



**January 17<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely walking around school this week and seeing all the new displays showcasing the stunning art work and poetry from Take One Book Week. We have shared more examples of this on our Facebook and Twitter feeds and have had some great feedback including from the illustrator of The Lost Words, Jackie Morris. I shared her comments with the children in assembly this morning.



## **Congratulations**

This week we had an email to inform us Mr McGrath has become the first ever primary teacher in the country to gain the Primary certification from the National Centre of Computing Excellence. This is fantastic recognition for the work he has done in improving the opportunities with computational thinking for our children and in supporting other schools.

## **Diversity Role Model**

On Tuesday night, Mr Wallis-Clarke was invited to speak at the Civic Centre to a range of Newcastle Council employees about being a diversity role model.



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 Teaching & Leadership



### **Talk like an Egyptian**

Year 3 travelled back in time this week to discover more about life in Ancient Egypt at Durham's Oriental Museum. They examined a range of artefacts to discover about life in the past and learnt about the importance of both archaeologists and scientists in doing this. The classes took part in a 'Weighing of the Heart' ceremony and learnt about Ancient Egyptian belief in the afterlife. They also studied an actual mummy which was over 2,000 years old. They asked excellent questions and were keen to discover more throughout the day - demonstrating fantastic historical enquiry skills.



### **Science Capital**

On Thursday I had the second research visit from the Institute of Education to my science lesson with 3C. We were looking at the importance of bones and the researcher was very impressed with the children's enthusiasm and wider scientific knowledge. This is a two year project working with University College London and eleven other schools across the country that will create a teaching model to be shared to all schools.

### **STEM Week**

This year we are running a joint STEM Week project with Benton Park Primary School. The STEM leads from both schools met this week to plan out an exciting week from the 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you to the parents who are architects and engineers who have already been in touch to help out – there are still more opportunities so if you would like to do so please email [hello@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:hello@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk).

### **Australian Wild Fires**

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning, cake sale and who have given donations to the Friends fundraising in support of those affected by the Australian Wild Fires. Again, it shows what a brilliant school community we are.

With my very best wishes for the week ahead,

Tom Jones  
Assistant Headteacher

Young Achievers	
Eesa 1W	Treetop Trek Certificate
Kiki 1W	Stage 3 Swimming Award
Mohammed 1B	Stage 1 Swimming Award
Natta 2E	Stage 4 Swimming Award
Betsy 2H	50m and 100m Swimming Award
James 4C	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon in Judo
Takien 4C	Stage 4 Swimming Award
Sammy 4C	200m Swimming Award
Henry 1C	15m Swimming Award
Imogen R2	15m Swimming Award
Leo 4E	Stage 7 Swimming Award
Avi 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Felicity 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Danny 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Aubrey 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Malu 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Krishnan 1B	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Otilie 1C	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Scarlett 1C	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Cecile 1C	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Zinedine 1C	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course
Stella 1W	Completing first La Jolie Ronde French course