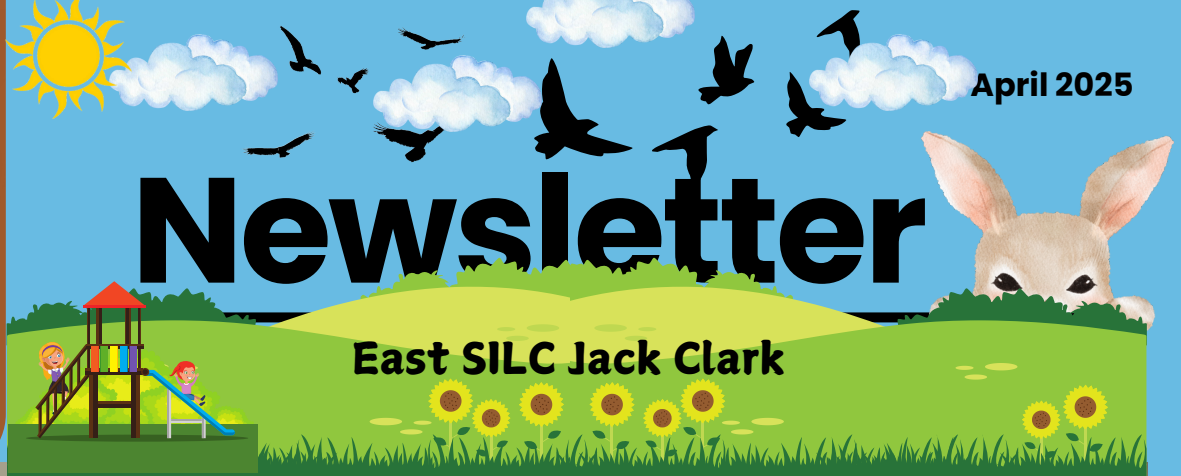




EAST SILC
www.eastsilc.org



April 2025

Newsletter

East SILC Jack Clark



CLASS ACTIVITIES

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REMINDER

**School reopens on the
22nd April 2025**

**Please see the back of the
Newsletter for important dates**



Dear Learners and Parents,

We've had another action-packed term culminating with Eid and Easter celebrations. Spring has finally sprung, and it's been wonderful for our learners to be outside more and see some of the outdoor spaces being developed with planting from last term coming to life. We have been busy preparing for next year, in particular changes to some of our sites, including getting Jack Clark ready to welcome more early years learners, Roger Cannon ready for KS2 learners and Whitkirk learners moving within the SILC. We've also been planning transition sessions for our Year 6 and Year 11s.

May 2025 will see the start of our GCSE exam season, with learners from Roger Cannon sitting GCSE mathematics and English for the first time. They have been working hard and successfully undertaken a series of mock exams and I am incredibly proud of the learners' resilience and determination to succeed.

You will know that from September 2024 we moved to recording our information at the East SILC on Compass. Parents/carers can access their child's information via the Compass App, including attendance, paying for meals/trips, contact with class teams, booking for parents evening and keeping up to date with important information. If you have not already signed up for the Compass App, please check your emails including junk folders for an email with your link to sign up.

Plea for support – we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Board. There is one current parent governor who has a child at John Jamieson, and we would welcome applications from parents from any of our other sites. If you would like more information and want to understand what the role of Parent Governor involves, please contact Nicola Wilkinson via email: nicola.wilkinson@eastsilc.org.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our learners, parents/carers and staff for their support and hard work over the term and wish everyone a safe and healthy Easter break.

Kind regards,

Louise



Message from Head of School

We have had another busy and exciting term at East SILC Jack Clark. We have continued our weekly visits into the local community and extended them this term to include Tropical World and the Sue Ryder Charity Shop. The children all look forward to their turn to go out of school in the minibus to visit new places and we get many comments from people about how well they have behaved. We are always proud of the learning that has taken place, whether it be paying for things in shops, sitting sensibly in a cafe, or looking at books in a library.

We have been delighted to have Wellbeing with Animals sessions again this term, along with Imagination Gaming and a visit from the Evangelical Church. On top of this we have some new experiences for the children including Book Bag sessions, a sensory story delivered by the British Library and Foot Tech who have been delivering some football skill lessons. You can read more about these in the newsletter. I have to thank the staff for their hard work in organising visits out of school and for coordinating visitors coming into school. We really believe that these enrichment opportunities enhance the children's learning and support with their social and emotional needs and have a significant positive impact.

I am pleased to share some updates about the school site and to let you know that from September 2025 we will have an additional classroom space. We have had the funding from Leeds City Council to change The Hub, which is currently used as a meeting space, into a classroom. The work will also include an additional playground space. We are hoping that the work will be completed over the Easter Holiday and will be used as a classroom from September 2025 when we will be increasing our learner numbers to approximately 70 children. To involve the children in this work, the School Council will be picking the name for the new class which, in keeping with our current classes, will be a popular book character. I can't wait to see what they choose!

It was good that so many parents and carers joined the teachers online to discuss the progress that their child is making. We appreciate that it is difficult for families to return to school to have in person meetings at the end of the day so we are hoping doing this online will make it easier. To ensure that parents and carers still get the opportunity to be in school we will continue to have at least one school based event per term. This term it was our Play and Stay where the children thoroughly enjoyed doing construction and dressing up alongside their families and friends.

Thank you for your continued support with the fundraising events that are held in school, especially Red Nose Day, where we raised £30.00 and the end of Spring Term Raffle. The proceeds from the raffle will be used to buy play equipment for the summer term including sand, bubbles and outdoor toys.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing you and the children in the summer term.

Story Telling Session

As part of our World Book Day celebrations we were very lucky to be offered a free story telling session from the British Library. Birdie the Book Worm, Pavla Beier, visited school and with the help of the children in Kipper and Supertato Class made up an under the sea adventure story. The children put on their imaginary goggles, swam with jellyfish and waved to mermaids before making their own story board headbands. A big thank you to the British Library and Pavla for coming into school and making story telling fun!



British Library Musical Storytellers

We have been working with Liz from the British Library to help her develop a sensory workshop based on Sally Pomme Clayton and Amin Hassanzadeh Sharif's book, "The Phoenix of Persia." The children have looked at the pictures in the book, listened to music and explored sensory resources to help them understand the story and develop their vocabulary. Liz is hoping to run this workshop with other children across Leeds who have additional needs in the future.

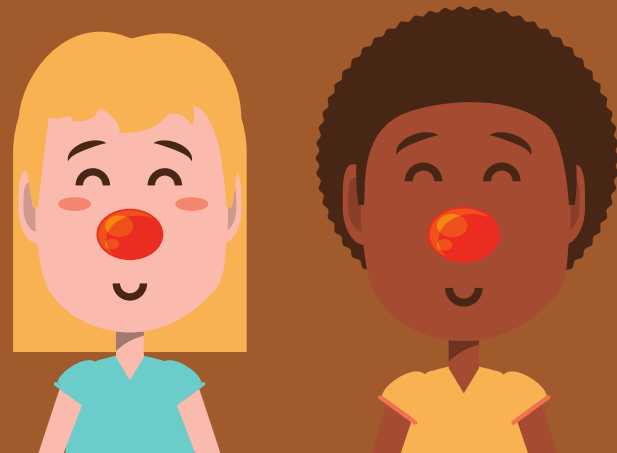


Reminder:
Parents
Compass App



Red Nose Day

Learners at Jack Clark enjoyed celebrating Red Nose Day! We dressed up in fantastic red outfits and learnt about Comic Relief. Some classes had a joke competition. Everyone had a great time showing their Red Nose Day outfits.



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Imagination Gaming

Imagination Gaming and Brainbox Games kindly donated some Brainbox Gift Packs that have been given to the children in Kipper, BFG and Supertato Class. We hope that the children have enjoyed playing the card game at home. A big thank you to all at Imagination Gaming for this, and for continuing to offer board game and construction set building sessions at Jack Clark.



Wellbeing with animals

Thank you to Gina and Sarah from Wellbeing with Animals who have brought their animals back to Jack Clark for some more visits. The children all loved seeing Wendy the pony again and enjoyed getting to stroke and brush her. Mabel the dog loved having her tummy tickled and the rabbits and guinea pigs enjoyed the children feeding them carrots! The children were all really gentle with the animals and have definitely become more and more confident around them. Hopefully they will get to visit us again soon.



