



## The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 5 Summer Term 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you everyone for your support over the last half term. We hope all of our families are able to spend time together over the days ahead after a very busy few weeks.

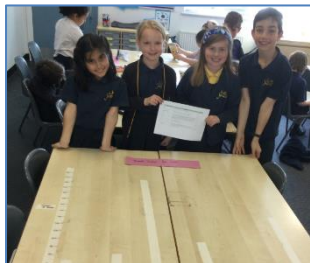
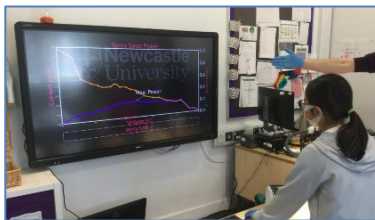
### STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

We have really enjoyed our STEM Week investigations. We started all together with the Big Question: **Which biscuit is the best for dunking?** Each year group was then set challenges becoming increasingly complex as they moved up the school. Hopefully, by the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have solved the problem - look out for our answers on Facebook and Twitter.

Year 6 have been investigating how the mass of a biscuit affects the rate of disintegration when dunking it. So far, they have tested the 'dunkability' of a range of biscuits, to their surprise, the Rich Tea is proving itself to be the superior dunker.



Year 4's STEM Week visitors from Newcastle University showed us how berries can be used to make an electric current. We learnt how to connect electrodes to some delicious forest fruits and, using semiconductors, record the current produced by connecting to the internet. We were all amazed by this new way to make electricity.



Year 3 investigated the big question: Which was the best drink for dunking? They tested six different drinks, from water to orange juice and kept the test fair by only using rich tea fingers. They recorded the results using tally charts and bar graphs.

Year 1 chose some of their favourite biscuits and tested which one lasts longest in warm water before they break!



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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## Eco Committee and Solar Panels

**IMPORTANT:** Over half term the installation of our new school solar panels will hopefully be starting. The work will continue for up to four weeks of the half term.

We do not expect the work to have an impact on our children or on our work in school. However, for safety reasons we will be not using the top gate of the school (Brentwood Avenue) for the half term. Year 2 parents and children should enter through the main school gate or the Reception gate and walk round to their usual class doors.

This week our **Eco-School Committee** met with me to find out about the new solar panels being installed this half-term. We talked how they will work and the importance of renewable energy. We also shared our fantastic ideas about how we could become an even more sustainable in school in the future.



## Spring Fair For Rocco

Thank you to everyone who came to the Spring Fair and for your generosity helping to raise money to support Rocco's treatment. It was lovely to see so many of our families in school. Special thanks go to our incredible Friends of West Jesmond for organising such a great event and for raising a fantastic £4,034! We hope you all enjoyed the fair as much as Rocco here did!



## Comedy Night For Rocco

There is a very exciting event coming up on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm at The Stand Comedy Club. One of our West Jesmond Parents, Ben Crompton, has organised a great line up of comedians to help raise money for Rocco's treatment. The night will be compered by one of the best MC's in the county, Matt Reed, and feature a fantastic line up of comedians with all proceeds going towards Rocco's treatment.

Featuring Louise Young, Ben Crompton, Cal Halbert and a headliner (TBC)

The link below can be used to purchase tickets.

<https://www.thestand.co.uk/performances/1299-12907-a-comedy-night-for-rocco-email-to-reserve-20220616-newcastle/>

Tickets can also be purchased for £10 from the school. They will be on sale on the main yard after school on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

## West Jesmond School Welcomes OBS de Woordhof school in the Netherlands

We are very proud of West Jesmond as a school that embraces both our local community and also looks to build links nationally and internationally. This week we were privileged to welcome to school 15 teachers from a school in the Netherlands. They came to find out about our curriculum and approaches to learning and meet our children and staff. We hope this will be the start of exciting new links for our school.



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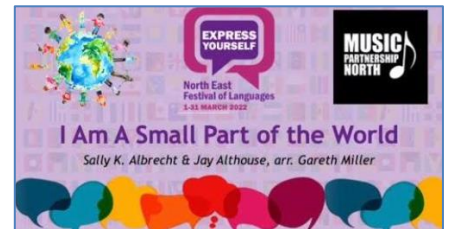


### Choir and Djembe Band on Tour!

If you walked past Jesmond library last Friday you would have heard the lovely singing and talented drumming of our Year 3/4 Choir, Year 5/6 Choir and Djembe Band. This has been a busy time for our choir who have now performed in public three times in a week! I am sure all the parents and audience members have enjoyed their performances as much as I have! Thank you to Mrs Anderson and Mrs Trench for their hard work rehearsing our musicians and organising the performances.



Our KS2 choir also recently participated in a shared virtual performance of 'I am a Small part of the World' to celebrate the diverse languages, cultures and communities in the North East as part of the North East Festival of languages. They joined over 18,000 children and young people and 381 schools who all participated in the festival this year. Some of our students learned the song in English, French, Spanish, German and Arabic, with one student even translating it into Greek. We are incredibly proud of our students. Well done! [https://youtu.be/uCB\\_F5BREac](https://youtu.be/uCB_F5BREac)



### Author Visit

Three of our children had a surprise visit from a Jesmond Author this week when Charles Harrison who wrote The Bootsie Files came in to see us. The story is about a police detective dog and is set in Jesmond.



He had heard that the children enjoyed the book and came into to talk with them about writing, publishing and illustrating. Charles presented a personalised signed copy and a photograph of Bootsie. We are also hoping the illustrator of the book, Holly Overs, will come in soon to meet with some of our budding artists!



### Key Stage 1 and Cross Country

Well done to our Year 1 and Year 2 cross country runners. The Ouseburn Learning Trust Y1/2 Cross Country Event took place at Hotspur School. Our team all made us very proud for their effort and resilience! Here are some of the happy, but tired team members! We even had a first place!



Have a lovely half term everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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

## Dates for Your Diary

|   |   |
|---|---|
| ❖ <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>                         | <b>School Closed for additional Bank Holiday</b>                                      |
| ❖ Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June                              | Start of Summer Term Half Term 2<br>Year 5/6 Athletics Team at Regional Finals        |
| ❖ Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June                            | 2M Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep<br>Year 3/4 Athletics Team at Quad Kids Competition |
| ❖ Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June                             | 2W Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep<br>Yr. 4 Visit to Wooler County Show                |
| ❖ Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June                              | 2J Visit to Newcastle Castle Keep   |
| ❖ Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June                             | Parent Partnership Meeting (2.15pm)   |
| ❖ Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June                           | Health Careers Fair Year 5 and Year 6   |
| ❖ Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June                            | Scottish Opera Performance Year 4   |
| ❖ Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June                              | Friends of WJPS Quiz Night  |
| ❖ Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> June      | Year 6 Hawkhurst Residential  |
| ❖ Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July                             | Key Stage 2 Sports Day (9.30 -12pm RGS field)   |
| ❖ Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July                           | Key Stage 1 Sports Day (9.30 -12pm RGS field)   |
| ❖ Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July                            | Reception Sports Day (9.30 -12pm School Yard)   |
| ❖ Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July | Year 6 Secondary School Transition Days   |
| ❖ <b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>                        | <b>End of Summer Term</b>   |

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