



## Headteacher Newsletter

Friday 21st September  
2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you first of all to everyone who took the time to answer last week's survey monkey questions. **Your comments are always valued** and feed directly into our continuous drive to try and improve what we offer here at West Jesmond Primary – an outstanding school we may be but we must never lose sight of the need to reflect, change and develop.

I've had some lovely conversations with some of you just out on the yard or on my walk around school in the morning. Myself and the senior team want to be a very visible presence around school; this is another reason why we've moved our office space downstairs so you can see us; hopefully it's just reassuring to know we're here! And please, **if you ever do need our time we are never too busy**; we are always happy to make time to listen – you only need ask.

**IT'S NOT ABOUT  
"HAVING" TIME.  
IT'S ABOUT  
MAKING TIME.**

This week we've been **reviewing new class groups** in school, working through data as well as the little extra things that individuals or groups might need. I always take great pride in the passion and commitment that staff show when talking about your children – they really do care and want your child to do the best they possibly can at school.



I know back in the summer I mentioned that we had employed a new **PE and Sports Mentor** – Linzi Taylor. Linzi has made an excellent start to her new job. She's now out and about on the yard at break and lunch times engaging the children in sporting activities. She'll also be starting new before and after school clubs very soon. I've heard there's been plenty of 'jaw dropping' when children have found out that Linzi has played rugby at international level for England! Linzi has been a great addition to the team.



an excellent local secondary school if we support it as a local community.

If you would like to visit **Heaton Manor Opening Evening** there is an open evening on **Thursday 18th October 5-7.30pm**. An additional afternoon visit will be made available for our current Year 6 pupils due to the date above clashing with Robinwood.

Have you spotted our wonderful **new eco banner**? Well done to all of our poster competition winners for creating such a fabulous design! A huge thank you to NUSU and KJC for their collaboration on this project too!



We will be hosting a **MacMillan Coffee morning** and second hand uniform sale in the school hall 8.45-9.45am next Friday 28th September. Please come along for a cup of tea or coffee and cake and help us raise vital funds for MacMillan. Little ones are very welcome too! There will also be a MacMillan cake stall after school that day – donations would be much appreciated.

If you came along to our Year 6 welcome meetings you'll have had the chance to meet and listen to Heaton Manor's Headteacher Karen Blackburn. Most of you will be well aware that **Heaton Manor** was placed in special measures by Ofsted in 2016. Since last September Karen and the staff have begun the process of turning things around; **significant improvements** were identified by Ofsted during a recent monitoring visit. You can read about these improvements on the Ofsted website. As a member of our Trust of schools and local secondary school, I would encourage you to give it serious consideration if you are beginning the process of choosing a secondary school for your child. I appreciate there is now a huge variety of choice when applying for a secondary school. We will however only have



On Friday 12th October (7.30-10.30pm) it's our next **quiz night fundraiser** for parents and staff. Come and **pit your wits against seasoned quizzer Mr Snelders and his staff team!** Tickets are £10 per person which includes amazing Egyptian food by Layla's Kitchen. Tickets will be available on SIMS Agora.

With best wishes for the week ahead



**Dominic Martin**

**Head of School**



On **Wednesday 17th October (5-6.30pm)** we'll be holding our **PTA / Friends AGM** at school. Everyone is very welcome to attend. On the evening we'll review and celebrate our fundraising for the last academic year; discuss future fundraiser opportunities and formally elect the committee members we need as a charitable organisation.

[info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk)

More information will follow, but please contact if you'd like more information.

 <b>Young Achievers</b> 	
Annabelle Y2H	Level 4 Swimming Award
Emily Y1O	Level 3 Swimming Award
Sumayya Y5M	Gold Medal for Judo
James Y4C	For a fantastic 10/10 score in his spelling test