Paddington Class

It has been a fantastic Spring term in Paddington Class. It has been a joy to observe the children's confidence blossom as the weeks have gone by. Communication is still a significant focus for us, and all the learners have continued to make excellent progress. They take great pleasure in using their communication books, signing, and spoken language to express themselves. We have also introduced a 'Proud Wall' for showcasing their work, and it has been wonderful to see them sharing their work with our class visitors. This term, we have enjoyed exploring the theme of space and making different planets was a highlight for us all. Additionally, swimming lessons have been a great success, demonstrating our learners' growing confidence in the water. We have also been lucky enough to have a music teacher weekly, Sophie from YASMEN, who has introduced us to a variety of instruments. The children had a wonderful time creating dragon-themed music to complement our English focus on dragons, with the book "Zog" being a particular favourite among the class. In science, we delved into exploring different materials and examining ways to manipulate them, which has sparked a lot of excitement and curiosity. What a fantastic term – Well done, Paddington Class!



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April 2025

Foot Tech

This term we have really enjoyed Foot Tech coming into school each Thursday morning. The football sessions have focused on ball skills and working as part of a team. The children have had lots of fun and we hope to do more sessions with Foot Tech in the future.

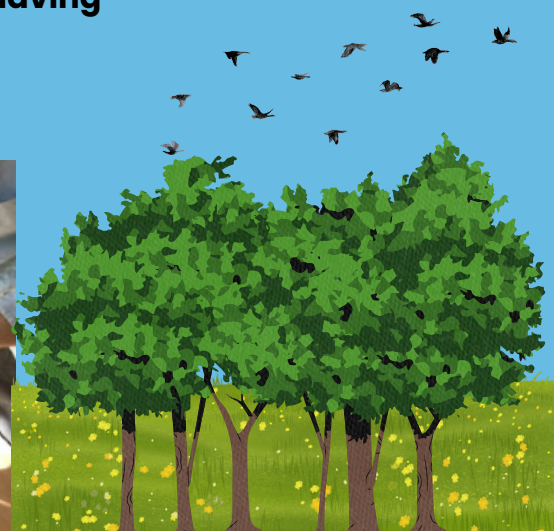
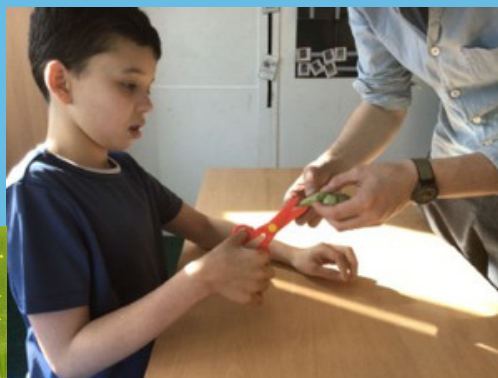


Palm Sunday assembly

This half term Clare, Sophie and Ashleigh from Roundhay Evangelical Church came into school to do a special assembly about Palm Sunday. The children loved joining in with the songs and copying the actions. The children also had a great time joining in role play and dressing up and especially loved the donkey!

Kipper Class

It's been a super busy term for Kipper Class! We've been loving our Kingdoms and Dragons topic and it's been so much fun going swimming! We've been getting really creative in our Imagination Gaming sessions building everything from rollercoasters to pirate ships and massive towers. This term, as a class, we've been practising building up our fine motor skills to help us gain more independence with our writing and everyday independent activities like putting our coats on and practising using scissors. We also welcomed a new friend to Kipper Class who has settled in really well. We love having him as part of our class!



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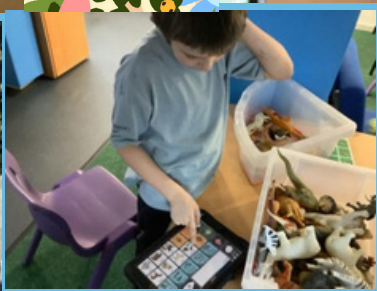
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Elmer Class

Elmer Class have been working very hard this term. We have enjoyed exploring our 'Space' and 'Knights and Dragons' topics and listening to lots of interesting stories. We have been exploring new sound in our phonics groups through lots of sensory exploration. We have also been on Local Area visits in the minibus to Thorner Park and Tropical World, we enjoyed exploring the park with our friends.

Our favourite lesson is food technology where we have followed different recipes to make a variety of healthy snacks like fruit smoothies, frozen yoghurt treats and some rocky road too.



