



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 4 Summer Term 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The sun has shone down on a very busy week at West Jesmond. We have been very pleased to once again welcome so many of you into school and to see so many of our families at events out of school. It is this sense of great support and community that really makes our school so special!



Spring Fair For Rocco Sunday 22nd May 12-2pm



There is another event for everyone this weekend. It is the Spring Fair for Rocco this Sunday. Our Friends of West Jesmond have done an incredible job on behalf of all of us to prepare for the day and we look forward to seeing as many of our families as possible on the day! There are lots of fun activities for everyone and joining us are Big Science for some experiments and fun and look out for the North East's finest pirate, Captain Raggy Beard, who will also be calling by!



STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

Next week is our annual STEM Week. The whole school will be answering our Big Question: **Which biscuit is the best for dunking?** Each year group will be enhancing their scientific skills by investigating a different aspect of what influences the perfect dunking biscuits. Hopefully the children will find out the optimum break time drink and snack for their teachers! Through the week, the children will be predicting, planning, investigating and using their maths skills to display their findings and draw conclusions. On Seesaw you will find a biscuit-related homework which can be completed as a family to use your technology and engineering skills. Please complete whichever aspect of this that most interests your children.



We will end our STEM week with a jubilee picnic for all children on the playground on Friday afternoon. Each child will be provided with a drink and special biscuit from school (all dietary requirements will be catered for). We can't wait for a great week - we're sure it will really take the biscuit!

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 3AJ

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West Jesmond School Allotment Open Day

Thank you to everyone who came to see our school allotment last Saturday. We were so pleased to be able to share this special place with our families. It was a glorious spring morning and we were overwhelmed by the huge numbers who came! Thank you to our choirs for adding to the occasion with their lovely singing. Our thanks go to the incredible team of volunteers who made the day possible and who create this unique and invaluable learning space for our children.

Can you help? To keep the allotment running so well, we are always in need of more volunteers. If you think you could give up a little time each week please contact the school and ask to speak to Mr Cook. All are welcome, even if you do not have huge gardening expertise!



Pupil-Parent Library: Wednesdays and Fridays

Remember to come and visit the reopened Pupil Parent Library in our Undercroft on the main yard. Parents and children are invited to come and choose a book and sign it out. The library will be there every Wednesday morning before school and every Friday at the end of the school day.



Children's Cancer Run

Another great event last weekend was the Children's Cancer Run. Our very large team of children and adults ran around the challenging courses in very warm temperatures and raised a large amount of money for this very important cause. Thank you very much to Mrs Adair for all her hard work organising our West Jesmond team and our involvement in the run!



Cycling Stars!

We were very proud of our Year 5/6 Cycling team who took part in the Newcastle Schools' Bike Event. The children took on a number of challenges including a handling skills circuit, a seesaw, time trial and individual and team races! Everyone there was very impressed with the skill shown by our children in these difficult trials and their persistence to complete them all so well!



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Cricket Lessons

Year 3 and 4 children had a series of cricket taster sessions this week from James and Dan from Northumbria County Cricket. We have some very keen and talented cricketers in school and we are pleased that over 30 Year 5 and 6s are attending Thursday night cricket club – there are still spaces available!

Panathlon Team

We are looking out for new events for our children to join in with to give as many children the chance to represent West Jesmond in the widest range of sports. A new and exciting experience for us this week was the Panathlon. Our team competed against 12 other schools from across the city in a wide range of fun and challenging sports and made us extremely proud of them for their determination, skills and fantastic attitude!



Year 3 Parents' School Drop-in

Thank you to all of our Year 3 parents who came to our drop-in this week. Our parents and children made some fabulous flower bouquets sculptures using a range of techniques the children have been learning in school this half term in art lessons and had the chance to look at the children's school books.



Reception Stay and Play

A huge thank you to families who were able to attend their child's stay and play sessions. There was such a happy atmosphere with children and grown-ups enjoying spending time together in the Reception environment. It was lovely to be able to welcome you into school and to give you a chance to build relationships with each other as our Reception families' community. Our children were very proud to show you their classrooms where we work and play together, and we especially loved welcoming younger siblings who seemed to have a wonderful time practising for their turn at big school!



Important: Half Term and Summer Free School Meals Reminder

We are very pleased to be able to provide Free school Meal vouchers, £15 per child per week for all families eligible for Free School Meals over the half term and summer holidays. We know these are increasingly difficult times for many of our families and encourage any family who thinks they might be eligible for Free School Meals, maybe through change of circumstances, to talk to us at school about how to apply.

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Parent Volunteer Experts

We have talked a lot about how our West Jesmond parents enrich and extend the experiences for our children and we are always interested in hearing from any of you who would like to come in to school. This week we had two great visits providing a depth of expertise that adds so much to our learning.

Mountain Rescue

Year 5 had a fantastic visit from one of our parents, Drew Swinburne, who is part of the North of Tyne Mountain Rescue team. As part of our Humanities topic studying mountains, and to help inform our Mountain Survival Guides, we learnt how to plan carefully for a safe trip.



Life Saving Skills

Year 6 were given superb First Aid in an Emergency training from Geoff and Maria. We learnt vital lifesaving skills, including how to give CPR, how to put someone in the recovery position, what to do if someone is choking and how to use a defibrillator. Thank you so much!

Ice Pops: Look out for our parents selling ice pops on the school yard after school on Friday 27th May!



Have a lovely weekend everyone - we hope to see you on Sunday!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

(Please see dates for your diary on the next page!)

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Dates for Your Diary

This Weekend

❖ Sunday 22nd May

Friends of West Jesmond Spring Fair For Rocco

Next Week

West Jesmond STEM Week

❖ Monday 23rd May

Year 6 Parents' Hawkhirst Information Meeting

❖ Tuesday 24th May

Teachers from the Netherlands visiting school

❖ Tuesday to Friday

Year 6 Bikeability

❖ **Friday 27th May**

Break up for Half Term

Further Ahead

❖ **Monday 6th June**

School Closed for additional Bank Holiday

❖ Tuesday 7th June

Start of Summer Term Half Term 2

❖ Wednesday 8th June

2M Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep

❖ Thursday 9th June

2W Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep

Yr. 4 Visit to Wooler County Show

❖ Friday 10th June

2J Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep

❖ Tuesday 14th June

Parent Partnership Meeting (2.15pm)

❖ Wednesday 15th June

Health Careers Fair Year 5 and Year 6

❖ Friday 17th June

Friends of WJPS Quiz Night

❖ Monday 20th– Weds 22nd June

Year 6 Hawkhirst Residential

❖ Tuesday 12th July

Key Stage 2 Sports Day

❖ Wednesday 13th July

Key Stage 1 Sports Day

❖ Thursday 14th July

Reception Sports Day

❖ Wednesday 13th– Friday 15th July

Year 6 Secondary School Transition Days

❖ **Friday 22nd July**

End of Summer Term

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