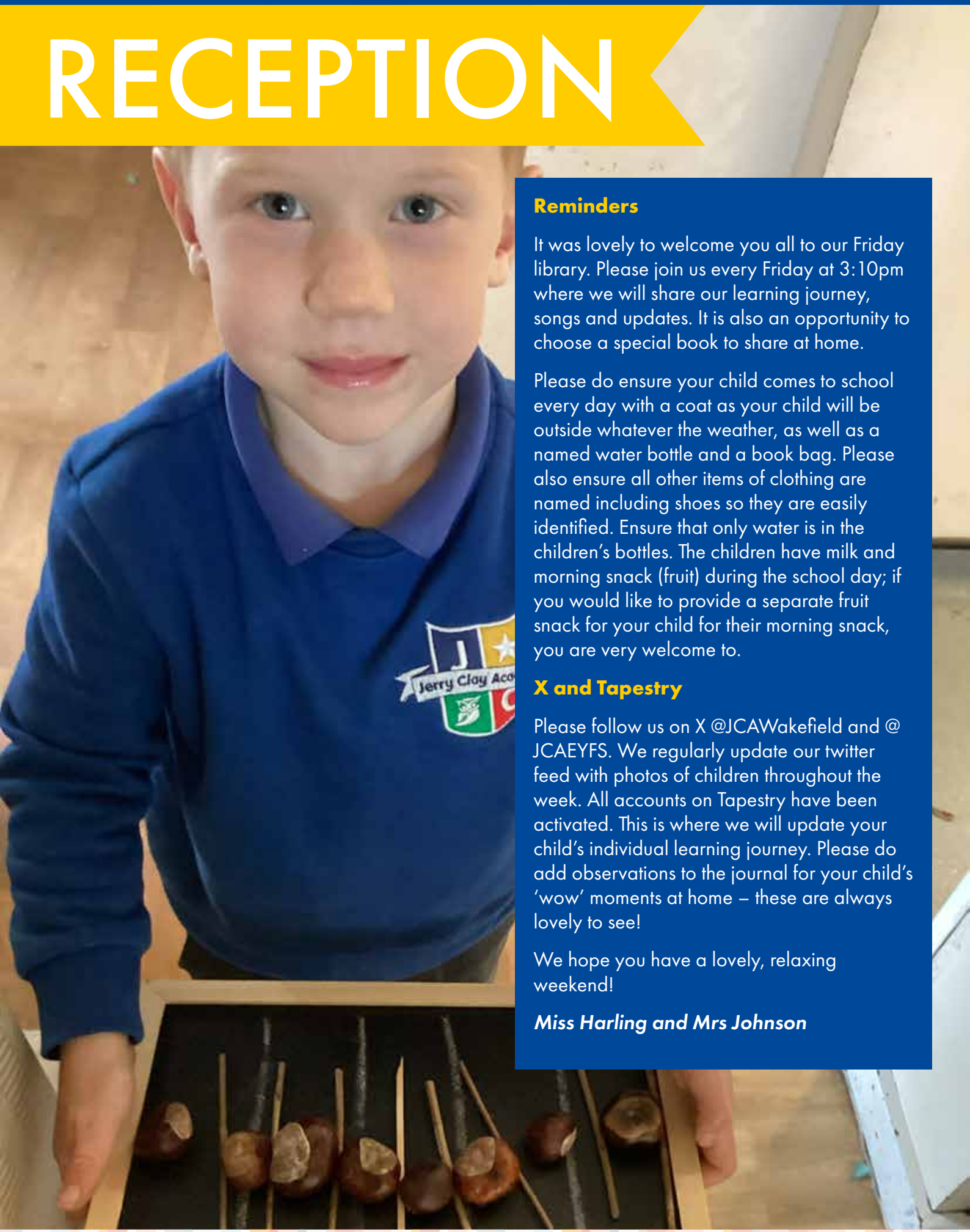
Maths

In Maths, we have been exploring simple patterns, creating our own patterns and challenging ourselves to copy and perform our patterns too. We have been creating action patterns by arranging the actions on our grid and performing them to each other.



Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

RECEPTION



Reminders

It was lovely to welcome you all to our Friday library. Please join us every Friday at 3:10pm where we will share our learning journey, songs and updates. It is also an opportunity to choose a special book to share at home.

Please do ensure your child comes to school every day with a coat as your child will be outside whatever the weather, as well as a named water bottle and a book bag. Please also ensure all other items of clothing are named including shoes so they are easily identified. Ensure that only water is in the children's bottles. The children have milk and morning snack (fruit) during the school day; if you would like to provide a separate fruit snack for your child for their morning snack, you are very welcome to.

