



Weekly Newsletter: Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great day today raising funds for Children in Need and I have to say we have had some great outfits and spectacular, crazy hairstyles.

In all of the changes we have had to cope with during this school year, it has been nice to return to a regular event in our school calendar and we cannot thank you enough for your huge generosity. The buckets at the school gates were very full and we are delighted to announce we have raised a fantastic £2342.91. Many thanks for your continued support from Mrs Oades and Mr Wallis-Clarke. We will also get a few photographs of our day out on our usual social media channels.

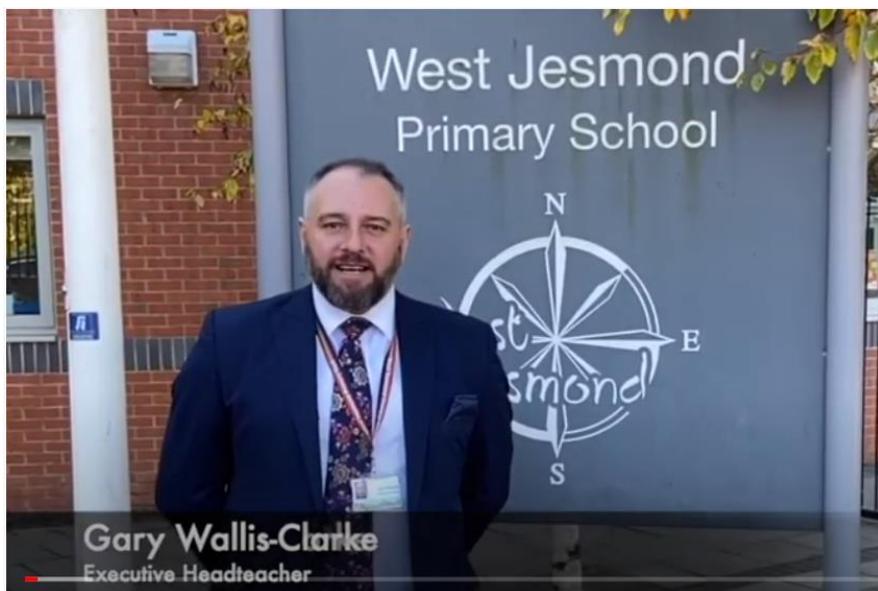


New Reception Parents

Sadly we are not able to do physical tours for prospective parents for Reception admission in September 2021. To support parents in making this important decision we have made a short video to show case our school, give an example of the school day and meet some of the staff. This may be useful for all parents to see and is available via our website and the Youtube channel.

Please tag or share with anyone interested in applying for a place.

<https://youtu.be/ev5lWI-ryw0>



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Friends of West Jesmond Christmas Cards

Today your child will bring home a proof of a Christmas card that they have designed. Proceeds from these will be made to the Friends of West Jesmond. Please can we have all orders back, with the correct money, by next Friday (20th November). Please post these in the letter box of the School office and don't return them to class. Please note, if your child is currently isolating, your child's Christmas card proof will be posted home.

Christmas Puddings

'If you'd like an exclusive Christmas gift why not order your very own WJPS Christmas pudding! £5.50 (all proceeds to school funds) and a choice of either traditional or sticky toffee. Limited supply so first come first served. To place an order please email info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk Don't miss out!'



Secret Garden Spring Ball Raffle!

If things had been different we were planning on holding the postponed Secret Garden Spring Ball this Friday (13th November). We have had to cancel the ball, but Mr Jones and Mr Wallis-Clarke will be drawing the raffle today in school and we will be letting lucky winners know next week.

Thank you so much to the many local businesses for donating amazing raffle prizes and to parents for donating a significant sum in lieu of full refunds. We have been humbled by the generosity. The Secret Garden project is still ongoing and appreciative of any fundraising. It provides an amazing space for children in the yard and an opportunity for the school community to remember Mrs Hainsworth.

NB: Full and partial refunds are being processed this week and should be in bank accounts very shortly. If you bought tickets for the ball and have not yet completed the refund form, please contact the Friends at info@friendsofwestjesmond.co.uk before 20th November.

Anti-Bullying Week: United Against Bullying

Next week, Monday 16th – Friday 20th November is Anti-Bullying Week and has the theme 'United Against Bullying'. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children's charity, the National Children's Bureau. Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well into adulthood. This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long-lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have our part to play in coming together to make a difference. We are all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we are united against bullying.

Odd Socks Day

Again, this year we are holding Odd Socks Day at West Jesmond on Monday 16th of November. It is a chance for our school to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way by asking pupils to wear odd socks to school. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it could not be simpler!



Road Safety Reminder Again

Many parents will have noticed that the City Council are now **three quarters of the way** through their plans for changes to Tankerville Terrace.

Things have certainly improved this week as there have been no cars parked directly outside the school, blocking the road. The former parking spaces have been removed and double yellow lines will be added shortly to keep this important roadway clear. This will make the scheme much clearer and safer.



It is critical for safety that there are two moving lanes of traffic outside of the school so please do not park and block the road alongside our extended pavement and pedestrian space for COVID safety. There are further planned pedestrian pavement extensions coming on Tankerville Terrace, on the other side of the school for Year 5/6 and Reception entrances, so watch out for these coming at some point.

Please can I urge all parents to continue to be kind, considerate and patient to each other whilst these road changes are implemented by the City Council.

Best wishes and Happy Diwali,
Gary Wallis-Clarke
Executive Head Teacher