

# JYS

## OCTOBER 2025 ISSUE 1

Welcome to the first edition of the JYS Magazine for the academic year 2025 - 26.

We would like to thank everyone who reads our weekly newsletter as we keep you informed of important things that are going on that week and what is coming up.

These half-termly magazines are a chance for the teachers and pupils to share in more detail what they have been doing in their classes this half term.

If you would like to contribute to the magazine, please contact us to discuss this.

Remember to keep an eye out for our next issue.



# YEAR R

WRITTEN BY MRS APPLEBY AND YEAR R

Our Reception children have settled beautifully into school life, embracing new routines and forming lovely friendships.

This half term, our theme is Marvellous Me, and we've been exploring what makes each of us special. We've looked at our families, celebrated our differences, and discovered how unique we all are.



In literacy, the children are learning to hold their pencils correctly, write letters, and listen carefully for sounds in words.



In maths, we've been helping Sammy the Snake count accurately and learning to subitise: using our 'fast eyes' to recognise quantities without counting. It's been a great start to the year, full of curiosity, confidence, and connection.





# YEAR R

WRITTEN BY MRS APPLEBY AND YEAR R

Finley- "I like digging in the mud kitchen."



Rupert- "I like drawing letters...f is my favourite."

Sofia- "Everything is my favourite part!"



Ida- "I like seeing my brother at lunchtime."

# YEAR 1

WRITTEN BY MRS NEVILLE AND THE CHILDREN IN YEAR 1.

This first half term in our new school has whizzed by and we feel really settled here now!

“Our new school feels much bigger than our old one.” Max

“Our new school is nice because it’s so shiny! I really like our new library and all of our new books. I like coming to school to see my friends and to learn new things.” Robyn



‘Weather Wizardry’ has been our main learning theme and we have been finding out about different types of weather and the seasons.

“I liked finding out about storms and why we see lightning sometimes.” Mason

“Dax did a cool ‘Show and Tell’ all about earthquakes. I really liked it!” Lyra

“I liked seeing when the season of summer changed into autumn. I like seeing all of the different coloured leaves falling off the trees.” Aubree

“My favourite activity was learning about how to read thermometers with Miss Penny.” Violet

“I’ve learned how to use a thermometer to see whether it is hot or cold.” Mason

“I liked pretending to be the Weather Clerk and making my own weather map.” Claudia



In Literacy, we have had fun sharing different weather-related stories, including ‘The Weather Clerk’ by Robert Swindells, ‘One Year With Kipper’ by Mick Inkpen and ‘The Leaf Thief’ by Alice Hemming & Nicola Slater. We have been focusing on remembering our capital letters, full stops and finger spaces when we write sentences. We have also been trying to use adjectives in our writing.



# YEAR 1

WRITTEN BY MRS NEVILLE AND THE CHILDREN IN YEAR 1.

"I liked reading 'The Weather Clerk' story. The Weather Clerk is clever because he can make lots of different types of weather!"  
Claudia

We enjoyed meeting the author Zehra Hicks, when she came in to share her book 'Panda and Penguin Find A Thing' with us and we had fun thinking up imaginative ways that the story could continue!



"I liked writing my own ending to the story." Isaiah

We do Phonics every day and we have been learning a new sound and two new 'tricky' words each week.

"I like the 'ay' for 'pray' sound because I like the action for that one!" Toby

"Our favourite sound is the 'a\_e' for 'cake' because we love eating cake!" Violet and Lottie

"I like the 'ea' for 'leaf' because I like the action we do for this sound. We sway our hand from side to side, like a leaf blowing in the wind." Lyra

"I like learning the 'tricky' words, like 'Mrs', 'Mr', 'love' and 'your'. It's good to be able to read the 'tricky' words." Violet

In Maths, we have been learning about the number line, finding 'one more' and 'one less' than numbers and practising drawing part-whole models. We have also been working really hard to write our numbers the right way round!



"I've enjoyed doing our maths learning. I liked ordering numbers to 10 and saying which is bigger and smaller."  
Max

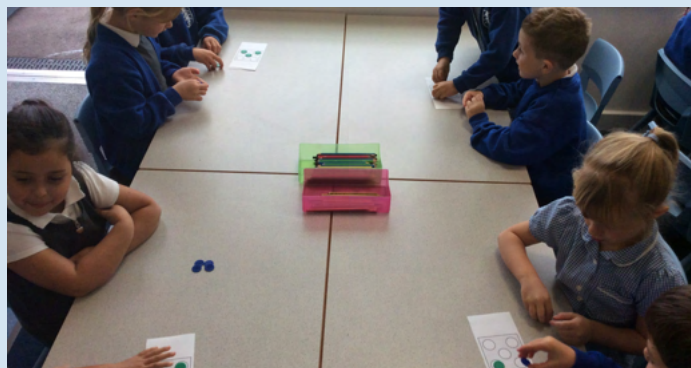


# YEAR 1

WRITTEN BY MRS NEVILLE AND THE CHILDREN IN YEAR 1.

"I like Maths because I like learning the numbers from 1 to 20 and I like using the 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equals' symbols to compare them." Rosie

We have been enjoying using the laptop station in our classroom to play Phonics and Maths games that help us with our learning. Playing these games also helps us to develop our mouse-control skills!



"Our favourite Maths game is the 'Underwater Counting' game." Robyn and Lottie

"I like the 'Teddy Numbers' counting game. You have to give the teddy the right number of cakes to fill him up!" Maisie

"I have been getting better at reading 'a\_e' split digraph words by playing the 'Forest Phonics' game." Ivy

In P.E., it has been fun using our new gymnastics apparatus with Mrs Neville. We've also loved using the air track to practise our rolls, jumps and bounces with Mrs Dutton!

"I liked walking up the bench ladders onto the high tables in gymnastics." Claudia

"The air track is fun because it is so bouncy!" Mason

"I did a handstand on the air track. It was so cool!" Lottie

"I like the air track because it's like a real trampoline." Aidan





# YEAR 1

WRITTEN BY MRS NEVILLE AND THE CHILDREN IN YEAR 1.

We have spent lots of time in our Year 1 Outdoor Area, using the giant polydron, sand pit, water tray and a variety of other resources for 'funky fingers' (motor control development) activities and imaginative play.

"Our new Outside Area is fun! I like playing with my friends in our 'restaurant'." Claudia  
"I like playing with my friends using the Duplo. Sometimes we make houses. Sometimes we make other buildings which are really tall and take us more than one day to build!" Dax



"I like playing with our dolls." Edie

"I like using the sand pit and playing with our animal toys. We pretend we have a zoo and we look after the animals." Violet

"I like playing with the water tray and using the 'water wall'. I like seeing which way the water goes when I pump it!" Maisie



Finally, break times and lunch times on our new playground are really fun because we have lots of new things to play with and to keep fit with.

"I like having all the equipment out at play times. My favourite thing is the hula hoops!" Rosie

"I like playing with the hula hoops and the skipping ropes." Lyra

"I like playing with the basketballs." Reuben

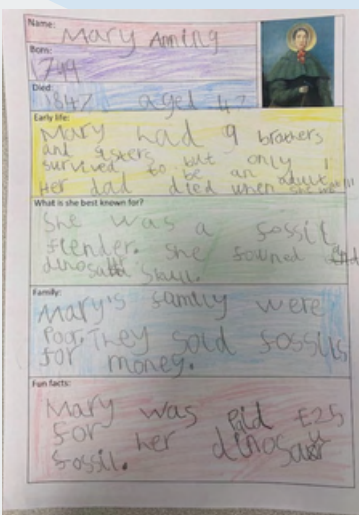
"The adventure playground is so good! There is lots of space to play and you can do lots of stuff like swinging on the bars and walking across the rope bridge." Cara

"I like the bit that wobbles when you walk across it on the adventure playground, and the bits that you can climb up!" Aidan



# YEAR 2

Our year began with a fantastic performance of 'That Pesky Rat', which had recently played at the Chichester Festival Theatre. The show, which is based on the popular children's book by Lauren Child, featured an array of exciting animal puppets, props and bubbles. The actors were fantastic, and had our children enthralled in the new school hall!



