

[Click here to access the Student Navigator.](#) The student navigator page contains links to all the pages you will need if you are learning from home.

Contents

Key Dates.....	1
Principal's Message	2
JCA Routine – Reading Ages and Supporting Reading	3
JCA School Newspaper	4
Library – Halloween Book Amnesty	5
Student Book Review: Jojo's Bizarre Adventure Part 3: Stardust Crusaders vol 1	5
Student Book Review: How to Write a Review.....	6
Online Parent Carer Workshop.....	7
Safety in the Community.....	8
Keeping Safe Around Fireworks	8

Key Dates

21 st October	Last Day of Term
22 nd October	INSET Day – School Closed to Pupils
23 rd October	INSET Day – School Closed to Pupils
2 nd November	First Day of Term 2
2 nd – 15 th November	Year 11 Mock Exams
6 th November	Integrate Trip to Clevedon
11 th November	Remembrance Day – 2 Minutes Silence
16 th November	Year 8 Inter Community Day
17 th November	Year 9 Inter Community Day
18 th November	Year 7 Inter Community Day Year 9 Careers Day

23 rd November	INSET Day – School Closed to Pupils
26 th November	Year 8 Parent / Carer Evening
30 th November	2025 Year 11 Leavers Certificate Celebration
1 st December	A Christmas Carol Theatre Trip
11 th December	Year 7 Pantomime Trip
14 th December	Winter Concert
16 th December	Culture Dress & Festive Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
18 th December	Last Day of Term 2
4 th January	INSET Day – School Closed to Pupils
5 th January	First Day of Term 3

Principal's Message

What a busy and positive first term it has been at JCA. I am incredibly proud of the way our students have settled into the year, embraced our expectations and contributed to our community. From the maturity shown during our lockdown drill and unexpected fire alarm to the purposeful start Year 11 have made to their mock examinations, there is much to be proud of.

Thank you to our staff, students and families for your continued support, and I hope everyone has a safe, restful and well-earned half-term break. I want to say a particular thank you to families collecting students last Wednesday, who worked brilliantly with our staff to make sure an ambulance could access the academy safely. Moments like this underline why our road-safety arrangements matter. Please help us by following the one-way system on Woodside Road, parking legally, keeping double yellow lines clear and following staff directions at busy times. Thank you for helping us keep JCA and our wider community safe.

With that in mind, darker evenings are approaching, along with Halloween and Bonfire Night; please take a moment to remind your child about staying safe when out with friends, sticking to well-lit areas, being

mindful around roads and making sensible choices online and in the community. [Avon and Somerset Police](#) also remind young people to respect others' property and avoid behaviour that could cause alarm or damage.

If you are celebrating Bonfire Night, please remember that fireworks and sparklers can cause serious injuries if not used correctly. [Avon Fire & Rescue Service](#) advises families to attend organised displays where possible and to supervise children closely around fireworks and sparklers.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back after a well-earned rest.

Gemma Read

Head of School

JCA Routine – Reading Ages and Supporting Reading

A huge well done to Y8 students who have mostly completed their NGRT assessments this week. Students who have missed the assessments will be asked to complete these in their library lessons next week.

With all of Y7, Y8 and some of Y11 being assessed this term, there is a lot of new reading information, which fueled many great questions from parents at Wednesday's meet the tutor evening. As discussed in last week's newsletter we have changed our reading assessment procedure, including to the more accurate NGRT assessments. These give a standard age score (SAS). This compares students reading ability to that of students nationally who are born at the same time. This gives a number, where 100 is average. Students who score 89 or below will be prioritised for reading intervention across the year.

