



Weekly Newsletter: Friday 11th October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very excited about the whole school history and geography project on Coal Mining that we shall be working together on in the final week of this half-term. These mini-projects give us a chance to really look at one aspect of our local history and environment in depth and actively show the progression in skills across the school. Attached to this newsletter is a knowledge organiser for the project (Ask your children about these!) and also a homework sheet. My Uncle Alan was a miner at Wearmouth Colliery until it was closed and I often think about his life. I'm going to see if I can find out anything more of his life as a coal miner to share with the children.

Calling all singers!

Mr Roberts is looking for the next Cathedral Choristers and *ChoriStarters*!

As you know, we have a long and strong tradition of singing at West Jesmond. We are so famous for it, that Ian Roberts (Cathedral Director of Music) likes to visit to hear us sing, and search for the next generation of Newcastle Cathedral Choristers. The unique musical education enjoyed by Newcastle Cathedral Choristers is completely free of charge. Benefits include regular ensemble work with the Cathedral's professional musicians, individual lessons with a Vocal Coach, and lessons in musical theory. Other opportunities include national and international concert tours, BBC broadcasts, and professional CD recordings.

Boys and girls rehearse after school on a couple of days of the week (girls - Monday & Wednesday, boys - Tuesday & Thursday). There is the possibility of reinstating transport from Jesmond schools if a number are interested, or parental lift sharing is another option. Parents are invited to contact Ian Roberts - the Cathedral's Director of Music to find out more information and organise an audition or taster session for their child. Boys and girls usually begin in Years 3, 4 or 5, but in occasional circumstances applications for Year 6 children will also be considered.

New for this term is a group for Year 2 children called *ChoriStarters*. Just an hour a week of fun musical games and songs. There is no audition for this, and you can simply register by contacting the Cathedral Music Department. A number spaces remain available for this year, and parents of Year 1's can register for September 2020.

Please contact music@stnicholascathedral.co.uk (telephone: (0191 2321939)).

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Environmental Assembly

Every Friday we have a whole school assembly and I was delighted this morning to be able to sit back and watch a special presentation from a group of Year 6 children who had written, rehearsed and composed music for a very special assembly for the rest of the school. The theme was reducing our plastic waste and consumption and this remains something as a school we are trying



to do. It is wonderful to see children taking the lead and sharing their views and passion on this important topic. The accompanying video clip made a very powerful assembly for us all to think about. Congratulations to Sophie, Niamh G, Erin, Emma, Beyza and Zoe.

Fundraising

One of last year's Year 6 pupils, Albie, has recently set up a just giving page to raise money for Cancer Research, as his goalkeeper has recently lost his dad due to cancer. Albie is going to cut his hair to raise funds and donate the hair to make wigs. For those that remember Albie with the hair and would like to donate, please click on the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/AlbieMcpate>

Christmas Diary Dates

Please make a note of the date and time of your child's performances in the School Hall and our other Festive events.

School Christmas Fair Sunday 8th December 12 – 2pm

Christingle Service at St Hilda's Church Tuesday 10th December 4 pm

Reception Christmas Performance Friday 13th December 9.30 am

Year 1 Christmas Performance Wednesday 18th December 9.30 am

Year 2 Christmas Performance Thursday 19th December 9.30 am

**Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert at St. George's Church Tuesday 17th December at 1.30 pm
(NEW EVENT!!!!)**



Christmas Parties

Monday 16th December, Thursday 19th December and Friday 20th December

School will close at 3.20 pm on Friday 20th December and re-opens on Monday 6th January at 8.45 am as usual.

With my very best wishes for the week ahead.
Gary Wallis-Clarke

Young Achievers

Alba Y2S	100m Swimming Award
Zinedine Y1C	100m Swimming Award
Sam Y1C	Running Medal – 1 st Place
Thomas Y1C	Running Medal – 3 rd Place
Audrey Y1C	GNR Mini Marathon
Harry Y1C	Rugby Trophy
Annabelle Y4C	800m Swimming Award
James Y4E	Man of the Match in Football
James Y2H	100m Swimming Award
Matthew Y2H	200m Swimming Award
Dillon Y1C	20m Swimming Award
Henry Y1C	10m Swimming Award
Wei Yi Y1W	Fantastic Fairytale Writing
Zakariya Y1W	Fantastic Fairytale Writing
Amelie Y2O	Half Marathon Town Moor Park Run