



Jerounds Journal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the last term of the academic year and quite possibly the most exciting; especially in terms of community. For starters, we have class assemblies, another parent forum, the Summer Fayre, Sports Day, cricket fixtures, an Art Exhibition for parents, Shakespeare Week, Around the World Week, academic reports, class swap, end of year production, as well as the most fabulous parental engagement presentation by the infamous 'Two Johns' this month - definitely not to be missed - about E-safety. If all that isn't enough to whet your appetite, we have also added some surprise visits from local dignitaries as well as.

Meanwhile, I'd like to draw all parents and carers attention to a wonderful educational article, in tes.com, recently written by Adi Bloom (03.05.2019), regarding 'short-term memory'. The relevance of sharing this piece of research with our community now is that it links perfectly to the phenomenal success that we have witnessed as a school, with the introduction of Times Tables Rockstars to Jerounds Primary Academy.

Giving primary pupils strategies to support their working memory, and practising these strategies using online games, can boost their maths results by three months, [new research](#) has found. The research, published today by the Education Endowment Foundation, examines the results of Year 3 pupils who took part in a programme designed to improve their maths skills. Pupils from 127 [primaries](#), all of whom were struggling with maths, took part in the trial of Improving Working Memory, a programme designed by [academics at the University of Oxford](#). The programme builds on evidence from cognitive science, which suggests that children who struggle with maths may be suffering from poor working memory. Working memory is the ability to hold and manipulate information in your mind while using it to finish a task. It is a working memory that allows you to hold several numbers in your head, in order to complete a mental arithmetic task. Over the course of a term, pupils participating in the study were given 10 one-hour sessions, delivered outside the classroom. During these sessions, teaching assistants taught them different strategies to help them retain information in their working memory. These included repeating the items that they needed to remember. The pupils practised using these strategies through games, played with the teaching assistants during the sessions, and also through online games, which they played independently. In one computer game, pupils had to count animals, while ignoring gremlins. At the end of each round, pupils had to recall the numbers of different animals – for example, ducks or monkeys – that they had counted. The research trial also tested a variant on this programme, where pupils were given the same intervention, but with only five, rather than 10, sessions focusing on working memory. The remaining five sessions focused on arithmetic content. Researchers found that pupils who received either version of the intervention made an average of three additional months' progress in maths, compared with similar pupils who were not offered the intervention. The study also found that strengthening working memory had a positive effect on pupils' attention and [behaviour](#) in class.



The researchers concluded that when **deployed to deliver specific interventions**, **teaching assistants** can help pupils to improve by as much as an extra term. [Sir Kevan Collins](#), chief executive of the Education Endowment Foundation, said:

"Many pupils struggle with maths anxiety from a young age, which can hold back their learning. Often, this is linked to their working memory, and how well they can do sums in their head. Those who fall behind usually struggle to catch up with their classmates later in school, so it's important that schools and teachers have access to evidence-based programmes and resources, to support those children falling behind."

Another worthy addition to this exciting edition of Jerounds Journal is to share the recent launch of a brand new Science and Nature journal. In light of the mass interest that our Earth Day generated within our children this year - with its focus on endangered animals - we felt that this publication might help fuel our children's thirst for knowledge and inquisitive minds.

Science+Nature is a brand new, monthly magazine from the award-winning team behind *The Week Junior*.

Every issue is **packed with incredible content** — from superhumans and the secrets of forensic science to Nasa solar missions, the science of exploding buildings, and the low-down on extraterrestrial life. It will **ignite curiosities** and **feed hungry brains** with mind-blowing facts and stories.

- Bring science, technology, engineering and maths topics to life for 8–15s
- Send young imaginations around the universe and feed their curiosity for knowledge
- Inspire readers to understand their environment and protect their planet
- Ignite curiosities and satisfy hungry brains with mind-blowing facts and stories
- Never miss an issue and save money on the cover price
- Enjoy brand new, fresh content in every issue — all new and completely different to *The Week Junior!*



Finally, we urge all of our families to take time out of their busy schedules to share many of the fabulous good news stories featured in this newsletter **with your children**.