Many parents are keen to understand how they can support reading at home. Below are a few tips to support your young person with reading:

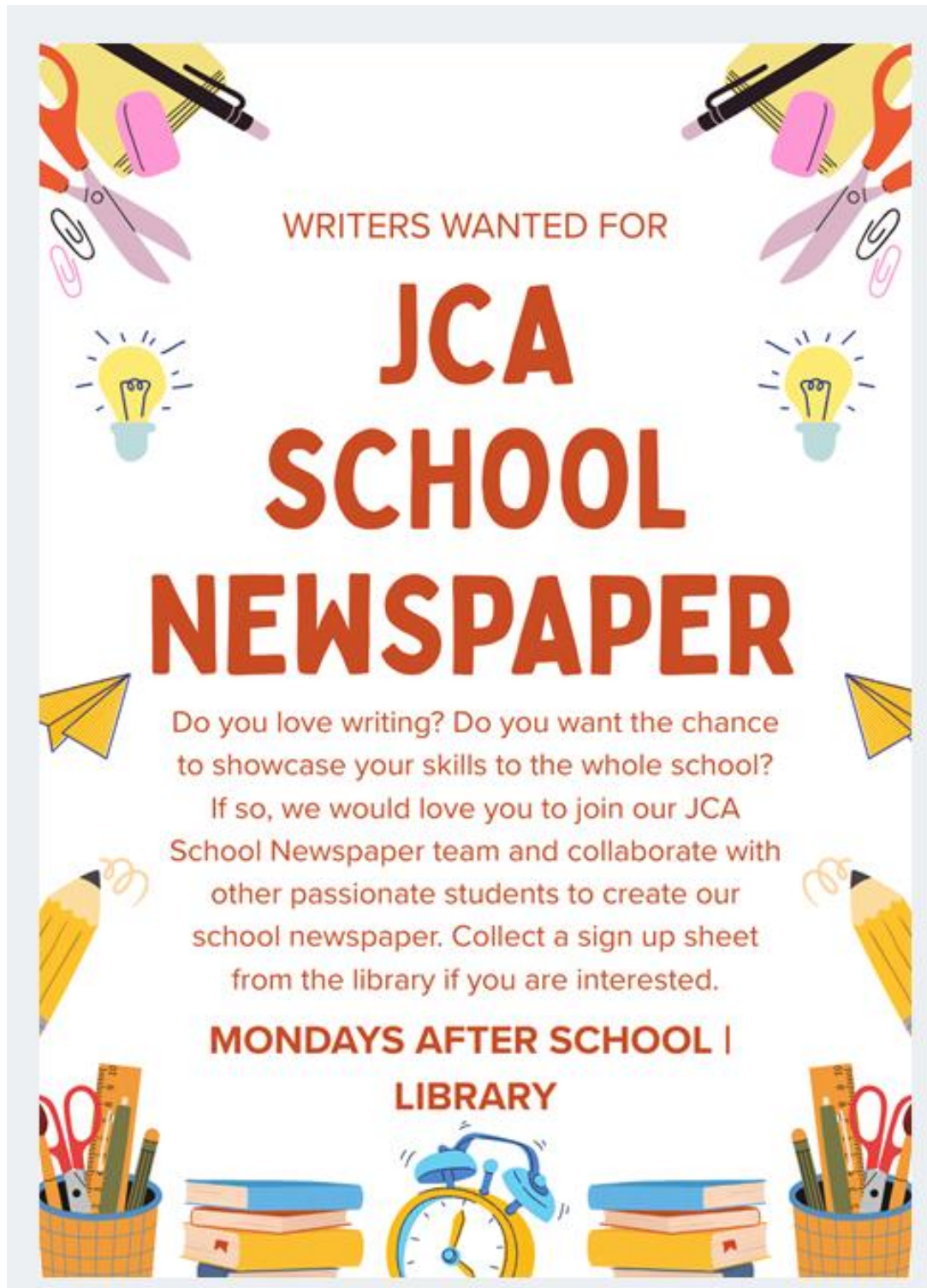
- Read regularly - 15 minutes a day will improve reading age.
- Make it a routine - many people enjoy reading before bed. This routine can help sleep, reduce exposure to blue light before bed and improve mental health.
- Find the books for them - Encourage students to read widely - not everyone likes every book and that's ok. There will be a book for them.
- Talk about book as home - ask them what they are reading - what has happened in their book? - do they like it? - What do they think of the main character? This helps students to process what they have read and shows an interest.
- Be a role model - students who see others read are more likely to enjoy reading themselves.

Kind regards

Andrew Buck

Vice Principal

JCA School Newspaper



WRITERS WANTED FOR

JCA SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Do you love writing? Do you want the chance to showcase your skills to the whole school?

If so, we would love you to join our JCA School Newspaper team and collaborate with other passionate students to create our school newspaper. Collect a sign up sheet from the library if you are interested.

**MONDAYS AFTER SCHOOL |
LIBRARY**

Library – Halloween Book Amnesty



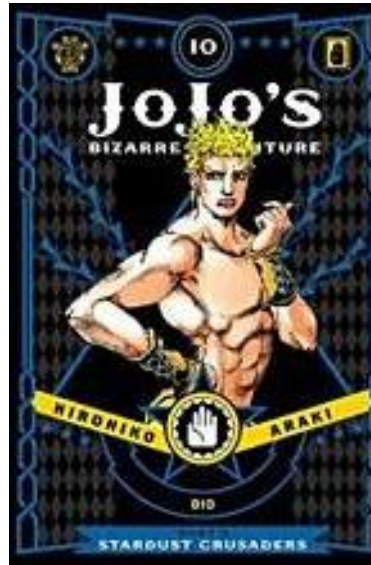
Student Book Review: Jojo's Bizarre Adventure Part 3: Stardust Crusaders vol 1

It's a very awesome book about people with abnormal powers going on a journey to defeat someone called DIO. However, there are a lot of obstacles and enemies in the way before getting there. The main characters travel across different countries, facing many powerful enemies and difficult challenges along the way before they can finally reach him. The story is full of action, suspense, funny moments, and memorable characters, making the adventure exciting from start to finish.

Why should people read it?

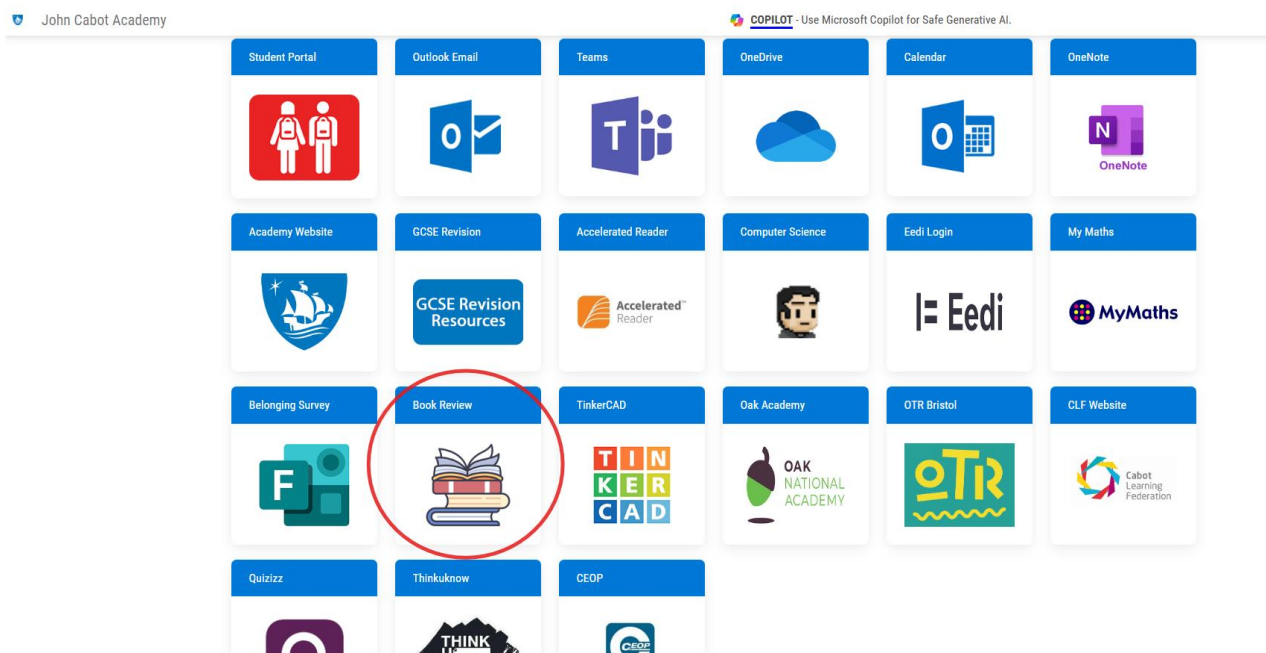
Most people would like this, I think, because of its unique art style and plot. I love all of it. It has a great plot and it's a good style in my opinion.