We have enjoyed an exciting trip to Dell Quay this half term, building on our Geography learning about coastlines and their geographical features. We loved getting to see these things up close for ourselves. We have also learned about a famous figure from History who was used to exploring coastlines herself – Mary Anning was a fossil hunter, who eventually discovered some incredible dinosaur bones.

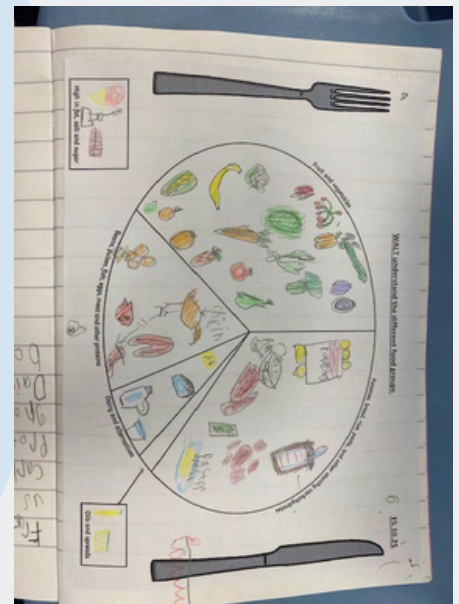


# YEAR 2

We were treated to an exciting author visit in October, taking part in the Chichester Children's Bookfest. The fantastic author and illustrator Zehra Hicks joined the classes to share her book 'Panda and Penguin Find A Thing'. Every child wrote their own sequel to the book, and got a signed copy of Zehra's original to take home and keep. We love taking part in the Children's Bookfest each year, and know how special it is for every pupil to get a copy of the book directly from the author - it was lovely to see so many of them inspired by reading.



In Science, we've learned about different food groups, and what they provide the human body. We enjoyed thinking about our lunchtime meals, and working out what foods would be in each different section, and why they would be good for our bodies.



Our Literacy learning this half term has been focused on adjectives and adverbs, making sure we use these to improve our descriptive writing. We've got really good at including these in our work, and also spotting them in the books that we read!

# YEAR 3

What a fantastic start we have had to our first half term in Year 3. We have explored lots of exciting subjects, creating, learning and making lots of memories already. We can't wait to see what the next half term brings!

In literacy, we have had some fantastic immersive lessons on creating descriptions. We have been focusing on an amazing book by Colin Thompson called, 'The Paradise Garden', all about a little boy who finds his mind wandering into a magical paradise garden. We decided to visit Bishop Palace Gardens to explore what a beautiful garden might look like and to listen out for both onomatopoeia words and to collect adjectives. We then returned to school to create illustrations of our paradise gardens in our sketch books before beginning to write our own descriptions. We are so proud of what we have created. What an amazing start we have had!



We have had lots of fun exploring our new book in our whole-class reading lessons. We have loved looking at the illustrations in Arthur and the Golden Rope and learning all about Norse Mythology. Whilst we have been working through the story, the class have come up with some incredible ideas about what might happen next and have even spent breaktimes discussing the story with their peers and their teachers - amazing!



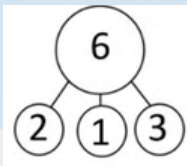
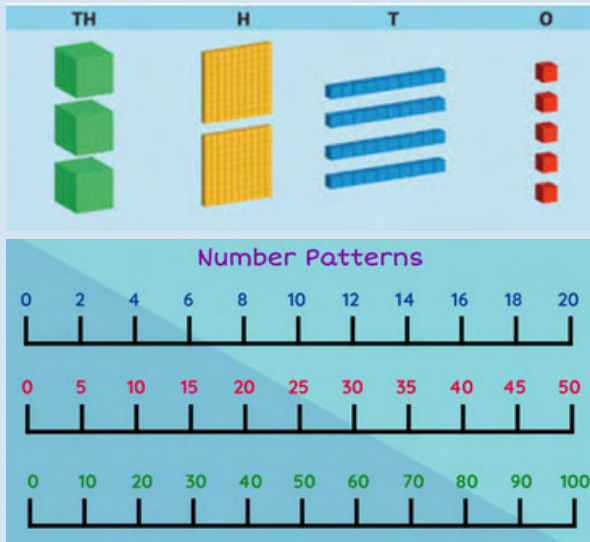
# YEAR 3



We have kicked off our DT learning by designing and creating our own purse/wallets. We started off by looking at some good examples of purses/wallets that we could buy in the shops. We then went on to design our own 'perfect wallet/purses'. We had to revisit some of our Year 2 skills, picking up a needle and thread and exploring sewing around different shapes. We then created our own stencils to help us to see how an item is constructed. We have finally finished sewing and adding details to our creations and as you can see, the children are so proud of themselves!

