



## Headteacher Newsletter Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all the many ways in which you've supported **Children in Need** this year. It really is a marvellous charity that benefits so many children across the UK. Thanks particularly to Mrs Oades for co-ordinating events across school and of course thanks to Pudsey who dropped in in-person to visit us this week.



*touching to hear that they wanted to use some of the money to develop an area in school in memory of a member of staff who had passed away.*

*All of the children were so enthusiastic and their behaviour was excellent. It's safe to say I think they had a great time and you definitely have some budding entrepreneurs in your school!*

Well done Year 5!

Next Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, it is the turn of Mr McGrath's class. If you are in town, please consider popping in to the Grainger Market (they'll be right at the very back) and support them in their venture.



**Year 5's Virgin Money Make £5 Grow projects** are now visiting the Grainger Market to sell their produce. This week Mr Ginnever's class visited. They made a fantastic £230.50 in profit. I was delighted and very proud to receive the following feedback from one of the Virgin Money team:

*'I spent some time talking to your children about the products they had made, where their ideas had come from and what they were going to do with any profit. It was really*

I think it would be fantastic if we could **get behind the efforts of Mrs Wood and her children Thomas and Grace, who are collecting advent calendars for the East End**

**Foodbank.** They are collecting chocolate advent calendars and/or selection boxes for children in our own city who aren't able to enjoy the little luxuries that many children enjoy. Please bring any donations to the School Office by Friday 23rd November.



Throughout the year we have a number of non-uniform days whether it be to wear red, green, spots or pyjamas. For these days children can decide whether they accessorise their uniform or wear different clothing. We recognise that whilst some children relish in the opportunity to wear a particular outfit others prefer to add a little something to their uniform - either option is very welcome.

On Wednesday we hosted one of our regular **'Bike it' breakfasts** – this time for KS2.

**Thanks as ever to Jill Maddison and the team from the Cycle Hub**

who sponsored the event and provided Dr Bike who was on hand to help with urgently needed bike repairs. A number of bikes were declared unroadworthy after being checked over, so it's well worth getting your child's bike regularly serviced just to make sure it's safe to use.



This year we are collaborating with the Great North Museum as a **Dippy School**. In May, as part of his national tour, Dippy the diplodocus from the Natural History Museum in London will be at the GNM. The aim of visit is to encourage more people to be interested in the natural world.



As part of our involvement with the project we will be setting a **monthly Family Homework challenge** (starting next week) with different ideas and activities we'd like you to pick from. You can pick one, some or all that interest your family. It is up to you how you approach it but you can bring pictures, photos or writing into school, post pictures or videos to our Twitter thread or Facebook page, or the children can come to school to talk about or show what they have done with family members. We can't wait to see what you find out!

Ahead of the **Christmas Fair on Sunday 9th December (make sure the date is in your diary!) Friday 7th December will be a non-uniform day.** Children can come into school in non-uniform, in exchange for a donation for one of the tombola stalls - bottles, teddies, toys, chocolate or general gifts. More details to follow next week! If you are able to spare an hour after drop-off that Friday, we will need help collecting and sorting the donations. Please come to the school office straight after drop-off if you can help. There are lots of exciting things planned for the fair itself. **If anyone has experience of face-painting** and can help out on the day of the fair, we would love to hear from you. **Please e-mail the friends on [info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk).** We will also be needing helpers on our other stalls. Please consider if you would be able

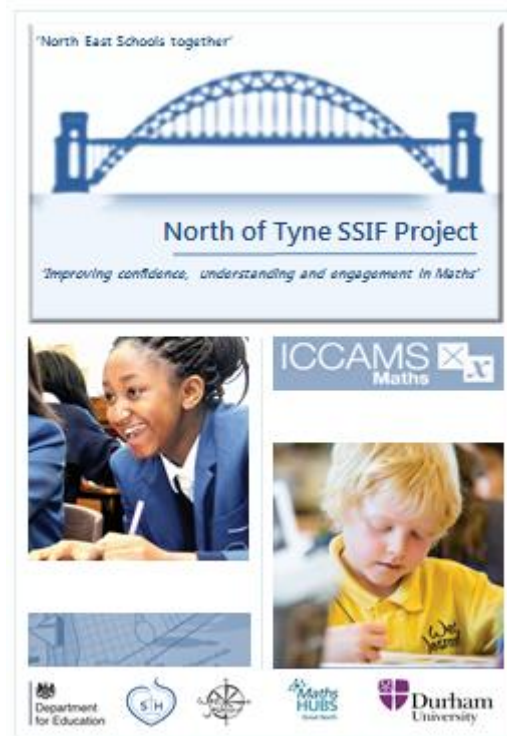


to help as we will be asking for volunteers shortly.

Last Sunday, Mr Wallis-Clarke and a group of our children attended the **Service of Remembrance at the Commonwealth War Grave Memorial**. He laid a wreath on behalf of West Jesmond Primary along with the children.

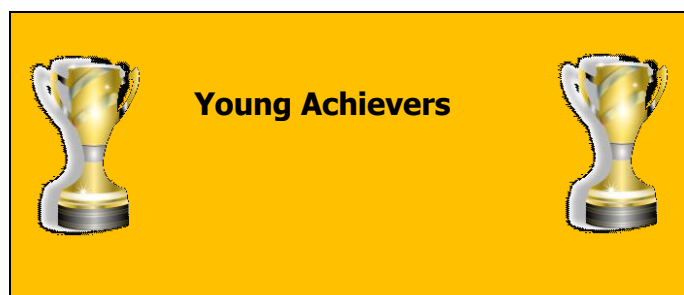


This week marked a proud moment in our development as a **National Teaching School**. Alongside colleagues from Sacred Heart High School and Durham University we bid for a significant amount of money from the **DfE Strategic School Improvement fund** to enable us to run a maths project with eighteen other schools across the North of Tyne region. I'm delighted to say we were successful and this Wednesday we held our project launch. It feels important that our success at West Jesmond allows us to support other schools across the region, while learning all the time from the process ourselves.



Finally, **we'd all like to congratulate Miss Otsa and Mr Edwards who got engaged over the half term holiday** #westjesmondwedding Very exciting news indeed!





Orla, Y2H	Level 5 Swimming Certificate
Jack, Y2H	Rugby Trophy
Zinadine, R2	Certificate from Newcastle Arabic and Quran Society
Albie, Y6W	'Man of the Match' – Newcastle District
Will, Y6W	'Man of the Match' – Newcastle District
Auro, Y2S	Medals for Dance
Amelie, Y2H	Level 1 pre bronze trophy for dance
Sophia, Y1W	5 metres Swimming Certificate
Rahaf, Y3F	Fantastic drawing of Pudsey Bear
Mohammed, R1	Fantastic drawing of Pudsey Bear
Grant, Y10	Fantastic Independent Writing

With best wishes for the week ahead,

**Dominic Martin**

**Head of School**

## 2020/21 School Admissions Policy Consultation

From Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018, we are consulting on our school admissions policy and would like to hear your views and comments about these so that we can consider whether to include these changes for the admissions policy from 2020/21.

We are proposing to adopt a common policy across the Ouseburn Learning Trust, you can find a copy of the proposed policy [here](#) **[Proposed admissions policy for OLT primaries 2020-21 WJPS DRAFT](#)**

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Wendy Mar, School Business Manager ([office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk)) The closing date for responses is 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Policies will be determined by 28th February 2019 and published on our school website by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019.