Tommy S - Year 10



Student Book Review: How to Write a Review

If any students would like to write a book review for the newsletter they can submit their review via the student navigator page. This is the page that appears in their internet browser when they open the page, there is also a link to this at the bottom of the school website. They will then need to click the tile that says book review. This will take students to a form that they can complete to send in a review. Selected reviews will appear in the newsletter and the student will receive positive behaviour points.



Online Parent Carer Workshop

OTR

NHS

Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership
NHS Trust

Mental Health Support Team

Online Parent/Carer Workshop

What is it?

It is an hour long workshop aimed at parents & carers to understand your child, and gain some tips and tricks to use at home.

There are 2 topics this month:

INTRODUCTION TO ANXIETY



Monday
12pm-1pm

Gain an understanding of anxiety, how it may impact your child and learn some strategies to use at home

UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS: TOOLS TO THRIVE



Wednesday
12pm-1pm

To learn about the function of emotions, what can impact children's ability to manage emotions and gain some tools to support your child at home.

What happens next? You will receive an email with options and instructions.

Topics of workshops change termly

To sign up, please complete a registration form here:



[MHST Online Session](#)



The Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS. MHSTs were established to support schools, helping them develop ways to look after the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people (CYP) as well as the wider school community including school staff and parents/carers. To find out where we work, check out our webpage:

<https://www.awp.nhs.uk/camhs/camhs-services/mh-schools/mental-health-support-team-mhst-2>

This leaflet is also available in other languages. Please contact us for more information.



Safety in the Community

As we approach the half term break, please take a few minutes to talk with your child about staying safe in the community, knowing who to contact if they need help and making sensible choices when out with friends.

We would like to remind families about the dangers of entering abandoned or empty buildings. While these places may seem exciting places to explore, they can hide serious risks, including unsafe floors, falling objects, broken glass, fires, and people who may not have good intentions.

If children are looking for somewhere to spend time, encourage them to use safe and supervised community spaces instead.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our young people safe - if you have worries in the community please be aware of the anonymous reporting lines

Crimestoppers [Independent UK charity taking crime information anonymously | Crimestoppers](#)

Fearless [Fearless: Anonymous Reporting for a Safer Community | Crimestoppers](#)

Keeping Safe Around Fireworks

Fireworks can be exciting to watch, but they can also be very dangerous if they are not used properly. Misusing fireworks can cause serious injuries to the person using them and to other people nearby.

Please talk to your child about:

- The importance of using fireworks safely and responsibly. We encourage families to remind children and young people that fireworks should only be purchased by adults who are old enough to do so legally.
- The risk of serious injury if fireworks are used in the wrong way.
- Staying away from activities that involve throwing, carrying, or misusing fireworks.
- Respecting other people, property, and public spaces.

The police are taking a zero-tolerance approach to anyone who misuses fireworks, carries them unlawfully, or buys them when they are underage. Young people involved in unsafe behaviour could face serious consequences, including police action and restrictions that may affect their future access to places in the community.

If you become aware of anyone putting themselves or others at risk through the misuse of

fireworks, please do report this to the police:

- **999** in an emergency
- **101** for non-emergency concerns
- Online through your local police reporting system

Thank you for your support in helping our young people make safe choices and in keeping our communities safe for everyone.