Year 3 have set off the year at a storming pace in Maths. We have been consolidating our knowledge of place value by using place value charts and lots of physical resources, such as place value counters and Diene's blocks (also known as Base 10). These help the children to physically manipulate the numbers, which often solidifies the knowledge better than simply looking at digits on paper. Plus, the children love using the resources!

# YEAR 3



We have now moved onto addition and subtraction methods, with children using a variety of methods to make sure that they can access the calculations whatever their learning style is. We use bar models, part-whole models, number lines and exchanging methods to secure our learning. If parents would like to learn more about these methods, please feel free to chat with the Year 3 teachers and we will be happy to demonstrate them for you.

In Science this term Year 3 have been learning all about light. We asked ourselves what light is, where sources of light come from and what types there are. We sorted light sources out into human-made and natural. Next, we learned how light travels in a straight line and that when light is blocked, it forms a shadow. We discovered that shadows can become larger or smaller, depending how close to the light the item in front of it is and that light rays can be bent in different ways. Then, last week, we learned all about how the light from our sun can help us, and also harm us, and how to protect ourselves. We did a fun experiment with painting sunscreen onto black card, to see what effect the sunscreen has on protecting the card from harmful UV rays. We are still watching the results reveal themselves day by day...





# YEAR 3

In Geography & History have had great fun learning all about our fantastic city this term. We started by learning about where we live in relation to landmarks such as school and our local area. We mapped our routes to school and did some fabulous drawings of our own homes. Next, we looked at a variety of maps of Chichester and figured out where our school is in relation to the town centre. We looked at places of interest such as Chichester Cathedral, Novium Museum, Roman walls, Priory Park and the Market Cross.



Everyone really enjoyed learning about the history of Chichester and how the Romans built the original city. We were also amazed to find out that there used to be a motte and bailey castle in Priory Park!

We will hopefully be going on a walk around Chichester after half term, to see some of these fantastic monuments and buildings for ourselves, led by our wonderful governor, Mrs Abraham! Watch this space for further information!

This half term, our RE lessons have focussed on the rules within several religions. We looked at the Ten Commandments in Christianity, the 5 K's in Sikhism, Jewish food laws and the 5 Pillars of Islam. We discovered that these religions all have rules according to how they should be practised and that some of these laws are similar across different religions. We have compared some of the main rules and discussed their similarities and differences. Throughout our learning, we have found it incredibly interesting to discover lots of facts about several world religions and how people within those religions have rituals and beliefs which are common across the globe.

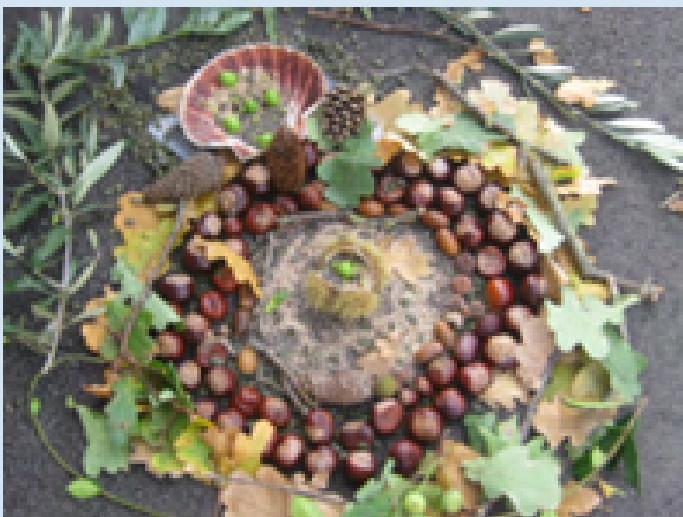
# YEAR 4

Our topic this term was called 'Make a Change!'. We have been learning about climate change, what has caused it and what countries are doing to help slow it down. We had a visit from Mrs Ritchie who is very passionate about our climate. She taught us about the carbon cycle and how the burning of fossil fuels, to make energy, has increased the carbon in our atmosphere and warmed our planet. After our discussions we made posters showing ways that we could all reduce our carbon footprint.



