



Jerounds Journal

Storytelling and Reading Aloud... *Give your classroom a buzz!*

Once upon a time, when the oceans were made of chocolate...

Have I got your attention? Stories are like that, too. They grab and hold attention, they illuminate subjects, they play with language, they celebrate listening – and they're high-octane way to attract attention to your library too, too motivate children, and to make valuable curriculum links.

Reading aloud – whether stories from memory, extracts from fiction, or poetry – it is a subject whose time has come (again!). There's a new interest in speaking: in oratory, following Obama's example and a fresh emphasis on spoken language throughout primary schools. In a multi-modal, texting world of social networking sites, young people still need to encounter good speech, and need confidence in doing it themselves, to learn how powerful it is, how it clarifies what words alone cannot, how tone and body language can add meaning, and how listening to a good speaker can inspire a whole audience. In later life they will need some of these skills themselves.

Reading can seem a quiet and isolating activity. Reader development is challenging this, of course, through reading groups, author events and the like, but speaking aloud challenges the stereotype even more, bringing a buzz to the classroom!

Just listen – and I'll tell you how it was ...

Reading aloud is important. Young people need to hear it done often, and done well, to head off the inarticulacy that produces '*kindalike, sort of, you know...*' verbal padding, or that reluctant 'teenage grunt', where they are barely able to produce a sentence at all. Listening skills are important too – children are simply not given opportunity for what I call 'guilt-free' listening, where we simply celebrate the act of listening for its own sake, and there's no task hovering at the end of it. The school classroom, at the end of the school day, equipped with a whole class read, needs to be at the heart of this.

Ok... now that I have your attention, I would like to touch briefly upon the importance and significance of picture books, reading extracts from contemporary fiction, and reading poetry. If there was space, I could go on to include material like riddles, jokes, urban legends, tall tales, myths... there's quite a list!

Anyone can do it – even YOU!

It concerns me greatly that storytelling has 'moved upwards' so-to-speak. It started in the home, with everyone (uncles, grandmothers, and children) all listening together – a tradition that still exists in some parts of the world. In the West, it moved into schools, and became something that teachers did, but only to young children. Now, we have a situation where schools 'buy in' a storyteller to do it. But it's far more important than that! Of course it's good to have a visiting storyteller, for a change of voice, gender or cultural background – and a different repertoire; but children need many more stories than visitors can bring, and it's vital that school staff provide this throughout the year.

Jerounds' teachers have lead this move to 'put stories back' with a vengeance; through pictures, words, digital images and exciting new book corners. However, the only way that we will ultimately succeed with our many techniques and enthusiasm is to involve all of our children's families and parents too! To this end, we suggest spreading the load of storytelling, by getting children motivated to tell stories themselves. We began this creative journey by using our imaginations to write stories for Robert Halfon's 500 word challenge for World Book Day and we were naturally immensely delighted that our very own Head Girl, Ruby, won this prestigious award; in fact she is off to Parliament on Monday!

'If you want your child to be brilliant, read them fairy tales.'

If you want your child to be a genius... read them more fairy tales.'

Albert Einstein

A storyteller can stimulate the imagination, contributing to Drama, Music and Art, along with poetry and creative writing. Hearing and retelling traditional tales can provide scaffolding for children's own imaginative stories. A storyteller can create excitement and enthusiasm for History, Geography and Religious Studies as well as English and Drama. A storyteller can widen the range of children's emotional, cultural and moral responses; sensitive issues can be considered through story. Some storytellers have stories which connect with the maths and science curriculum, and students can use IT to produce digital stories and films. Storytelling encourages a questioning attitude throughout the curriculum, builds confidence and self-esteem.

Finally, storytelling builds bridges across and within cultures and communities – some storytellers have been involved in projects linking schools with the wider community. So... please let the storytellers for our children's lives not just be school, but also the family home, where truthfully, the first glimpses of their imagination begins.

Wishing you all a fabulous week ahead and I sincerely hope that you enjoy reading this wonderful newsletter full of exciting days spent at Jerounds Primary Academy.

With best wishes,
Mrs Laura Ciftci BA (Hons) MEd
Head of School
Jerounds Primary Academy



Dates for your Diary

25th March—Year Six to Crucial Crew

25th March—Mothers Day Workshop

28th March—Ladies Art Day

2nd April—Year Three Spring Extravaganza—2pm

5th April—KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade

5th April—Children break up for Easter

23rd April—Inset Day

24th April—Children back to school—**New breakfast club
opening hours 7.30am**

2nd May—Inset Day—Polling Day

6th May—Bank Holiday

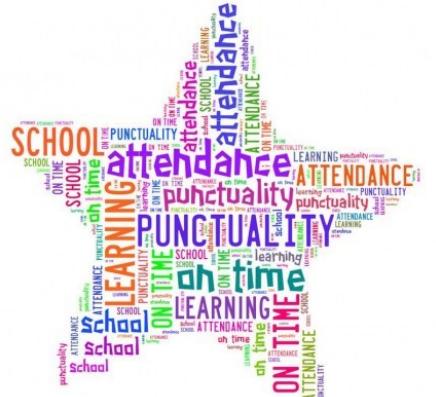
Attendance

Attendance challenge

Our whole school attendance challenge is set at

97% for the year.

