



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 4 Spring Term 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

# **Clubs and Extra-Curricular Activities**

We are very proud of the opportunities that we offer children that enhance the curriculum and help to develop their interests, talents and wider personal development. As we move out of the restrictions of the pandemic, we are trying to open up more and more activities for our children.

So far this year children have had the chance to take part in running club, football club, hockey club, rugby club, Lego club, fencing, taekwondo, Djembe drums, Chimneysweep drama, choir, guitar, violin, keyboard, Shakespeare, athletics events, netball team, French, Spanish, School Council, Digital leaders and the terrific, children led, Playground Book Club. Alongside these are curriculum time enrichment provided by external tennis and squash coaching. This term look out for new clubs starting for Debating Club, Dance, art and, hopefully, a Soul and Gospel Choir!

## Activities for All:

However in a school of our size we know we need to work even harder to make sure increasing numbers of children are able to access each club. We are aware that there are currently slightly less opportunities for our younger children in Reception and Key Stage 1, that clubs can fill up very quickly and for some the costs of clubs provided by external specialists may create problems.

We will be working hard to increase the clubs that our younger children can access over the year and also look at ways to make the sharing of information about clubs and the signing up procedures as fair for everyone as we can.

We also want to ensure that barriers to joining clubs are removed and want to remind any family whose child is eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium at any time while at our school that we will pay for membership of clubs and music lessons for your child. Please speak with the school office about this. **Can you help?** We are very lucky to have such a talented parent body at West Jesmond. A number of you already come into school to enhance our children's learning and we would be very interested in talking with anyone who would like to come in and share your interests and skills with our children and run a club at school. Please speak to the school office if this is something you would like to explore with us.

# Reminder Parent Online Safety Workshop Wednesday 9th February

You should have had further information this week about our important Parent Online Workshop on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February between 5.30pm and 7pm. We would encourage as many parents as possible to sign up for this chance to find out how to keep your child safe through awareness and taking practical steps and about the very latest potential risks they might face through social media an online activities.



#### **Into University Academic Support:**

We have been asked to share with you details of a great scheme run by IntoUniversity, where children can access curriculum support in a range of subjects and have the chance to meet, work with and be mentored by current university students. Please see the posters for more information and the contact address to email or phone.

Academic Support is a free, weekly after-school club for eligible students.

Primary students take part in our tailored curriculum and study topics like History of Art, Coding and Chemistry. Students are supported by staff to improve their English and Maths skills.

Secondary students receive homework help, career advice, CV support and have access to exclusive work experience opportunities. Students also have free access to Chromebook laptops when at the centre.

Students in Years 6-12 have the opportunity to take part in our Mentoring programme where they receive 1:1 support from a current university student.

Email: michael.spierin@intouniversity.org Phone: 0191 731 8751 Website: www.intouniversity.org



### **Celebrating Our Community: Class and Assembly Videos**

Two weeks ago we told you about our project to create a library of short videos made by the children (and hopefully their families) about events that are important to them. This could be cultural, religious or secular, international or regional; including how birthdays, wedding or other life events are celebrated. Songs or greetings associated with the festivities would be fantastic as well of photos or videos of clothes or items used for celebrations!

Thank you so much to all of you who have already been in touch and asked to be involved. However, we are looking for even more opportunities to reflect and share what is important to our West Jesmond Family If you have an event, which is special to you, please get in touch with Mrs Groot our EAL and Bilingual Children Lead. vgroot@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk or phone the school office.

### Happy New Year!

Talking of festivals, we hope all of our families who will be celebrating Chinese Lunar New Year over the next week have a lovely time and that the Year of the Tiger is one of happiness, health and peace for us all.

Thank You: We have had some lovely messages about the hampers provided by donations from all of you and the residents of Fleming Court Care Home. We wanted to share one with you this week and to show just how much the support of our children and families means to others in our community.

Dear West Jesmond School Staff Thank you very much for the beautifully-wrapped Christmas hamper which you and the residents of Fleming Court Care Home sent to was filled with so many christmas goodies that I also had the pleasure of sharing your bovely gifts with eight other residents here at Pilgrim & Court, so hime people had a happier Christmas because of your act of kindness. I hope you had a best wishes for rery happy Christmas, and I send you my realth and happiness in 2022. yours sincerely,

and Pupils,

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Headteacher: Matt Ward **Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones** West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 3AJ **2810000 Characteristics (0191) 2810000 Characteristics Characteristics** www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk