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



Dates for your Diary

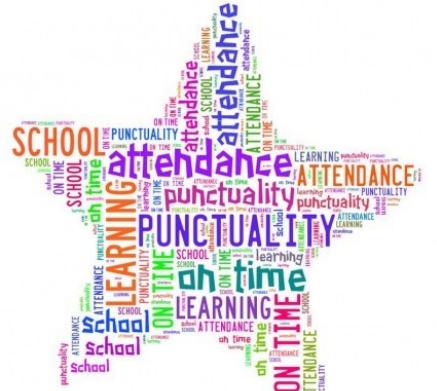
- 6th May—Bank Holiday
- 8th, 9th and 10th May—Year 2 SATs
- 13th May—Year 6 SATs
- 17th May—Race for Life
- 20th May—Around the World week
- 27th May—Children break up for half term
- 10th June—Children return to school
- 13th June—Year 6 to the Gibberd Garden
- 13th June—Art Workshop/Exhibition
- 29th June—Summer Fete
- 4th July—Swans to the Henry Moore Foundation
- 5th July—Afterschool clubs finish
- 9th July—KS1 and KS2 Sports Day
- 11th July—Eagles to The Henry Moore Foundation
- 24th July—Break up for summer

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 26th March 2019

1. Ravens 98.1%
 2. Falcons & Nightingales 97.5%
 3. Eagles 97.4%
- Whole school
96.4%

W/C 2nd May 2019

1. Kingfishers 100%
 2. Nightingales 99.1%
 3. Ravens 98.2%
- Whole school
95%

Attendance Ladder

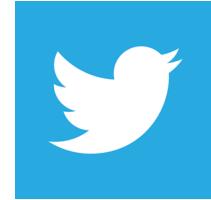
How close is your child to 100%

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

Other News

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

@NET_Jerounds



After spending time growing her beautiful hair, this kind and thoughtful young lady had 38cm cut off!

She raised a fantastic £300 for Little Princess trust and her hair has been sent off to help provide real wigs for children and young people who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other conditions.

Well done we are all very proud of you.



Birthday Book Donations

How lucky are the children at Jerounds to receive these wonderful birthday book donations.

Thank you very much, we will all enjoy reading these.



More news



Our lockers have arrived!

KS2 came back after our Easter break to find all their pegs had gone and these fantastic new lockers were in their place.

The children are now eager to keep everything looking nice and tidy.

A huge well done to two of our amazing parents who took part in Sunday's London Marathon.

After raising a superb £4000 for The Lauren Pope Trust, they both ran over the finish line in 4 hours 57 minutes!

What a fantastic achievement, we are very proud of you.



After a successful day at the National Development Plan grade competition a few weeks ago, this young lady received a personal letter of congratulations from Mr Robert Halfon MP.

She has been invited to the Houses of Parliament to meet Mr Halfon and have a tour. This is for her determination and dedication and hopes she will go on to achieve great things, as do we.

Well done! You're a superstar.

Our Stars of the Week



Playleader of the Week



Our Certificate and Bronze, Silver and Gold Badge Winners



HSSP Swimming Gala



Friday 26th April saw Jerounds participate in the HSSP Swimming Gala at Harlow Leisurezone.

Here are our superb winners with their medals.

A fantastic effort by all our children which made all our staff very proud.

EYFS News



Our Topic for this half-term is, "Sow and Grow". We will be focusing on the book "Jack and the Beanstalk" and our learning will be linked to Growth and changes over time. Last week we planted our own French bean and we have been caring for them in our classrooms. We have started to record our observations in a Bean diary and we will update this each week. The children have enjoyed listening to the different versions of Jack and the Bean stalk and they have sequenced pictures using their knowledge of the story. They have also used their phonics knowledge to write a caption under each picture.

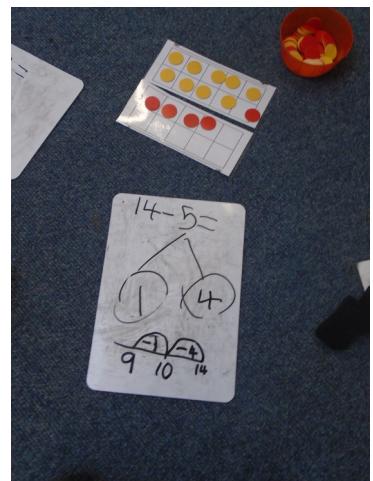
We have been reinforcing number recognition in maths by ordering numbered magic beans. This week, we are re-visiting addition and subtraction to secure the children's knowledge.