Stay and Play

Last week we held our first Stay and Play session at East SILC- Jack Clark. It was lovely to see so many families join us in school to play alongside the children, look at the symbol support that we use, talk to some of the staff team and to have a snack and drink. We are planning to hold similar events to this throughout the school year. Thank you for your support with this event.

"Play is crucial for developing children's communication and language skills, as well as supporting their learning and wellbeing."

National Literacy Trust

World Book Day

World Book Day was a real success in school this year. The children came to school in lovely costumes including ladybirds, Gruffalos and Willy Wonkas. The children decorated biscuits to make faces and had a special story time in the Hall.

Rubies Masquerade kindly donated boxes of dressing up clothes as part of their "All Dressed Up Campaign" where they donated over 100,000 costumes to schools to help children find the fun in reading. A big thank you to Rubies Masquerade and the PTFA for nominating the East SILC.



TIGGER CLASS

Tiggers have had an amazing spring term! We have had a big focus on our communication and fine motor skills and have really enjoyed trying and preparing lots of different foods in our food technology lessons. We have also been spending lots of time building up our independence around eating, cleaning up and going to the toilet and are getting so much more confident with this. Our highlight however, has definitely been our trips to Thorner Park! Tigger Class were so well behaved getting on and off the bus and absolutely loved exploring the different equipment such as the big swing and slide.



Supertato Class

Supertato have made a fantastic progress over this term. They have enjoyed our literacy stories about dragons and kingdoms, especially our recent story called Zog. They have liked designing shields and dragon wings in DT as well as creating story maps in literacy. In history, they have been learning about the Great Fire of London. They have enjoyed retelling the event using colourful semantics and recalling events using a timeline. In food technology, they have learnt how to knead bread and role-play what it is like to be a baker.

This term, our class have been excited to go on trips as part of Preparation for Adulthood. They have enjoyed visiting Cafe Leep, Sue Ryder Charity Shop and Tropical World. They were very sensible on these trips and had a brilliant time. Supertato have had an amazing Spring Term.



BFG Class

This term has been a very busy but fun term for BFG class. We started the term off learning all about the solar system learning about the different conditions on the surface of each planet and their distance from the sun. We also learnt about recycling, reusing and reducing. We took our recycling ideas to the school council and also made banana muffins to use the left-over bananas in school – they were delicious! Some children then went ice-skating at Elland Road which was cold but lots of fun! We also took part in developing our football skills with Foot Tech and as always, we enjoyed our weekly Imagination Gaming sessions. This half term we have made and flipped pancakes, choosing our favourite topping, dressed up for and celebrated World Book Day, listened to dragon stories, built castles and baked bread in response to learning about the Great Fire of London. I can't wait to see what we get up to next term!



A fantastic term in Gruffalo Class!

This term, the children in Gruffalo Class have really settled into their routines and made great progress with their communication skills. A main focus for Gruffalo Class has been developing positive play skills, and with the warmer weather this term, we have made the most of our time together as a class in our favourite place – the climbing frame!

Our topics this term have been 'Our World' and 'Kingdoms and dragons'. The children have had lots of fun exploring wonderful sensory stories and engaging activities within these themes. We especially enjoyed visiting the Immersive Room for our space themed event and dressing up as knights and dragons.



Gruffalo Class have also been lucky to have some amazing visitors this term. We enjoyed engaging music sessions with YAMSEN, creative problem-solving activities with Imagination Gaming and a wonderful sensory story from Bag Books. A real highlight was the surprise visit from Wellbeing with Animals, where the children had the opportunity to meet lots of exciting animals.

It has been amazing to see the children make progress and grow in confidence this term.

Spring Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

Please make sure to check the East SILC website for key dates and upcoming events

www.eastsilc.org

Jacquie Beattie East SILC Lead Nurse, 0113 2492431 or 07951290212

Lizzie Jackson 07522214939

Lisa Grimes 07960391238

If you cannot contact a member of the Inclusion Nursing Service please contact

Susan Carr Team Leader
0113 2728644, or the Service Coordinator 07939032661



Leeds Community Healthcare **NHS**
NHS Trust



Friday 4th April..... Break up for Easter
Tuesday 22nd April..... Return to school
Friday 2nd May..... Break up for May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6th May..... Return to school
Friday 23rd May..... Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June..... Return to School
Friday 18th JulyBreak up for summer
Monday 21st July..... Training Day
Tuesday 22nd July..... Training Day