X and Tapestry

Please follow us on X @JCAWakefield and @ JCAEYFS. We regularly update our twitter feed with photos of children throughout the week. All accounts on Tapestry have been activated. This is where we will update your child's individual learning journey. Please do add observations to the journal for your child's 'wow' moments at home – these are always lovely to see!

We hope you have a lovely, relaxing weekend!

Miss Harling and Mrs Johnson

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 1

Year 1 have continued to flourish and immerse themselves into their learning. This week, in English, the children have been continuing to write simple sentences to describe 'Sparkle' the dragon using adjectives. The children are confidently using their phonic knowledge and 'Fred Fingers' to spell words!

In **Maths**, we have been comparing numbers using greater than, less than and equal to and using the symbols < > and = to record this. We are also striving high to correctly form numerals and count accurately forwards and backwards from 0-10. The children enjoyed using our outdoor maths provision challenges to practise and apply their knowledge.

In **Music** we are learning to appreciate different styles of music as well as sing 'Hey You' with musical instruments. It was exciting to create a band with a ukelele and recorder to practise our rhythms and pulse. The children can't wait to rehearse and perform this song to you soon.

In **Geography** we are learning about the 4 countries of the United Kingdom and their respective capital cities. The children have thoroughly enjoyed singing the 4 countries song and devising games using elastic to retrieve these facts.

In **P.E,** we have been practising different types of travelling actions including rolls such as straddle, log and the rock roll. Last week, we used benches to travel across. Lots of risk taking and perseverance shown in abundance.

In **Art,** the children have created a mood board based on Jackie Morris, the illustrator of 'Tell me a Dragon'. They have been learning about watercolour painting and practising wet on wet and wet on dry techniques using the images as inspiration. We created large dragon wings in the playground using chalk.



KEY DATES

Pontefract Castle trip
9th November 2026

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 2



Year 2 are continuing to explore our coal mining theme and have really worked on their presentation across books these last two weeks. This week was National Poetry Week and we thoroughly enjoyed learning a new poem about the United Kingdom to link in with our previous Geography learning.

In **English**, we are completing our resolution and ending to our story of 'Town is by the sea.' We have worked hard to improve and develop our editing skills, using purple pen to uplevel our writing ready for our hot writes.

In **Maths**, we have now completed our unit on place value. We particularly enjoyed our outdoor learning lesson of counting in 3s. This week we have moved onto addition and subtraction where we have been using number bonds to support our understanding of fact families.

In **Geography,** we have explored where coal mines are on a map within the UK. We created our own keys to show past and present coal mines as well as looking at atlases to locate main areas. We were surprised to find out that Wakefield is within an area with a high density of coal mines.

We have loved our morning **yoga** sessions so far this year! Taking time to relax our minds and bodies and understanding the importance of this each day.

KEY DATES

Coal Mining Museum trip
4th November

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 3







What a magnificent few weeks we have had in Year 3 as we get closer to the end of our half term! It has been inspiring to see the children's enthusiasm for learning, not only in school but at home too! Our foundation subjects have really been shining and we have been so impressed with the children's retrieval of knowledge and application of skills!

We had a brilliant trip to **Experience Barnsley** the children showed off their knowledge of the Stone Age- Iron Age. It was an immersive trip where they made cave paintings, foraged for food and dug in the sand to uncover relics- like real archaeologists!

During our **music** sessions, we have been learning to play the chords C, A minor and F on the ukulele. We have been practising shifting between different chords quickly. It has been fun to learn how to read music as we have clapped along to different rhythms.

In **Science**, we have been learning more about palaeontologist, Mary Anning, it has been impressive to see so many children researching her at home too. We have used these facts in our English lessons, where we have written detailed biographies about her life.

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 4



It has been a fantastic couple of weeks in Year 4! The children have been working incredibly hard and striving to improve the presentation of their work across all their books. We are very proud of the effort and care they are putting into their learning.

In **Maths,** we have completed our unit on place value and have now moved on to addition and subtraction. The children have made a fantastic start, developing their confidence and demonstrating their ability to use the column method to solve calculations accurately.

In **English**, there has been great excitement as we begin writing our own Greek myths! We have explored a range of Greek myths, identified their key features and discussed what makes them so engaging. The children are now looking forward to using these features to inspire their own imaginative stories.

