

Dear Parents and Carers,

National tests are now underway in school. While assessment is a vital part of determining understanding and progress, the current format of national tests would never be my preferred way to capture this information.



As I've said many a time, I want our children to leave us with memories imbued with a love of learning and the curriculum in its entirety. Who knows, in our midst we may well have a future sporting superstar; a soon to be discovered great artist or composer; an engineering or scientific visionary or a writer who will leave a cultural legacy upon our world.

So if your child is sitting a national test remind them how proud you are of them. Help them place the test in context – full marks doesn't equal success. Whatever the outcome, it should not dampen their dreams and it certainly won't take away their talents.

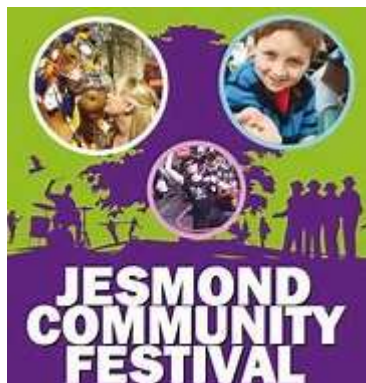
Last week 50 Year 3 children were lucky enough to be invited to attend the **Royal London One Day Cricket Match** between Durham and Lancashire as guests of the Northumberland Cricket Board this week. This exciting opportunity involved playing cricket games during the players' lunch break, meeting the mascots and soaking up the atmosphere of a top-level sports event.



Saturday 11 May sees a busy start to the Jesmond Community Festival. Below is a summary of Saturday's fantastic events- including our art exhibition!

St George's Guild of Bell ringers open the Festival with ringing; they will then offer an invitation to the ringing chamber to have a look and see what they do.

Next, call into St Hilda's Church hall for tea/coffee & scones (and more), admire artwork by local schoolchildren (11am - 2pm) before sampling food from around the world at the nearby Methodist Church (11am - 1pm).



Enjoy all the fun, stalls and activities (and yes, more food!) at St George's Spring Fete from 12 - 4pm, follow this by seeing one of the performances of 'If these Walls Could Talk' (5pm or 6.30pm) by Empty Vessel Theatre Co at St Hilda's Hall and finish the day with Jazz Night at the Library (7.30 - 9.30pm). Whew!

Alternatively fit in a healthy and informative guided walk around St Mary's Chapel and the Holy Well (1.30 - 3.30pm) - £3, but book first on 0191 2812082.

And on your travels, stop off at the Oliver Bonas car park on Acorn Rd to see the Play City project (launch at 10am) organised by students from Architecture and Urban Planning, Newcastle University.

Full details of events are in the Festival programme - or find info at www.jesmondfestival.org.uk

Yesterday the **Art Ambassadors** had their first workshop with illustrator Bethan Laker.



They learnt about how she plans and starts a project, asked lots of great questions, and created their own collaged background board. Then they experimented with different types of lettering. They really enjoyed Bethan's visit and are looking forward to carrying on their project with Mrs Byers, preparing work to take to their full day workshop at Bethan's studio in June.

This week's **Young Achievers** following on the next page.

With best wishes for the week ahead,

Dominic

Dominic Martin Head of School

Young Achievers	
Bella Y6S	Earnt over 250 Dojo Points
Minag Y6S	Earnt over 250 Dojo Points
Joshua Y6S	Earnt over 250 Dojo Points
Joseph Y5R	Novocastrians Under 10 team player award for 2018/2019 season
Jane Y3L	Fantastic creative writing
Maisie Y3L	Fantastic creative writing
Amelie Y1B	Star player in Rugby
Bert Y1B	Stage 4 Swimming Award
Freya Y1B	Stage 3 Swimming Award
George Y3L	Novos RFC Under 8s Rugby Star Player
James Y1O	Novos RFC Under 6s Rugby Star Player
Kayden Y1O	Swimming, Tennis and Rugby Trophies
Krishna Y1O	Level 2 Swimming Award
Elijah R2	Rugby Award
Amelie R2	Fantastic Writing
Scarlett R2	Fantastic Writing
Aila R2	Fantastic Writing
Amelia R2	Fantastic Writing
Delilah Y2JT	100m Swimming Award
Tallulah Y2JT	100m Swimming Award
Freddie Y2S	Harrogate Medal for Rugby
Finn Y2JT	Level 7 Swimming Award
Henry Y2S	Northern Rugby Medal
Aaron Y2S	Chess Final
Elisa Y2S	Passed Grade 1 Piano
Josh R1	Fantastic writing
Orla Y2H	250 Dojo Points
Jack Y2H	End of Season Rugby Trophy
Joshua Y2H	Climbing Cat Bells and End of Season Rugby Trophy
Hani Y6W	Achieving Level 14 in Lexia