



West Jesmond Primary School



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 3 Spring Term 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank You Chef Nicola!

We start this week with a sad goodbye to our school chef Nicola Carruthers who is sadly leaving us this week to move to a new job. Over her time with us, Nicola has served thousands of meals and kept our children well fed through all the challenges and upheavals of recent years. On behalf of children past and present we want to thank Nicola and wish her the very best in the future.



Covid Isolating Children & Home Learning

A big hello to those children who are at home this week with Covid. We hope those of you who are feeling unwell get better as soon as possible and thank you for all the home-learning. We know this is a difficult time for children and parents and we appreciate the work you are able to do at home. Please ask if you need any help from your child's teacher or the school. Remember, if you have any questions about self-isolating and when your child can return to school, phone the school office. If you need any tablets/laptops to support your home learning contact the school.

Parent Online Safety Workshop Wednesday 9th February

At West Jesmond we embrace and encourage the use of technology to help our children with their learning. We also have many discussions with them about being responsible Digital Citizens. In an ever changing digital world, where children may have got new devices for Christmas, we know there are lots of changes to apps and digital trends. To help support you and your child with this we are holding a Parent Online Workshop on Wednesday 9th February between 5.30pm and 7pm. This will raise awareness of online risks for commerce, content, conduct and contact across websites, social networking, mobile phones, gaming and cyberbullying. Next week, we will send details of how to sign up for this on Weduc.



Welcome to West Jesmond

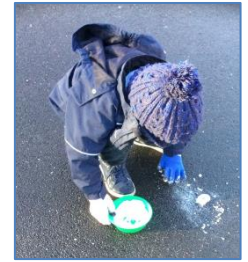
We are pleased to welcome two new members of staff to our west Jesmond team this half term. Jo Woodcock will be joining out of school club and Carolyn Slee has become the latest member of our great lunchtime team.

Headteacher: Matt Ward
Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones
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Super Reception Scientists

This week Reception have continued their topic on Water and had a very special visitor on Wednesday. Professor Jones visited each class to help him release the miniature people who had got stuck in some ice eggs! There were lots of great ideas to help melt the ice from putting it in the sun, breathing on it, adding salt, and putting it down and running around it really fast!



Road Safety Visits: On Thursday, Jo from Newcastle Council's Road Safety Team visited Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to tell them all about staying safe on the roads as well as when travelling in cars. She was accompanied by, the very well behaved, Bertie the dog who helped her to explain key safety rules! Please ask your child if they can tell you some of the useful advice from Jo and Bertie!



Blue Peter Sports Star!

Isaac in Year 3 came to see us today to show us a very special Blue Peter Badge. He sent in to the programme pictures of him doing his Taekwondo grading and they were so impressed they sent back a Blue Peter Sports Badge to recognise his achievement! Well done Isaac, we are proud of you!

What have you learned today? The Fantastic Five

Whenever I asked my daughters about what they had done at school the answer always seemed to be a shrug and either 'nothing!' or 'the usual things.' I don't think this was the case, especially when they came out of Reception covered in paint, glue, sticky paper and carrying 20 pictures for the fridge door, but I could understand that they were tired and had moved on from the day at school. Over time, I started to try to change my questions away from what have you done to focus on learning. 'Did you learn anything new/exciting/interesting or that would surprise me?' These questions sometimes got a better response. Another approach might be to focus on some of our Fantastic Five! 'What did really persevere at even when it was difficult?' Did you take any risks with your learning? 'Tell me about a problem you enjoyed solving today?'



Eco Schools England 'Our Island, Our Future'

We were very excited this week that Eco-Schools England featured our children's Geography Project 'Our Island, Our Future' as an example of Curriculum learning for other schools. Over the last half term, our Year 6 classes worked hard to answer the question, 'Saving Our Planet: What Can I do?' They researched into climate change and polluting industries and created very powerful video presentations! Look on West Jesmond Facebook to follow the links to watch the persuasive and expertly presented films!



Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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