We have learnt about the biomes across the world and how climate change has affected the animals and plants that live in them. Making some endangered.

In science we have been learning about the names of the different animals groups. We used a Venn diagram and a branching tree to show how we could sort and identify individual animals. We made leaf posters to help us identify local leaves and we had great fun creating natural pictures using materials that we collected in our local area.





# YEAR 4



In art we have been learning about the colour wheel. We then used harmonious colours to paint a tree. They looked very effective. We are looking forward to designing and painting and eco picture to go on the front cover of our topic book.

In our literacy we have read a selection of eco poems. Some of us used their structure to write our own poem and others, were very creative, and wrote a poem of their own. All the poems made the reader think about climate change.



In maths we have been learning about place value and the estimated position of 4 digit numbers on a number line. We found learning to round numbers to the nearest 10,100 and 1,000 quite challenging and need some more learning.

We are very excited for two events in the last week of term.

On Tuesday we will be joining year 6 for an assembly and a class session about owls. The visitor is bringing real life owls for us to hold and watch fly. We will be learning about their habitats and why some of them are endangered.

Last but not least we have filled our jar full of pom poms and that means a treat! We are going to make indoor dens and have hot chocolate!. It is going to be great fun.

# YEAR 5

It has been a very busy term for year 5. We have been learning all about the Romans in Britain. Our learning has seen us dressed up as Romans, fighting off Barbarian Hoards (aka year 3 – thank you for helping us!) and visiting Fishbourne Roman Palace.



We have written Myths based on Romulus and Remus, developed our place value understanding in maths and been excellent, supportive teammates in Mrs Dutton's running challenge. All-in-all we have made a brilliant start to year 5!

Here are some of our recounts of our trip to Fishbourne. We wrote them to inform our reader (you) about our experience.

On Monday 6th October, year 5 visited Fishbourne Roman Palace to learn more about the Romans.

After a brisk, sunny walk we got to Fishbourne. We met a person who was going to start our tour, and he led us into a small room to watch a short film about the history of the original Palace.

Then, we went to a workshop with three ladies. We got into partners so we could do a Roman themed code cracking activity to open a mysterious box full of treasures. In the end, we guessed the code and got it first try! We chose a papyrus scroll and a beeswax candle from it. Finally, it was lunchtime! After we finished our packed lunches, we ran onto the mounds and played a fun game called Romans vs Celts, that we made up ourselves!



# YEAR 5

In the afternoon, we split into four groups to do some activities. Half of us went into the garden, which was the size of a football pitch, and the other half went into the museum to do a mosaic hunt and to look at the artifacts. Then, we swapped over. There also was a hands-on area where we could do Roman coin rubbings, puzzles and we could make our own mosaics with little squares. Lastly, we got our bags and left the Roman Palace.



Altogether, our Roman trip had been, as well as educational, very fun. Our two favourite facts were that in the Roman times the Fishbourne Roman Palace had been bigger than Buckingham Palace and had over one hundred rooms, and that the Romans had a plant called marshmallow and they used it as medicine for bruises and tumours.

By Imogen and Matilda

# YEAR 6

This term, Year 6 have been exploring the fascinating world of the Maya. We've learned about where they lived and why their location helped them thrive, how religion influenced their lives, and the importance of food like cocoa and maize. We also discovered how we know about the Maya through explorers such as Diego de Landa and John Lloyd Stephens — and why we must be cautious when using historical sources. A visit from history expert Paul Ullson gave us the chance to handle real artefacts and deepen our understanding. Our learning culminated in a piece of writing where we took on the role of historians to reflect on everything we've discovered.



