



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Signs of Spring: West Jesmond Windows of Hope Campaign

This third week of January 2021 has been one of wind, rain, snow and increasingly grim and worrying news on the radio. Speaking to a number of you, with our staff and with colleagues around the city, it is clear that this is a difficult period for many people.

We have tried in our morning messages to focus on signs of hope, things to make us feel cheerful and some rather poor jokes! Despite everything those signs of hope are all around us. From the hope that the vaccine gives us to the signs of spring fighting back against the winter weather. In my garden, and maybe in many of yours, in the depth of winter spring is already nudging us to tell us that days will soon get lighter and warmer. Snowdrops are breaking out and bulbs pushing up even through the snow.



During the first lockdown children in Newcastle and all over the world placed rainbows in their windows to symbolise hope that after the rain the sun will shine through.

Those rainbows demonstrated our support for the NHS and also cheered us up and encouraged us all as we walked past them. Do you think that, as with the rainbows last time, we could ask our West Jesmond children to draw and paint signs of spring and fill windows all across Newcastle so that when we take our daily walks children can spot bright swathes of spring bulbs shooting up in every house?

**Morning messages:** While our school is partially open and children are separated from each other, we want to ensure there is a daily message from the school to all of our West Jesmond Family. The messages are uploaded onto Twitter and Facebook early every day, but if you are not a member of either of these social media platforms you can see them by clicking on the link on the homepage of the website.

### Remote learning strategy information for parents:

At the start of this term we sent out information to all of you to explain how we were intending to provide home-learning for all of our children at home. We are constantly reviewing what we are doing and the staff are working hard to keep on building on the learning we are setting out. With this newsletter we are sending out an updated version of our guidance for parents. A copy can also be found on the school website in the Home-School section. Please note that to support planning for the next week we will be moving final feedback time on a Friday forward to 3pm.

**Supporting Home –Learners:** We have given out a number of devices and data cards to parents who are struggling to access some of our home learning and we still have a number in our stock. Please contact the school if you need support with any aspect of the online learning. Remember if you need hard copies of resources please phone the school office and we will arrange to get them to you.

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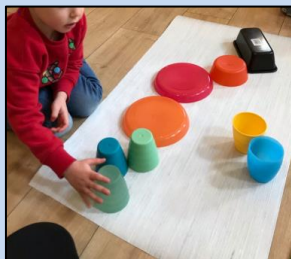


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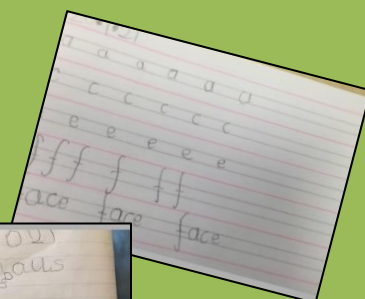
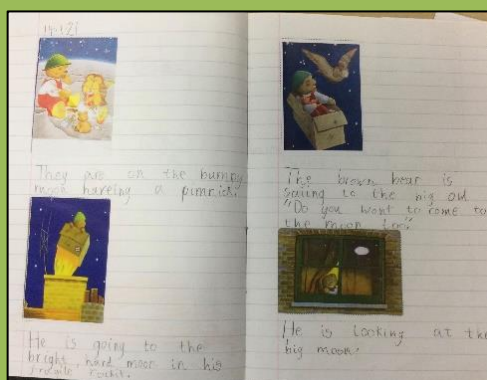


We would like to take the opportunity to share some of the great learning that has been taking place in school and at home. I want to thank all of our children for their engagement and enthusiasm and all our parents and carers for their energy, creativity and patience!

**Here Be Dragons ...** after some mysterious eggs were found and then hatched out, Reception children have been creating dragons, trapping dragons, caring for dragons and being rather fierce dragons!



Dear Partan and Kanni  
Hope you were. I heard a big dangerous  
storm is coming to where you  
live. I wanted to give some advice  
on what you should do when the  
storm comes.  
At first pack all the stuff like  
food for you and for animals, seeds,  
saplings of plants and you a drinking  
water.  
Then put them on the big animals'  
backs.  
Next leave the hut as soon  
as you can and travel together  
with your animals head to the  
high mountains where flood can't  
reach you. Shelter where the strong  
trees are so you will be protected  
from the heavy rain and winds.  
Hope you will be safe.  
From Grace



201202  
the red balls  
not 055  
I see lots of  
golden sweets  
The dogs see slugs  
kar here in a cast  
w/ot benches  
giv go splinters  
The green blood car wa

A young girl with dark hair is standing outdoors on a paved surface. She is wearing a green raincoat with white patterns, pink boots, and a white headband. She is holding a white envelope in front of her and a purple umbrella with a white pattern. The background is a light-colored brick wall.



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In Lower Key stage 2 we wanted to celebrate the range of great work that has been happening across the curriculum. We are determined during this period of lockdown to make sure we are still following our exciting West Jesmond Curriculum and covering our full breadth of learning. We have seen some great work from Year 3 on the Egyptians including pyramid design and exploration of the mystery of the scarabs as well as science investigations. Year 4 have shared with us some beautiful art work and very creative scientific explorations and explanations.

Year 6 teachers have selected great examples from across the curriculum, including some very thoughtful maths, creative setting descriptions, vibrant art and one of the many energetic responses to our daily physical challenges!