



## Jerounds Journal

Dear Parent and Carers,

As another week of colourful learning emerges from the corridors of Jerounds, I would like to remind our community of our first school improvement target this year: Reading! One of the basic reasons why we chose reading, is that reading will help our children to grow mentally, emotionally and psychologically. After all, every book gives them an opportunity to learn new things and explore new ideas. Reading books also assists knowledge and self-managed learning – all important skills for secondary school and life beyond school. Other reasons, but not exclusively include:

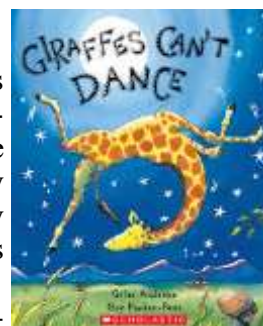
**It helps you discover yourself** - Every good book opens up new dimensions of thoughts for the reader. When you read a book, you somehow try to connect the events, emotions, experiences and characters in the books with yourself. This not only keeps you engrossed into the book but it also makes you realise how you would react and feel to those situations that have not yet occurred in your life. It helps you broaden your dimension of likes and dislikes and things that would please you. So with every page that you read, you have a chance to discover a new part of yourself!

**Imparts valuable lessons from years of experiences** - Books are not written in a day. For an author, it takes a lot of hard work, understanding, experiences, knowledge and in many cases lots of pain to come up with a single book. But we as a reader get to read them in just weeks or days thereby living years of experiences in considerably less time.

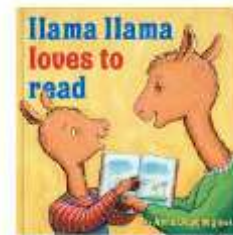
**It improves your focus and concentration** - The Internet has definitely revolutionised our world. But there's a huge drawback too. For many of us, a large part of our day is spent 'surfing', chatting, watching videos, reading unnecessary memes and articles online. No wonder people are growing more impatient and losing focus. However, reading books is one of those constructive habits that actually help us improve our concentration power. It helps us to train our brain to focus our attention and live in the present.

**Reading assists memory enhancement** - There are a lot of things that we need to remember while reading a book. Name of the characters and their features, name of the places, plots and sub-plots, the sequence of events, important conversations etc. are some of the key information we need to keep in mind while reading. And the ability to retain this information keeps improving with the number of books that you read.

As your brain learns to remember the information from the storyline, it also becomes better at remembering other things of your life. So by reading books, you are also indirectly training your brain in improving your memory.



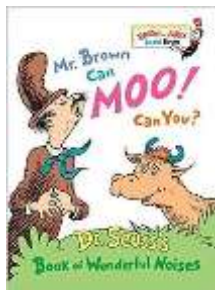
**Reading is a source of motivation** - Life can sometimes be tricky. Sometimes there are moments in our life when we feel down and discouraged. We may lose our hope and interest in particular subjects or situations, and just want to give up. Well, in times like this, sometimes all we need is a little motivation, a little push in the right direction. I often have to refer to a book for guidance and motivation. Reading a good inspirational book during such periods can change our way of thinking and give us hope and motivation. Books are no doubt a huge source of motivation. We can derive great inspirations from them and transform our lives positively.



**Reading broadens your imagination and enhances your creativity** - This is the beauty of books. It makes you imagine things beyond possibility – things that would not come to our mind normally. Books give you a lot to think about. They also give you the opportunity to present your own perspectives and imaginations into play!

**Reading reduces stress and helps you sleep better** - Reading is one of the best ways to relax your mind. According to a Research by University of Sussex reading for even six minutes can reduce your stress levels by as high as 68 percent! Psychologists believe that this is probably because when we are lost in a book, our mind is focused on reading and that little distraction from the real world and our problems into a literary world eases the tensions in muscles and heart.

So the ultimate way of relaxing your mind is by losing yourself in a book! Read more and you will realise yourself that your stress level becomes significantly low with time. Furthermore, reading has a pretty positive impact on another important aspect of our life – a good night's sleep! Reading books calms your mind and helps you sleep better – although try to avoid the suspense and horror genre.



**Reading enhances your critical and analytical thinking** - While reading, a lot of information is being processed in our brain simultaneously. It opens up many different perspectives for your brain to comprehend. If you are reading a mystery or suspense book, your brain constantly tries to guess certain outcomes and events. It also has to relate one event to the other to make sense in the story. All this, in turn, sharpens our mind and enhances our critical and analytical thinking skills.

**Reading improves your brain functions** – there is research that suggests reading powerful works of fiction can make neural changes in your brain thereby improving your brain functions.

**Reading makes you a better person** – as it helps you to grow as a person, providing empathy and humility. Reading books not only enlightens you with knowledge, but it also makes you realise how much you do not know about the world. With each book teaching you something new, you cannot help but think how limited your knowledge is. On the contrary, you read a book because you know it will add some new pieces of information in your mind which was so far unknown to you.

**Reading gives joy and pleasure** - One basic reason why we read is simply because we enjoy reading. Reading brings joy and happiness in our life. We don't have to depend on someone else to be happy and pleased – this fact, frequently reminds me of Roald Dahl's 'Matilda' and her daily escape into the world of books. (referenced article: '*Importance of Reading Books*' by Subodh Sharma)

For school purposes, reading holds an even greater skill: **reading improves children's vocabulary**, language command and communication skills. If you are a reader, you probably know the importance of reading in enhancing your vocabulary. Reading books is one of the best ways to improve your vocabulary. Moreover, the conversations in the books also help you to strengthen your command over the language; your sentence formation becomes quick, better and qualitative. In fact, you rarely get stuck for lack of words. Once you have a richer vocabulary and controlled command over the language, your communication skills automatically become better.

Subsequently, we urge you as a teaching staff, to fully embrace your child's developing love for reading and to openly share your own experiences with books, reading and enjoy learning with your children. I happily welcome any positive photography contributions demonstrating a 'love for reading' at home, so that we may share on one of our social media platforms. Please do email [office@jerounds.netacademies.net](mailto:office@jerounds.netacademies.net), so that I may post and share with our wider community. We might even discover new titles and some new reading ideas and benefits!



Wishing you all a lovely weekend full of reading.

Mrs Laura Ciftci BA (Hons) MEd

Head of School



# Birthday Book Donations

Children and adults love reading at Jerounds and will thoroughly enjoy reading these birthday book donations.

Thank you so much, we are very lucky.



## Self-Care



The practice of taking an active role in protecting one's own well-being and happiness, in particular during periods of stress.

"expressing oneself is an essential form of self-care" · "self-care methods such as meditation"

# Attendance

## Attendance challenge

Our whole school attendance challenge is set at

**97%** for the year.

Our current school attendance for the year so far is

**96.3%**



## Weekly Class Attendance Heros

W/C 18th September 2020

1. Sparrows 100%
2. Merlins 99.1%
3. Wagtails 98.7%

Whole school  
95.8%

W/C 25th September 2020

1. Kingfishers & Nightingales 100%

2. Sparrows 98.9%
3. Swans 98.8%

Whole school  
97.7%

## Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%

|   |      |                |
|---|------|----------------|
| 0 days off school                       | 100% | Perfection     |
| Equates to 2 days off school each year  | 99%  | Excellent      |
| Equates to 5 days off school each year  | 97%  | Good           |
| Equates to 10 days off school each year | 95%  | Slight concern |
| Equates to 20 days off school each year | 90%  | Concerned      |
| Equates to 30 days off school each year | 85%  | Very concerned |



# After School Club



Our fantastic After School Club is up and running with Mrs Bull and Mrs Fox at the helm. The children are enjoying picnics on the field (weather permitting), pond dipping, planting of flowers, football, cricket, rounders and an array of other fun activities.

If you would like your child to attend our After School Club, which runs from 3.45pm to 6pm, then please email or call the office for an application form.



# Mind in West Essex

Calling all budding artists from Jerounds!  
Enter the Mind in West Essex Christmas Card Competition and help  
raise money for this fantastic charity.  
Christmas goodies are up for grabs for the best designs too.  
Please see below for details....

**Christmas Card Competition**

Closing date: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

 **mind in West Essex**  
for better mental health

Mental Health Support Team  
[trailblazer@mindinwestessex.org.uk](mailto:trailblazer@mindinwestessex.org.uk)

**Design your very own Christmas Card**

Winners will have their card printed and it will go on sale to raise vital funds for Mind in West Essex. There will also be a selection of Christmas goodies up for grabs for the best designs! Various age categories – don't forget to put your name and age on the back!

 <https://www.facebook.com/mindinwestessex/>  
 <https://twitter.com/HarlowMHS> @HarlowMHS

Please speak to staff for further information or email  
[trailblazer@mindinwestessex.org.uk](mailto:trailblazer@mindinwestessex.org.uk)



# EYFS News



This week EYFS have started their phonics lessons and we have been writing the sounds we have learned in our phonics books. We have also been making words with the sounds we have learnt such as 'mum' and 'am'.

Each sound has a rhyme which we have been using to help us when writing the sound.

This week in maths, our number of the week is 2. We have been practising writing the number 2 in our maths book and discussing how we know it is an odd number. We have also been adding other numbers to the number 2 to make new numbers and putting these into number sentences as a whole class.

During our PE lesson this week, we were practising ways in which we can travel such as, jogging, slithering, hopping and skipping. We made sure to listen to when our teachers said stop and start.



# Year One News



Year 1 have had an excellent week! They have been learning about ordinal numbers and how to use a number line in maths.

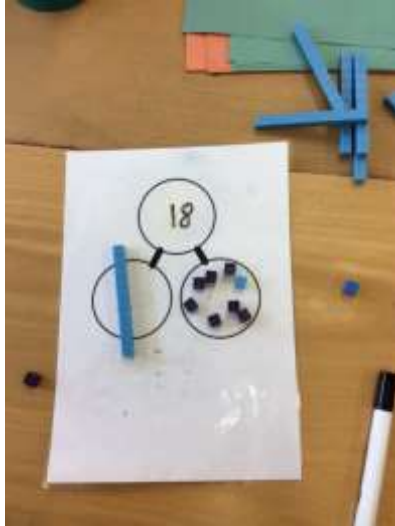
We have started a new story in English called 'How to catch a star' and the children have been amazing at retelling the story!

Keep on working hard Year 1, well done!





# Year Two News



We have had an exciting couple of weeks in year 2. This week we have enjoyed exploring partitioning of 2 digit numbers and counting in 2, 5, 10 and 3s. We have also solved a range of problems that involved using what we know about counting.

In English we have been retelling the story of 'Five Minutes Peace' by acting out the story, sequencing pictures and retelling the story in our own words using time connectives and exciting adjectives.

Starlings and Wagtails have been very inquisitive in our curriculum subjects since their return. We are learning all about Harlow in History and how it has changed and 'Living Things' in Science. They have been asking some very insightful questions and really listening to the reasoning of their peers.



# Year Three News



In our English lessons, the two classes have been continuing to explore the story - Dougal's Deep-Sea Diary - and this week getting into role of reporter and interviewee to come up with some interesting questions that would give Jon Snow a run for his money! During our maths lessons we are consolidating our knowledge of place value by adding/subtracting 10 and 100 to any given number.

In our humanities lessons we are recapping our knowledge of the UK and starting to learn about the three eras of the Stone Age.

During our music and singing lessons this half term, Year 3 are learning to sign to a song called "Let your spirit fly". They are using untuned percussion instruments to accompany the song, performing notes of different lengths and patterns; and are also learning how to read rhythm notation.

In art, we have continued to look at Japanese Wagara patterns. We used collage techniques to recreate some of the sample patterns that the children were given, experimenting with tearing shapes from paper accurately, then arranging shapes with a purpose in order to create work in a specific style.

As we continue with our lessons on rocks and fossils, we have been learning about the process of fossilisation and asking our time travelling fossil-hunter - Mary Anning some very personal and delving question about her life!





# Year Four News



As a year group we have enjoyed learning in lots of different ways over the past weeks, including lots of practical tasks. To support our developing knowledge of 4 digit numbers we used paper strips to place numbers. This task tested our place value knowledge and allowed us to estimate where the number would be placed. During the task our reasoning skills were really put to the test!

Practical investigations in Science have allowed us to gain a better understanding of electricity and circuits, introducing the new vocabulary of 'conductor'.

Finally, our week ended with another addition to an already exciting curriculum with the introduction of weekly Toot lessons. The next step in our journey to being confident musicians was one filled with new learning whilst building on previously learnt skills.



# Year Five News



Year 5 have continued to impress with their enthusiasm for school and their learning. All children have shared impressive writing about Gargoyles in English, using powerful adjectives for descriptions and relative clauses, that provide additional information. We have started looking at the use of speech and different words that can be used within the reporting clause. Ravens class played a game and our winner was able to list 10 in 1 minute! Whilst Falcons class have learnt a variety of synonyms for 'said' to expand their vocabulary to use when writing speech!

We have been continuing Place Value in maths, focusing on rounding. Our daily calculation practice is introducing the children to new methods daily, encouraging wider thinking.

In science, both classes have carried out experiments, sorting materials by their properties. In geography, atlases have been used to identify the continents of the world. We will be looking at Europe in more details as it is our main focus this term. We are looking at Islam in RE, with one of our children bringing in a prayer mat to show us. The children have been asking very insightful questions and have been very respectful in their approach to these lessons.





# Year Six News



In Year 6 English this week, we are writing a dilemma. Should Peter read the book 'How to Live Forever?' We discussed our ideas in favour and against reading it. We also role-played through Conscience Alley to empathise with Peter and his thoughts and feelings on reading it. We have since begun to plan our dilemma and are looking forward to writing our various reasons for and against, using a range of sentence starters, conjunctions, relative clauses and our newly learned grammar technique "the subjunctive form".

In Science, we explored our learning question "How can I alter a circuit?" We created our own working circuits to make a bulb light, using wires, batteries and bulbs. We then collaborated to alter the circuit, by adding more batteries and more bulbs and discovering the outcomes. Our conclusion was that if you add more batteries, the brighter the bulb becomes. If you add more bulbs, the dimmer they become.

In Maths, we have been studying Negative Numbers. We have been using negative number lines to help us solve problems regarding temperature and money, and we were able to reason using the APE method - answer, prove, explain!



# Important information regarding attendance

There is no entitlement to parents to take their child/children out of school during term time. All leave of absence must be applied for in writing to the Head of School for consideration.

If absence is not authorised and the holiday is taken, the case will be referred to the Education Welfare Service who may issue a Penalty Notice for £120 (£60 if paid within 21 days) to each parent for each child taken out of school.

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[@NET\\_Jerounds](#)  
for latest news and information



Follow us on Instagram...  
[Net\\_Jerounds](#)  
for latest news and information

## Polite Reminders

- ♦ Jerounds has a no jewellery policy, this includes earrings. Watches are permitted.
- ♦ Please be considerate when parking near our school and remember our neighbours.
- ♦ Have you changed your telephone number or email address recently? If so, please contact the school office as soon as possible to ensure all details are up to date.