



Your Weekly Head Teacher Newsletter Friday 14th July 2017

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Friends of West Jesmond,

This will be the final Head Teacher newsletter for the year. Next week will be our summer term newsletter looking back at highlights from recent months.

The final five days of the academic year will no doubt be an emotional week, as we say goodbye to yet another cohort of children moving on to secondary school and individuals moving on to different primary schools. On behalf of us all, I'd like to wish you all the very best of luck at your new schools - work hard and keep in touch!

Likewise, I'd like to thank the parents of every child who is leaving us at the end of next week. Your support and contribution to our school community has been much appreciated.

I would also like to recognise and thank Mr Kevin McVittie and Mr Sam Stirling who are also leaving us next week. Kevin and Sam have both made significant contributions to our recent success as a school. Each of them is an outstanding teacher and a fine example of the teaching profession at its best. We wish them well in the next stage of their career; both will be a big miss around school next year.

This month has also marked the end of many years of association and service to our school by Marion Murray. Initially as a teaching assistant, then as a volunteer, Marion has given so much to so many children over the years. She has also inspired waves of children to take up knitting, creating some wonderful things in wool over the lunch time period. We are very grateful for your time and dedication to our school Marion; heartfelt thanks.

A final thank you goes to our Lollipop lady on Osbourne Road Amanda Davidson who leaves her role next week. She has skilfully guided many of you across the road at busy times before and after school; thank you Amanda, from us all. Parent, Suki Drummond is making a collection for Amanda. Any contributions would be much appreciated.



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School Reports

Today, you will have received your child's end of year academic report, written by their class teacher and then read and signed by Mr Wallis-Clarke or myself. It was a delight to read every one of the 300 plus reports I counter signed; the opening paragraph from each child, about their year at West Jesmond, is fascinating and a really personal insight into their learning this year. If you have any questions about any aspect of the report please do get in touch with the class teacher.

School App

With the aim of improving communication further next year, we will be introducing a new app for iphone and android platforms. The app will feature lots of useful information and allow you to sign up for push notifications direct to your phone for whole school, year group, class and club information. We think the app will be a really useful addition to our current means of communication.



Pupils vs Staff Football Tournament

Despite rain delays, Thursday saw the conclusion of our annual staff vs pupil football tournament organised and refereed by Mr Stuart. Despite a few questionable refereeing decisions in favour of the children, each game flowed well! There were some excellent performances - notable was Mr Rimmer, who turned back the years to rediscover his silky skills, even if he's lost a yard of pace or two!! Thank you Mr Stuart.



Concordia Festival Performance

Last week, I had the pleasure of sharing some photos from our Year 4 Scottish opera performance. As I mentioned last week, we then took our opera 'on the road' alongside our choir to perform at the Concordia Festival at the Sage. We joined seventeen other schools at the festival which was a wonderful celebration of the joy of singing. Huge credit and praise goes to Miles Wallis-Clarke, Headteacher at Hotspur Primary, who has envisioned and delivered an exceptional year of singing opportunities for both children and teachers in Newcastle schools funded by the Paul Hamlyn foundation. Many congratulations Miles!



Creative Arts Week

I do hope you had chance to come into school and see your child / children's jigsaw pieces this week. The variety and range of art on display has been a beautiful reminder of the multi-cultural nature of our school. Thanks to Mrs Byers for co-ordinating events and carefully hanging each jigsaw piece.



Young Achievers



Tanida Y1O	Newcastle Chinese school most improved student Class 1 certificate & trophy
Isabella Y1O	Red stripe martial arts certificate & 250 Dojo points
Eli Y3C	The Rock Project musical achievement student of the year certificate & trophy
Edward Y3C	The Rock Project musical achievement certificate
Issy Y5G	Triathlon Hexham 2017 entrant No 58!
Yasmin Y6R	Red Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Duncan Y4S	Blue Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Daisy Y4A	Rainbow certificate & badge for swimming 1 mile
Milena Y4S	Rainbow certificate & badge for swimming 1 mile & also stage 10 Aquatic skills certificate
Orla R1	Rainbow swimming certificate 25M & completed an 8km bike ride with letsride.co.uk
Grace R3	Purple Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Serenna Y1YR	Learn to swim certificate stage 3
Shaun Y2H	Purple Stripe Taekwondo certificate & trophy
Alanna Y2H	250 Dojo points
Noah Y2W	Red Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Samia Y4S	Special member of Book Happy Gang certificate
Huda Y3OB	Special member of Book Happy Gang certificate
Alice & Tahsin Y2J	Super poetry about Warkworth Castle
Harry Y1O	Purple Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Will K Y1O	Fantastic Number booklet completed
Henry R2	Learn to swim certificate level 1
Elisa R2	Purple Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Tia Y1O	Excellent handwriting in class
Conor Y1J	Orange Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Rowan Y1J	Purple Stripe & Orange Stripe Taekwondo certificates & a Rainbow swimming certificate & badge 25m
Marisa Y2W	250 Dojo points
Jack Y2W	Purple Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Maisie Y1O	Learn to swim level 1 & 2 certificates
Nicolas Y1J	Red Stripe Taekwondo certificate & Stage 3 learn to swim certificate & badge
Abena Y2J	Fantastic effort for swimming this term certificate
Izzy Y3C	Successfully completed a foundation course in football with NUFC
Jessica R1	Fantastic writing of a fish story
Dhruvan R1	Fantastic writing of a fish story

Kwame R1	Rainbow swimming certificate 15m
Yann Y5T	Red Tag in Taekwondo & 250 Dojo points
Lara Y3OB	Blue Tag in Taekwondo & Blue Stripe Taekwondo certificate
Raz Y3OB	Kumon certificate level C in maths
Faris Y5T	250 Dojo points
Hemaa Y5T	250 Dojo points

Happy Holidays!

It has been an absolute pleasure to write to you all each week on a Friday. I wish you all an enjoyable and restful summer holiday. Here's hoping the weather is kind to us all.

With very best wishes,



Dominic Martin
Head of School

Attendance for this week:

Our **EYFS** winners this week were **R3** with **98.6%**

Our **KS1** winners this week were **Y2W** with **98%**

Our **KS2** winners this week were: **Y3C 98.6%**



Pen Licences

This week, the following child has achieved their pen licence:

William Y5T

Thank you and have a wonderful summer
Mrs McVittie



Medication reminder

If your child has medication in school, please make sure it is taken home over the summer. If your child will need to bring in any medication when they come back in September, please make sure this comes back on their first day, clearly labelled, and with any supporting paperwork.

Liz Thompson
Director of Early Years



A MASSIVE thank you

A massive thank you to Helen Ingham for her incredible hard work and dedication to the Friends. If you thought all the Friends sales, events and news updates happened by themselves, you were wrong - Helen has been the driving force all year! She will be much missed by the Friends and parents/ staff alike, but she is taking some time to follow other pursuits and will be equally brilliant at those.

Good luck Helen

The Friends