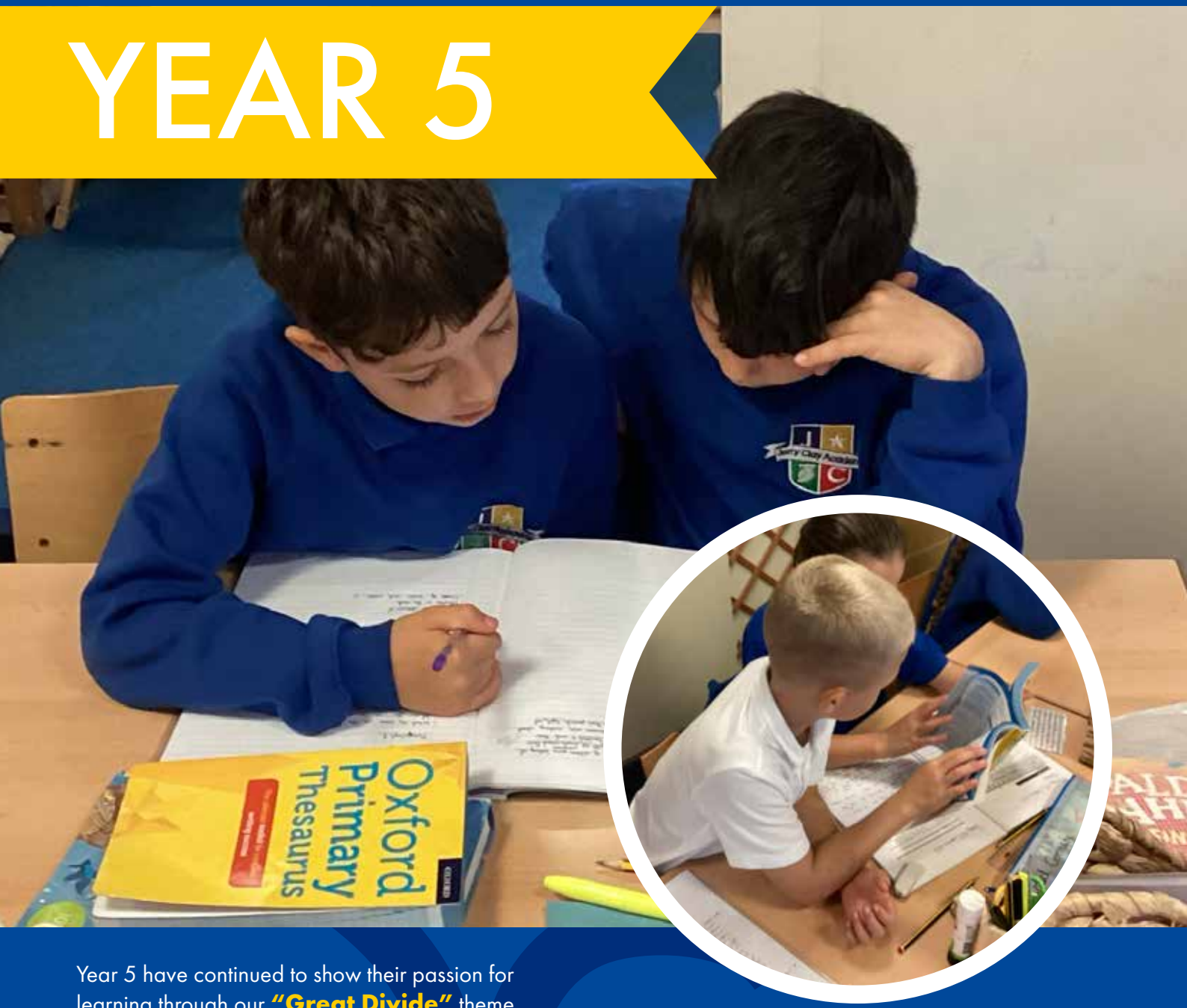
In **Music**, we have been using the glockenspiels to create and perform music. The children have loved experimenting with the instruments and sharing their performances with the rest of the class. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow!

Finally, in **Art,** we have been researching our key artist, Jacob Everett, and exploring some of his important pieces of work. We used our research and observations to create mood boards, which will help inspire our own artwork.

Well done, Year 4, for another brilliant couple of weeks!

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 5



Year 5 have continued to show their passion for learning through our **"Great Divide"** theme.

In **English**, we have been working hard to develop our critiquing and editing skills using collaborative talk partners, dictionaries and thesauruses. We have beautifully published our descriptions of an air raid during The Blitz and we will be proudly displaying all of these on our writing display to share this with you.

In **Maths**, we have been developing our understanding of place value. By understanding how numbers are composed, we've been able to confidently partition larger numbers. We are now focusing on rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Year 5 has embraced this challenge with enthusiasm, demonstrating a growing understanding of this essential mathematical skill.