Our current school attendance for the year so far is
96.4%



Weekly Class Attendance Heros

W/C 11th March 2019

W/C 18th March 2019

1. Sparrows and Wrens
99.3%
2. Eagles 98.7%
3. Starlings 98.5%

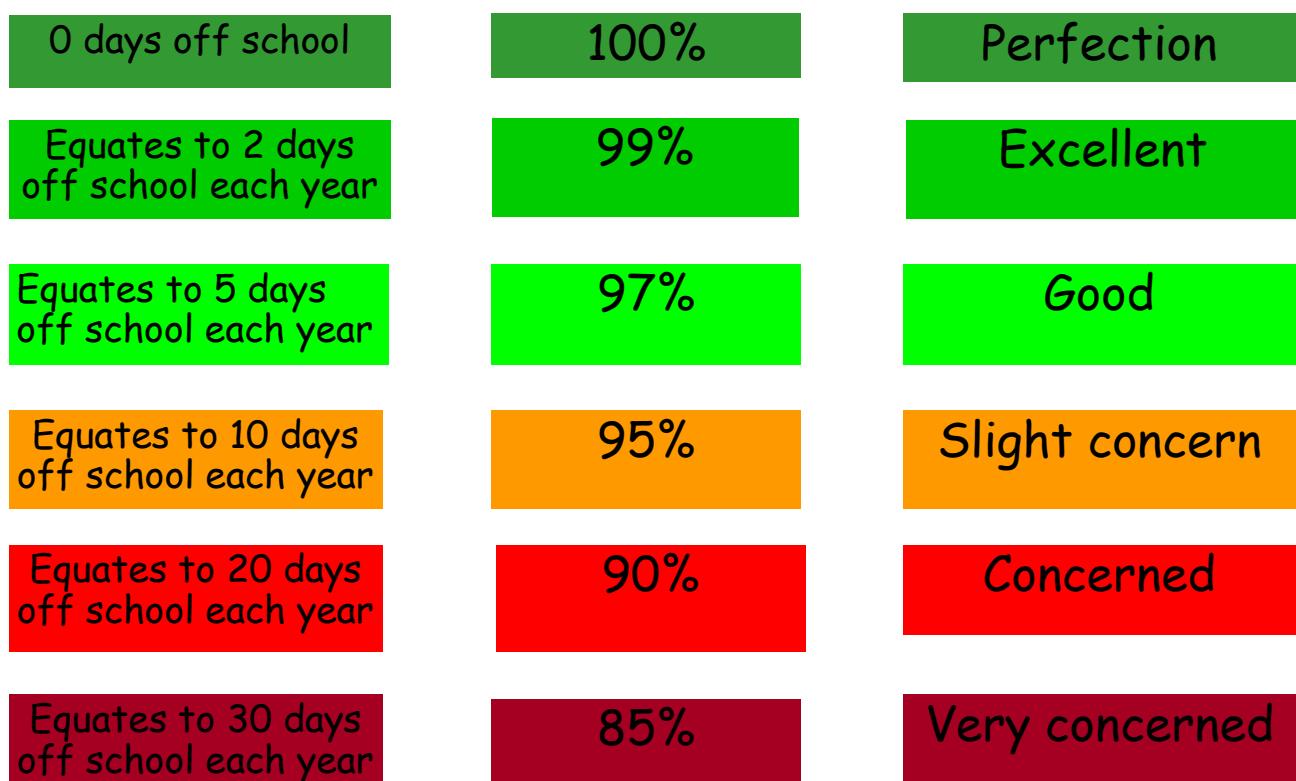
1. Falcons 100%
2. Swans 99.3%
3. Owls 99.2%

Whole school 96.2%

Whole school 97.7%

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%



Other News



We raised a fantastic £300 for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day!

Thank you very much for helping Jerounds raise an amazing amount for a fabulous cause.

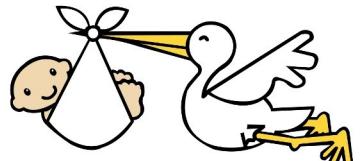


Do not forget to follow Oreo's latest adventures on twitter.....

@NET_Jerounds

We would like to welcome Anne Bonner to our team. She is a fully qualified Speech and Language Therapist who will be working with our staff to develop and ensure our classrooms are great communication environments. She will also train, support and advise our staff who already lead speech, language and communication interventions to ensure their work is always fully effective. As well as this, Anne may occasionally work with individual children. This will be in liaison with NHS therapists, SENCo and teaching staff. In these instances, Anne will always contact you as parents and carers to discuss and gain consent.

Congratulations to Mrs George who is expecting her first baby and will be leaving us at the end of the summer term.



New Breakfast Club opening hours.....

Jerounds summer term will be kicking off with our new Breakfast Club times. We will now be opening from 7.30am!

Come along, enjoy a healthy breakfast and take part in some fun filled activities with our staff members.

Our Stars of the Week



Playleader of the Week



Our Certificate and Bronze and Silver Badge Winners



EYFS News



Our Topic for this half-term is, "Adventure and Mystery". We will be focusing on the book "Traction Man Is Here" and our learning will be linked to Superhero theme.

This week we have been writing our own Superhero fact file, we discussed special powers and names for our superhero.

Children have continued to explore different materials to help them decide which materials they wanted to use to make their own Superhero cuffs to go with their masks and capes.

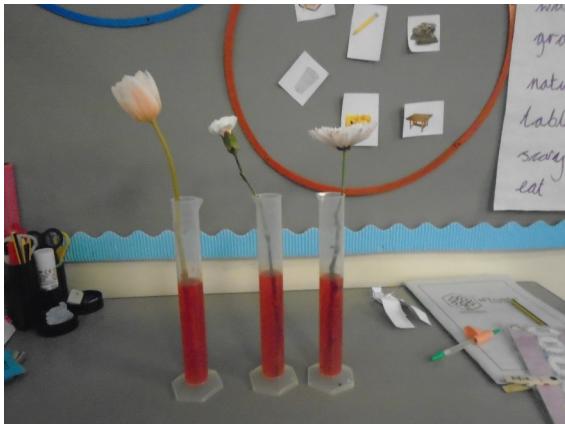
We said goodbye to our ducklings on Friday! Over the last two weeks, we have learnt about the life cycle of a duck. We have written thank you letters to the duck's parents! Children did observational drawings of the cage, eggs and ducklings. The children also enjoyed sharing their work and reading stories to our class pets.

Please note that shortly, we will send out log-ins for mathletics, (On line Maths activities) this is something that you may wish explore with your child at home.

Please continue to read regularly and practise the sounds with your child at home.



Year One News



In our English lessons, Year 1 have continued to use the story of Eric the Hero, to write letters from the King (a character in the tale) to Eric applauding his act of bravery in facing up to a monster. Some of the children offered Eric a celebration party and a few even went as far as offering their crown and kingdom. Would you be as generous as our Sparrows and Kingfishers?

Our RE sessions, have continued to focus on Judaism and learning the story of Moses and the ten plagues. The children loved the stories of Moses and enjoyed acting out some of them!

In PE the children have started to learn some dance moves to the story/song of the Ugly Duckling - ask them to show it to you and join in if you feel brave!



Year Two News



In year 2 we've been carrying out some exciting investigations during our science week. We started the week off by exploring forces, in particular gravity. We decided to find out which material would be suitable to make a parachute. We planned the experiment, including how we would make it a fair test and our predictions. We also did some research on Isaac Newton and created our fact files.



Year Three News



This week in Year 3 we have had a very special visitor Barry, who came to show us the amazing world of **Animation**. But... What is animation? It is the *illusion of movement* created by showing a series of still pictures in rapid succession. In the world of computers, a special software is used to create this effect. A simple animation may be as basic as a GIF, but a more complex one could be of a human or alien face in a computer software game or animation of a space battle in a movie.

As well as that, last week was **Science week**. Our Year 3s had the opportunity to carry out some experiments related to Water cycle and States of Matter. First, we had to set our question, measure the different elements and plan the different changes that may affect our results. Also, we had the opportunity to find out facts about the life of the fabulous **Stephen Hawking**, and all his contributions to the world of Physics.

Our pupils had the opportunity to become film Directors for a couple of hours. They had to create their own characters and plot, and choose a scene to film it. HOW EXCITING! We had an amazing time together and we could see the creativeness of our future film producers.



Year Four News



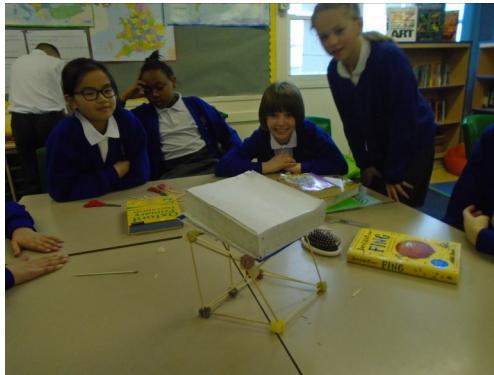
We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Year 4. In English the children are very much enjoying reading *The Wolves Footprint* and have been acting out how it would feel to be a wolf.

We have been also working very hard in maths on fractions and area.

The children have loved looking at the construction and shape of Water towers in art, using a range of methods to recreate their own.



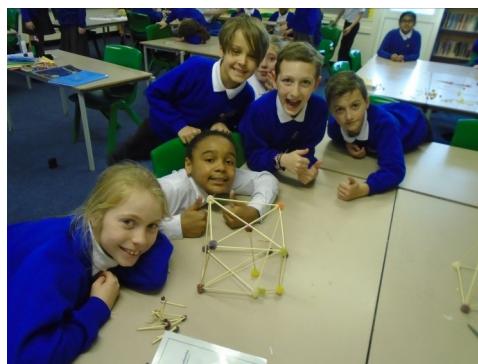
Year Five News



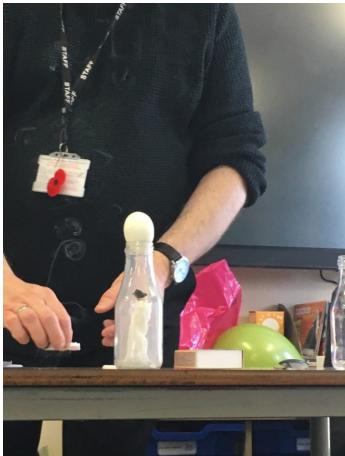
During a jam-packed week, Ravens and Falcons put their investigation hats on and were extremely busy investigating which liquid dissolves a mint the fastest. Also, looking to the a potential future as engineers, they were busy constructing structures to be able to hold a dictionary or three!

Students have been celebrating the completion of their assessments through working on their sleuthing skills in PE. To the James Bond theme, students slunk, slid and sashayed around the KS2 hall with style.

Students will see out the week creating vivid images of another world. Space and it's planets will become the focus of a creative NASA inspired poster.



Year Six News



Year 6 have had a busy couple of weeks. We celebrated World Book Day and two lucky winners from Swans found the Golden Tickets and were able to swap them for a rather large bar of chocolate. We all looked fabulous in our costumes, Miss Taylor as Harry Potter and Miss Butterworth as Six Dinner Sid.

We enjoyed Science week and had a great time investigating four different questions. Firstly we wanted to know how to get an orange to float? Then we wanted to see how we could get a hard-boiled egg into a narrow bottle? How could we transfer water from one glass to another without touching them and finally how long does it take a balloon to burst and would putting water in it make a difference to the time taken.

Interestingly we could get an orange to float as long as it had its peel on. We could transfer water from one glass to another using kitchen paper as a bridge, a balloon takes longer to burst with water in it and we did get the boiled egg into a narrow bottle.

Ms. Wagstaff visited Jerounds today for a fantastic art workshop with Year 6. Working in teams of 3 as graphic designers, the pupils were given the task of creating a travel poster for a planet of their choice. Using their scientific knowledge from our 'Earth and Space' topic combined with their creative talents, pupils rose to the challenge and created some amazing posters. We all thoroughly enjoyed the session.

Just one more reminder, we have our visit to Crucial Crew on Monday 25th March, please can all children bring a packed lunch to eat on our return.





Jerounds Primary Academy

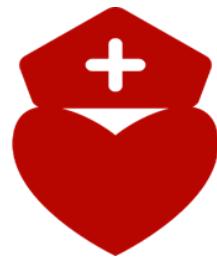
Nightingale— 863 points (2nd)

Shakespeare— 446 points (5th)

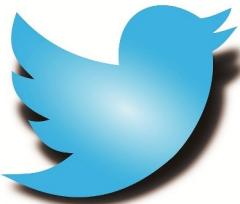
Brunel— 803 points (3rd)

Pankhurst— 702 points (4th)

Darwin— 1209 points (1st)



Twitter



Please follow us on Twitter...
[@NET_Jerounds](https://twitter.com/NET_Jerounds)
for latest news and information

Have you changed your address, telephone number or email address recently?

Please ensure you advise the school office if you have moved or changed your telephone number or email address. This also applies to any emergency contacts you have for your child/children.

Admin email: office@jerounds.netacademies.net

Telephone: 01279 423485