Please can we remind you to remove all key rings from your child's book bag.

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



Year One News



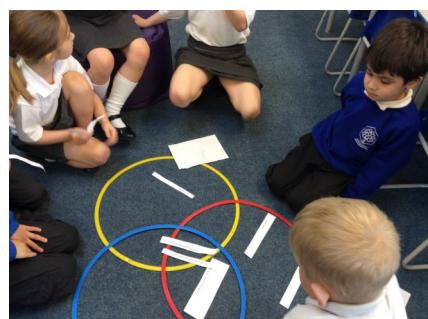
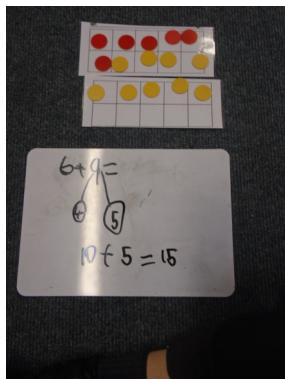
With Spring firmly established, Sparrows and Kingfishers have been busy growing broad beans to observe plant growth for science as well as keeping a diary of our observations.

In English, the children have thoroughly enjoyed internalising the story of the Tadpole's Promise through drama, leading to some wonderful descriptive retelling of the story.

In our RE lessons, we have been exploring different creation stories and comparing them to see what is similar and different about these stories.

During maths, we have been learning the most efficient way to bridge ten when adding and subtracting numbers, whilst in PE we are preparing for Sports Day by looking at good running and sprinting techniques.

Enjoy the May Bank holiday; remember to share a book with an adult and/or write a recount of the long weekend to share in class.



Year Two News



We had a fantastic Earth Day learning about all the ways to care for our precious planet. After learning how important plants and trees are to produce oxygen we decided to plant some flowers of our own.

As well as helping with our breathing they will also brighten up our outside area when they are in full bloom, we are super excited to start seeing them grow. In addition to this we created posters to promote Earth day persuading people make changes to their lifestyles to help take better care of our planet.

We loved printing with our hands after painting them so they looked like the Earth.



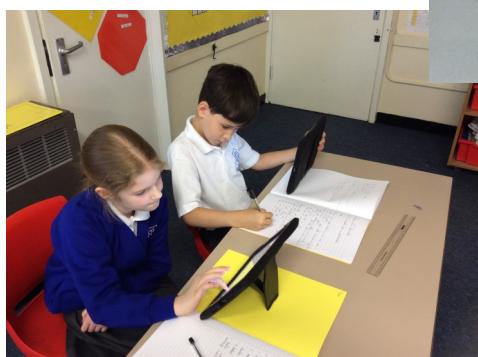
Year Three News



Year 3 had an exciting start to their History topic of The Aztecs.

The classes got together to taste some hot chocolate but this was no ordinary hot chocolate. This was Aztec hot chocolate. The children found out about where chocolate comes from (building on some children's research in the holidays) and why it was so important in Aztec culture. They found out about the spices that go into this type of hot chocolate.

Some loved it but others were less convinced and will stick to the one they know!



Year Four News



Year 4 have had an excellent start to the summer term.

In English, we are writing about Information texts on Dragons and wolves. The children have loved being creative and describing the unique features of both creatures!

The children have also enjoyed learning about time in maths. It is a really tricky subject and both class teachers have been impressed with the children's attitude to learning.

Outside of the classroom, we have started Athletics and it's fantastic to see the children participating in running events and the lead up to Sports Day.