In our **One Life PSHE** sessions, we have been learning about self-awareness and what makes us the person that we are. We have been discussing 'stopping and catching' ourselves and recognising our 'Guard Dog' and 'Wise Owl'.

During **History** lessons, we have continued to learn about World War 2 and have been focusing on rationing, Dunkirk and women's roles during the war.

KEY DATES

Eden Camp
Tuesday 3rd November

Curriculum over the last 2 weeks at JCA

YEAR 6



What a fantastic couple of weeks we have had! Focus, kindness and perseverance have been shining through in everything we have done, and we have been incredibly proud of the children's positive attitudes towards their learning.

In **Maths**, we have taken on the challenge of long division. Although this can be a tricky skill to master, the children have shown great determination, persevering and becoming increasingly confident with each new problem.

Our **English** lessons have transported us back to ancient Egypt as we begin planning our action stories. The children will be writing about the thrilling discovery of an ancient Egyptian tomb filled with hidden treasure. To make their stories exciting and suspenseful, they have been experimenting with powerful verbs and varying sentence lengths to keep their readers hooked.

In **Art**, we have continued developing our expressionism work by creating backgrounds for our final pieces. We explored the impact of warm and cool colours and used these to create bold, vibrant colour palettes.

In **Science**, we investigated how exercise affects our bodies. We measured our pulse, explored how it changed after exercise and recorded our findings carefully in tables. The children approached the investigation with lots of enthusiasm and curiosity.

It has been another busy and rewarding fortnight. Keep up the amazing work!

KEY DATES

Bikeability
19th - 21st October

Egyptian trip to Leeds City Museum
Tuesday 10th November

Highlights of the Week from X

Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Oct 6

We are loving our singing assemblies this half term. We have focused on our projection and how we can blend as a whole school to sing a variety of songs! 🎶



@JCA_Music

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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Oct 5

What an amazing author visit from Jon Lock and Nich Angell last week! Thank you to @darling_reads for helping to organise this special event - our children were captivated!



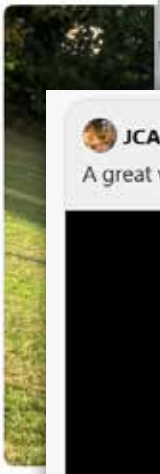


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Jerry Clay Academy @JCAWakefield · Oct 5

We are so proud of our tag rugby team for the sportsmanship they demonstrated today! Their communication and teamwork was inspirational and helped lead them to victory 🏆 Well done, team!





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JCAEYFS @jcaeyfs · Oct 3

A great week in Reception this week. 🧡✨

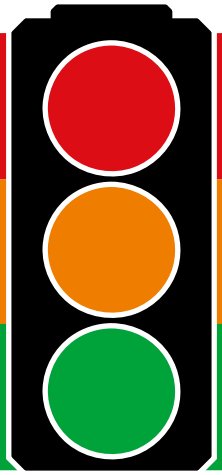


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Dates for Your Diary 2026-27

INSET days	Tuesday 1st September 2026
	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
	Monday 23rd November 2026
	Friday 29th January 2027
	Friday 28th May 2027
Parents Evenings	Monday 30th November and Wednesday 2nd December 2026
	Monday 22nd March and Wednesday 24th March 2027
Theme Days/ Weeks	Thursday 4th March 2027- World Book Day
	wc 22nd March 2027– Theme Week – TBC
	wc -24th May 2027– Creative Arts week
Performances	Friday 4th December 2026 – Reception Christmas Activity Morning
	Tuesday 8th December 2026 (9.30am) and Thursday 10th December (9.30am) – Reception nativity
	Monday 14th December 2026 – Christmas carols around the tree (ASC)
	Tuesday 15th December 2026 (2pm) and Wednesday 16th (9.30 am) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity
	Thursday 17th December 2026 - Christingle at St. Annes (AM) at 10am TBC
	Wednesday 16th June 2027 Art gallery evening
	w/c Monday 12th July 2027- Wednesday 21st July 2027 – Celebration week
Sports Day	Tuesday 8th June 2027
	Friday 18th June- Reserve Sports Day

Attendance Matters



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.

ACCOMPLISH
ATTENDANCE
ACTION

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



Mr T Palin

Safeguarding Lead

anthony.palin@jca.amat.org.uk



Aimie Johnson

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

aimie.johnson@jca.amat.org.uk



Helen Jones

Designated Safeguarding Governor

helen.jones@jca.amat.org.uk

