



West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 25th June 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a challenging week for our school and for many of our children and families. We have a small number of Covid positive cases amongst our children, and due to the guidance around close contacts this had an impact on a several of our classes. A large number of our children and some of our staff are forced to isolate at the moment and this can cause difficulties and upset as well as the disruption to education. We also know of a number of you who are self-isolating due to close contacts at work and in the community.

Government and Local Authority daily statistics show us that the areas of Jesmond around our school have some of the highest rates of positive cases nationally. We know that this will not necessarily, mean the people affected will come into contact with our families, but it does heighten the risk of community transmission and cases coming into school.

We have once again reviewed our school Risk Assessments and we continue to work our hardest to keep cases low in school and to ensure that the education for all of your children at school and at home is maintained. For each positive case in school we speak with local Public Health officials to gain their advice on the steps we are taking. Our first priority is to do all we can to keep all of our children and families safe.

I want again to thank all of you for your support at this time in picking up children from school, arranging for PCR tests, supporting children while they are self-isolating and informing the school when your child is unwell. Can I ask that, following government advice, all those named as close contacts consider taking up the offer of a free PCR test before children return to school?

[Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

IMPORTANT: Please keep your child of school if they are unwell and take a PCR test

The most important thing our parents can do at this time to keep us all safe, is to keep your child off school and to arrange a PCR test if they are unwell, even with very mild symptoms. We know the vast majority of children will be negative, but across schools we are seeing symptoms of the virus in children that are wide-ranging and can include sickness, diarrhoea, sore throats, tiredness, coughs, hay fever like symptoms and runny noses.

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Children's Cancer Run At School

We are very excited that West Jesmond Primary School will be involved in this year's Children's Cancer Run At School event. This year we will all be taking part in the run at school, as part of our Olympic Week w/c 12th July. We are working on plans to ensure all of our children will be able to carry out the run while keeping in their bubble groupings. Look out for further information, including how to donate, in the coming weeks.

[Children's Cancer North: Children's Cancer Run At School \(enthuse.com\)](https://www.enthuse.com/childrens-cancer-run-at-school)



A Special Virtual Visitor

As a part of our effort to ensure we continue to enrich our curriculum as much as possible, even if we cannot physically go out for lots of visits, we invited a special visitor into school to talk to Year 5 this week. As part of their humanities topic, 'How United are the United States?' they have been looking into the history of the black civil rights movement and they were excited to be joined by Rosa Parks in a virtual visit. She told us about her life growing up, as well as sharing her experience of the time when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white person, and the implications this had for her, as well as the impact it had in changing American history. The children were also able to ask her questions about her experiences.



We're walking for Rocco!



This Sunday 27th June, a group of friends from Y3L are embarking on a 'Walk for Rocco'. Giuseppe, Rocco's brother, and his pals will be walking the 7.7 mile Craster to Low Newton coastal walk. Giuseppe and his crew Arthur, Ben, Charlie, Cassius and Noah have been inseparable since Reception and wanted to help their friend's little brother by raising money to enable him to access a pioneering new treatment, only available in the United States. The boys will be joined by Louie in R1, Barney & Emma in Y1 and former classmate Wilf and his sister Amelia.



They have already smashed their target of £1000 and are now hoping to reach £2000! Well done, Team Rocco!

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Non-Uniform Day Friday 2nd July



On Friday 2nd July, West Jesmond will be holding a school non-uniform day to spread awareness and raise funds for Rocco's Fight Against Neuroblastoma. Children are invited to wear bright colours to represent hope for the future, with a suggested donation of £2, which can be paid via WeDuc or in cash on the day.

We have a number of our children self-isolating and we would hate them to miss out! If you are at home and self-isolating you can join in by sending us pictures of you in your bright clothes on SEESAW or Tapestry.

Dates For Your Diary

- Non-Uniform Day to support Rocco's Fight Against Neuroblastoma: Friday July 2nd
- The West Jesmond Olympics Week: 12th – 16th July
- Year 6 Adventure Day visit to Broomley Grange: Friday 16th July
- Year 6 Leavers' Events :19th – 23rd July (Further details to follow)
- End of Term: Friday 23rd July

Have a lovely weekend everyone and our special thought go out to all those isolating at this time!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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