

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable, restful or even celebratory Easter break.

Just a quick reminder that next Wednesday is **Parents' Evening for Reception to Year 5**. Once again you can book via Eventbrite (see week ahead) to find a convenient time. Teachers will be available between 1.30pm and 7pm, with the odd interval for toilet breaks and coffee!

I'm sorry but the Local Council does not permit **dogs on school grounds**, even cradled within owner's arms. It may seem like health and safety gone mad, but this one is out of our control. I'd therefore respectfully ask that owners don't bring their dogs on to the yard; no matter how cute or fluffy they are!



There has been a good bit of discussion in the media, with popular figures like Michael Rosen offering their views, about **SATs and preparation for them**. Once again I'd just like to voice our commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum taught right across the school, throughout the academic year. Only



yesterday I stopped to look for a good while at some of the wonderful artwork lining the corridors outside Year 6 created by our children with Mrs Byers in response to their project on Syria.



Yes we do prepare children for tests, but appropriately, according to their age and the nature of the test to come. Tests should simply be a means to allow children to showcase their confidence, learning and understanding. Personally, I'm confident our outcomes are as strong as they are, **because** we teach a broad and balanced curriculum.



Thanks to everyone who dropped tokens into the **Waitrose fundraising box**. These helped raise a very valuable £250! Thanks to Helen from the Friends for organising.

Finally please do consider taking a moment to comment on our Relationships Education consultation via Survey Monkey. Broadly speaking we are asking for comment on the content of the table set out below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DNN8J9D>

By the end of primary school:

Families and people who care for me	<p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability. the characteristics of healthy family life, commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty, protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives. that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
Caring friendships	<p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up. that marriage¹³ represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong. how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.
Respectful relationships	<p>Pupils should know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends. the characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties. that healthy friendships are positive and welcoming towards others, and do not make others feel lonely or excluded. that most friendships have ups and downs, and that these can often be worked through so that the friendship is repaired or even strengthened, and that resorting to violence is never right. how to recognise who to trust and who not to trust, how to judge when a friendship is making them feel unhappy or uncomfortable, managing conflict, how to manage these situations and how to seek help or advice from others, if needed.

SIMS Agora

With effect from the 1st May 2019, there will be a change to how the debit and credit card payments, you make on the SIMS Agora system appear on both the SIMS Agora system payment pages and on your bank statements. Statements will show "PAY360*West Jesmond" instead of "CAPITA*WestJesmond". This will not affect anything else within your account.

Young Achievers

This week's Young Achievers section can be found on the following page.

With best wishes for the week ahead,

Dominic

Dominic Martin Head of School



Young Achievers	
Emily Y1O	Level 7 Gymnastics Award
Betsy Y1O	Level 2 Swimming Award
Lyla Y1O	20m Swimming Badge and Level 4 Swimming Award
Alba Y1B	Yellow Stripe Taekwondo and 25m Swimming Award
James Y1O	Sidesteps in Rugby
Halle Y1W	Red Stripe in Taekwondo
Amira R3	Level 2 Swimming Award
Kayden Y1O	Little Kickers 'All Rounder' Certificate
Ottillie R2	Level 2 Swimming Award
Maisie Y2S	200m Swimming Award
Freddie Y2S	200m Swimming Award
Zean Y2S	100m Swimming Award
Chloe Y2S	Red Stripe Taekwondo
Aaron Y2S	Star Team Player for 3 rd time this year – Northern Team
Leo R3	Level 2 Swimming Award
Yuqi Y1W	Red Stripe Taekwondo
Chloe Y1W	Certificate for Chinese School
Jenson Y1O	Level 3 Swimming Award
Edward Y6S	250 Dojo Points
Affan Y6S	250 Dojo Points
Stalin Y6S	250 Dojo Points
Aisha Y5G	Distinction in Grade 1 Violin
Rowan Y3F	Yellow Belt in Taekwondo
Ariel Y1B	Amazing involvement in Easter Dance Camp
Cydney Y1W	5m Swimming Award
Alissa R3	Stage 4 Swimming Award
Stella Y4J	1 st Place in Dressage Exam
Finn Y2JT	Red Belt and one Yellow Tag in Karate
Maaria Y3C	Orange Award in Judo
Aila R2	National Trust Certificate
Nancy Y2S	Level 2a Riding – Stepney Bank Stables
Tanida Y3L	Stage 6 Swimming Award