



Head Teacher Newsletter

Friday 16th March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sport Relief 2018

As many of you will know next week is Sport Relief week. Next Friday, 23rd March, we will be contributing to the event by completing a (short) whole school run together. Could children therefore come into school next Friday in suitable sportswear of their choice and trainers that are comfortable to run in. We'd also like to ask if every child could contribute a £1 donation towards this important cause – this is of course completely voluntary.



Secret Garden fundraising

On the subject of fundraising and running, the Swinburne family have very kindly entered me in the **South Tyne 70k Ultra trail race** on the 28th April. The primary reason for running the race is to fundraise for school. If you'd like to sponsor me and donate to our fundraising focus this year: a new garden space within the school grounds which will become a quiet and lush green space for the children to enjoy, particularly in the spring and summer months, the just giving page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/westjesmondprimarysecretgarden>

I expect to cover the distance in between 10-12 hours depending on how much I suffer along the way; whatever happens I'm determined to complete the distance, even if I have to crawl along the finish line – which is of course quite possible. I just feel for people who are running the 140k version!



Executive Head Teacher: Gary Wallis-Clarke MA in Education BA (Hons) NPQH
Head of School: Dominic Martin MEd PGCE LLB (Hons) NPQH
West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AJ
T: (0191)2810000 E: office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk
W: www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk



National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Children's Cancer Run

There is still time for children to enter the Children's Cancer run and join our team of runners at Gosforth Park on Sunday 20th May 2018. The photos at the end of the event reveal what a fabulous event this is; as well as being a worthy cause; the children get a huge amount from taking part.



Return of the Magic Mixers

Our 'Magic mixers' group were back in action last week, busy creating delicious treats with Miss Jordan and Hannah from Cake Stories. The corridors were filled with the delicious smell of home baking! Thank you once again to Hannah for sharing her skills and supporting this project in school.

Mental Health Group



Our Mental Health Group regularly meets to discuss the important issues surrounding the mental health and well-being of our children and families. As part of this we feel it is very important to capture the viewpoints and thoughts of our parents and carers. A link for the survey is available below along with some key information about it. We would very much appreciate everyone taking a few moments to complete the survey.

Parent / Carer Survey : Children's well- being and mental health

We fully support the key priority of recognising the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people within our care.

Recent statistics show:

- o Over 50% of mental illnesses start before the age of 14*
- o One in ten children and young people has a mental health condition.*

The recent Government Green paper, published on 4th December 2017 "Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health," outlines new measures signalling a fundamental shift in mental health support with schools and colleges. Under the plans schools will play a lead role in co-ordinating school based support and in helping children access specialist therapies and NHS treatments if they need them.

Why undertake a parental survey? *We would like to undertake a Mental health and well -being survey in order to gather relevant information from parents/ carers about their children and prioritise future initiatives in this area.*

What is it about? *To receive parental feedback about ways in which school could support or give guidance to children and their families in the future.*

How will it be carried out? The survey will be anonymous. Statements can be ranked in order of importance with the opportunity for further contributions to be made.

Who has devised the survey? The Mental Health Group and Inclusion Team which consists of school staff, parents with expertise or interest in this subject and school governors.

What next? The outcomes gathered will lead to the consideration of new approaches to supporting wellbeing across the school.

You can access the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H7VPG5S>



International Evening

The planning process has started for this year's International Evening. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and showcase our diverse school population. We are holding a Coffee Morning on Tuesday 27th March from 8.30am to share initial ideas and give information about what the event involves. Pop in for coffee and pastries, everyone welcome!

Young	Achievers
	
William Y2J	Invested as a Beaver Scout – 4 th Newcastle Beaver Colony
Eli Y4F	Excellent first ever still life drawing at his art class
Betty R1	Skiing certificate from Austria
Tia Y2S	Level 2 in horse riding
Jane Y2S	200m Rainbow Swimming Award
Gabriel Y2S	100m Rainbow Swimming Award
Will Y2S	250 Dojo Points
Nicholas Y2J	25m Rainbow Swimming Award
Niamh Y4F	Stage 5 Learn to Swim Award
Isla Y4F	Runner of the Week
Chloe R3	10m Rainbow Swimming Award
Charlie R3	10m Rainbow Swimming Award
Finton Y4F	800m Swimming Award
Luca Y4M	800m Swimming Award

With best wishes for the week ahead,

Dominic Martin
Head of School