In science, we've been learning about living things and their habitats. We explored the Linnaean system and how it helps us classify animals in detail. We also investigated microorganisms, including harmful and helpful types. Currently, we're testing the best conditions for growing mould. Final results will be revealed after half-term.

In art, we've focused on creating different moods using watercolour techniques. Starting with tree sketches using pencils and pens, we then explored tints and shades. Inspired by *The Lost Words*, we've been scrapbooking and replicating its beautiful illustrations. We also had the exciting opportunity to meet and talk with a falconer, who brought owls to school and answered our questions. This experience helped inspire both our poetry and artwork.





# YEAR 6

In maths, we've revisited addition, subtraction, multiplication, and we're currently mastering long division! We've enjoyed practicing times tables with Hit the Button and solving Nrich investigations. We're on a mission to master arithmetic and have tackled lots of reasoning and problem-solving challenges.



In English, we've focused on writing portal story openers, using imaginative ideas and descriptive language. We've also made links to our Maya history, applying our knowledge across subjects. In our final week, we explored poems from The Lost Words, inspired by our art and our visit from the falconer.

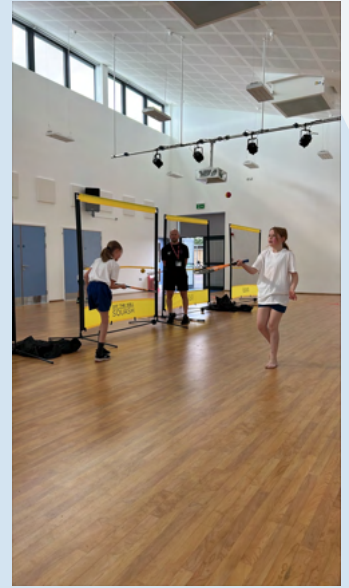
In PE, we've been learning football and netball, developing skills in passing, shooting, dribbling, and understanding player positions. We've also taken part in cross country and enjoyed three squash sessions with England Squash coach Tim Vail. In our final week, we visited Chichester Racquets & Fitness Club and played on real squash courts — a fantastic experience!



# JYS SPORTS

## Squash - JYS and Chichester Squash and Racquet Club

We were pleased to have Tim Vail in from the local squash club for three sessions with our Year 6s so that they could learn and develop some of the skills for playing squash. This was then followed up with a trip to the Squash and Racquet Club where all of the children were given the opportunity to develop their skills further on real squash courts! It was a great opportunity for them to try this sport, many of them for the first time.



## Interhouse Cross Country

All children in years 1-6 took part in the Interhouse Cross Country challenge during their P.E lesson. A course of 400m was set up around the field and it was a 4 lap event to make a total distance of 1600m. After a warm up walking lap to get familiar with the route everyone set off on their own race.

Mrs Dutton reminded everyone that the race was actually only really against themselves and that by working hard and doing their best was actually all they could do. It was amazing as every single student completed it and received a medal (kindly donated to us by Everyone Active).

Everyone's attitude to the challenge was fantastic. The way in which everyone supported and encouraged each other was just heartwarming, and a total credit to our JYS values.

The overall house winner, and the proud cup owners for this half terms competition was Maple. A huge well done to them.



# JYS SPORTS

Not only did we have the 1st, 2nd and 3rd boy and girl for each year we recognised a 'Best effort' and 'best attitude' too.



Year 1



Violet, Cara, Lottie



Mason, Owen, Aidan

Best attitude- Rosie & Best effort - Emma



Year 2



Cora, Lowen, Sophie



Dougie, Joe, Hugo

Best attitude- Leo and Ella & Best effort- Sophie



Year 3



Evie, Edie, Orla



Jude, Ellis, Alex

Best attitude Dexter & Best effort Louis. S



# JYS SPORTS



Year 4



Lisa, Rosie, Viola



Alfie, Hector, Nico

Best attitude - Willow & Best effort- Thomas



Year 5



Iris, Seraphina, Bea



Rory, Finn, Finn

Best effort - Raywan & Best attitude - Heidi and George



Year 6



Ivy, Hermella, Flo



Zach, Fin, Leo

Best attitude - Sofia & Best effort- Leo B



# HAPPY HALF TERM

