



## West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 8 Autumn Term 2021



### Robinwood Residential



This week Y4 went for their residential visit to the Robinwood Activity Centre near Alston in Cumbria. Over the three days they took part in a range of adventurous and problem solving activities, including zip-wiring, archery, canoeing, climbing, crate challenges and conquering the famous Piranha Pool! The staff were blown away by the children's attitude to give everything a go and really challenge themselves. The teachers were particularly impressed with how well they worked together and encouraged their friends. It was fantastic to be able to get the children out into the countryside and trying new activities after the lockdowns over the last couple of years. Mrs Hogan was also really impressed with the Y4 children who remained in school and took part in drama, sporting and baking activities in school.



"I loved archery because I got to learn how to aim and it was really fun." Krishna

"I loved the giant swing because it went really fast." Jacob

"My favourite thing was the dungeons because I had to use my problem solving skills." Maia

"I liked working with my friends on the night line." Emily

"On the trapeze I had to hold the rope of my friends while they went up." Charlie



### The Times Education Commission Primary School Youth Panel

On Wednesday, Aleisha and Isaac in Year Six represented the school brilliantly on the Times Education Commission Primary School Youth Panel. West Jesmond are one of four schools that have been asked to participate from across the country, and Aleisha and Isaac were invited to discuss their views on education, learning and school life during a Zoom call with other children and Rachel Sylvester, a political journalist with the Times. Both children spoke eloquently and confidently as they shared their ideas with the group. As well as discussing potential new subjects they would add to the curriculum and their ideal school trips (no expense spared!), Aleisha reflected on the importance of the recent Online Safety advice that Year Six were given, and Isaac shared how Maths was his favourite subject as it was fun to explore the different strategies that could be used to solve problems. They were even asked to share what they would do if they were headteacher for the day!



Headteacher: Mr Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Tom Jones

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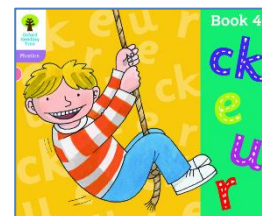
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## Reception Reading Workshop:

Thank you everyone who attended our Early Reading and Phonics Workshop on Wednesday. It was great to be able to see our Reception Parents (even if at a social distance!) to talk about how we teach reading at school and how you can help your child at home. To keep our groups small we have our next meeting on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 9am. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Romeo & Juliet Production

On Monday, the Shakespeare cast were very excited to receive their scripts so that they can now learn their lines and cues and continue to build on the fantastic start they have made.

Miss Bellwood has expanded the script to personalise our play to incorporate the talents of the whole cast as much as possible, and we can't wait to enjoy exploring where the play takes us as we move through the production process.

In rehearsals this week, we have been working on our projection, sharing techniques on how to learn lines, and continuing to explore the emotion of our fiery opening scene!

Thank you to all the cast members for their fantastic enthusiasm and commitment, and to all those who are helping them with learning those lines at home.

Tickets for the performance at the Northern Stage will be on sale early in December; more information shall be shared as soon as we get it.



## Miss Sykes Champion Mathletes Week 15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> November:

We know lots of children have been working very hard at home at the Mathletics programme. The Year Group winners this week were **Year 3** with 52,565 points!

Individual top point scorers were:



Year Group	Top Scorer	Points
Year 1	Hassan A Zarwasha	1,110 2,877
Year 2	Roma Yara	1252 1,720
Year 3	Reshawna Zakariya	4,609 1,370
Year 4	Ariana Oskar	1,000 1,420
Year 5	Ioanna Osama	2,907 1,360
Year 6	Sylvie Hamta	1,210 1,010

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### Year 3: Cooking and Gardening:



On their visit to the allotment, Year 3 discussed seasonal local produce and we helped plant and clear the allotment ready for the winter. Year 3 then got busy in their Food Technology lessons. They worked on their cooking skills of peeling, cutting and rubbing ingredients together to make crumble mix. We discussed hygiene and safety prior to preparation, and we evaluated the crumble thinking about ways we could improve.

This week, as a homework we have asked the children if they are able to use the skills they have learned prepare and share a crumble with their families sending photos to school via Seesaw.



### Supporting Our Community

Thank you everyone for the all of the very generous donations of clothing and food you have provided for the asylum seeking families in our area. The children and families were delighted not only with the items that you provided, but also to know that there are so many people out their thinking of them. This feels especially important at the end of a week that saw such tragic news coming from the channel.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward