



West Jesmond Primary School



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 7 Spring Term 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank you to all of our children for their hard work and effort over the half term and for making such a great start to 2022. We know that for many of our families, Covid has made this a disruptive couple of months and we thank you for your support, especially with home-learning. Cases of Covid continue to fall among children and staff and we hope this will be the pattern into the spring. We will update you as soon as we can with any changes in guidance after February 24th on how this may affect us in school.

I hope the wind and rain ease off and everyone has the chance to spend time together enjoying the first signs of spring in Newcastle over the half term holiday.

Year 2 Visit to Newcastle Quayside: Children in Year 2 were able to tell us a lot about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead when they returned from their trip on Wednesday. On a very windy day, they made us proud with their interest, enthusiasm, and great behaviour. The story of the fire, the causes and the rapid spread across the river are always fascinating for children, and alongside the Great Fire of London, it helps them to think about one of our big concepts in history where we ask the children to think about the **significance** of an event and what changes particular events in history created?



Year 5 First Aid Training: We often hear in the news about children of very young ages making a difference in First Aid emergencies. Knowing how to react in these circumstances is a life skill that we think all children should have. This week Year 5 learned some crucial emergency life-saving skills. Thank you so much to Geoff and Maria for coming in and delivering the sessions for us.



Reception Balance bikes: Another important life skill is learning to ride a bike safely. Reception children have been developing their skills with balance bike training this week delivered by the cycling and road safety team from Newcastle Council. The weather forced us to move some of our training under our Undercroft, but it didn't put off the dedicated and determined young cyclists!

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

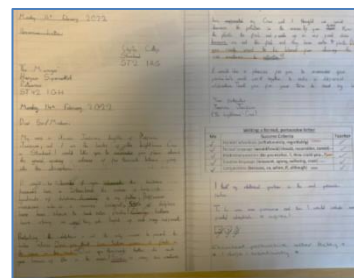
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Persuasive Writing: Across our curriculum, one of the key threads is raising awareness of environmental issues and talking to children about how they can play an active role in their community. Year 4 have been using this as the stimulus for learning about persuasive writing. Betty, James, Heidi, Mohammed and Emily came to talk to Mr Jones about their letters to persuade a supermarket not to mark their opening by letting off balloons. They have been learning in their class text, **Song of the Dolphin Boy**, all about the impact on sea life of swallowing items such as balloons in the sea and are determined to prevent more creatures being harmed!



Year 5 Scientist Visit: Y5S had a visit from scientists at Newcastle University this. They wanted the children to help them create solar cells that are coated with berry juice. By coating the cells with the juice, we found that they became more efficient at transforming the sunlight into usable energy. Many of the children are now even keener to be scientists when they are older! The scientists have been invited by The Royal Society to exhibit their findings in the summer. Our preview has helped them to hone their demonstration before it is revealed to the public.



Year 5/6 Boys Football Team: Well done to our football team on Friday in the latest round of league games. On a cold night and against tough opposition they won two games and lost one and played some outstanding football that was praised by opposition coaches!

World Book Day: Thursday 3rd March Bedtime Stories

Look out for a letter today about World Book Day 2022. Children will be invited to come to school in pyjamas and dressing gowns as we look to share our favourite bedtime stories. Look out for the special story character wooden spoons that will be coming home with your child!



Dates For Your diary

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| ❖ Friday 18 th February | School Closed For Staff Training Day |
| ❖ Monday 28 th February | Back to School |
| ❖ Thursday 3 rd March | World Book Day |
| ❖ Monday 7 th March | Year 3 Trip to Vindolanda |
| ❖ Monday 14 th / Weds 16 th March | Parent Consultations |
| ❖ 14 th – 18 th March | Enterprise Week (Year 2- 6) |
| ❖ Friday 8 th April | End of Spring Term |



Have a lovely half term break everyone.
Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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