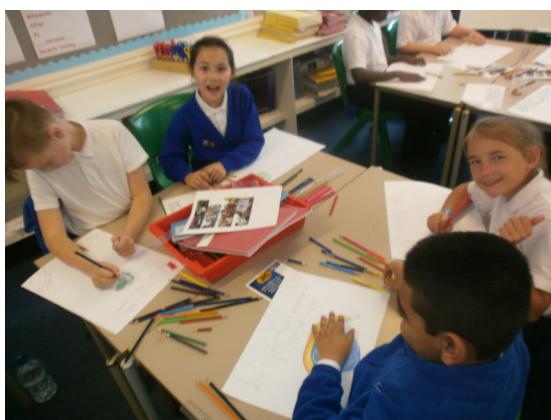


Year Five News

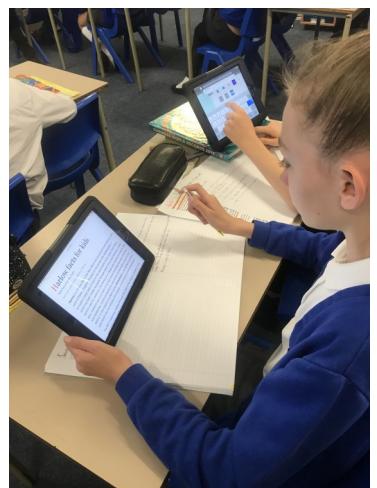
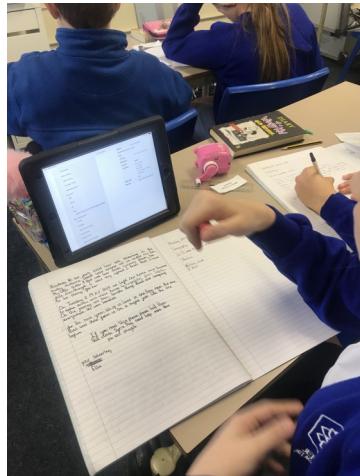


Year 5 have arrived back into school with their ecologist-hats on. Wednesday was Earth day, so our conscientious scholars began the term campaigning for a cleaner environment. Students wrote letters to our local political representatives (Robert Halfon and Laura McAlpine) and eagerly await their replies on such an important issue.

In Maths, students have been dividing their time between subtracting and adding fractions, while English has seen them explaining how things work. Prepare yourselves for a peaceful few weeks, as the students are learning how to meditate as part of our Buddhism unit.

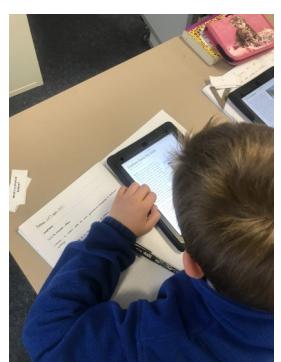


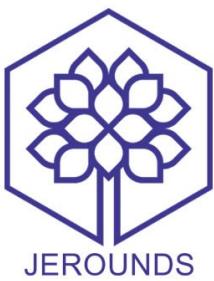
Year Six News



Year 6 have started to enjoy athletics in PE this half term. Last week we were looking at skills and techniques needed for sprinting, including the crouched start (which we all found challenging), using our arms, keeping an upright position and keeping to our lanes. This week we are working on long distance running, the more relaxed stance, loose arms and relaxed shoulders. We are looking forward to refining our field techniques in the next few weeks and using batons in the relay.

In Geography, Year 6 are comparing a town and a city in the U.K. We have chosen to compare Harlow and Edinburgh. Luckily, Miss Taylor was in Edinburgh over the Easter holidays and had lots of photos to show. So far, we have found many similarities and differences between the two. We used the iPads to research, which we all enjoyed. Did you know the population of Harlow is over 86,000? Or that Edinburgh was founded in the 11th century? We have found lots of amazing facts.





Jerounds Primary Academy

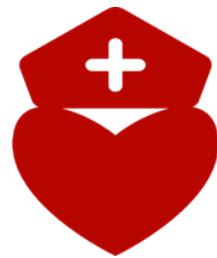
Nightingale— points 638 (4th)

Brunel— points 893 (3rd)

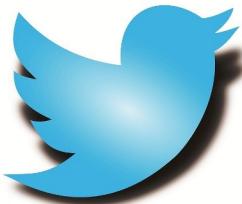
Pankhurst— points 1058 (2nd)

Darwin— points 409 (5th)

Shakespeare— points 1171 (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.

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Telephone: 01279 423485