

# West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



We have reached the end of a very unusual Spring Term. From that announcement on the evening of the first Monday in January and through days of snow, rain and now sunshine, our children have maintained their energy, motivation and good humour and fully deserve this, hopefully sunny, break!

For me as the new headteacher of West Jesmond, it has been wonderful to have our children back together over the last few weeks. I am learning more and more about our great school, but it is such a shame that for many of them I am still a headteacher stood at the class door in a mask — I am always smiling behind it! I hope, as conditions allow, to be able to spend more time really getting to know your children in our summer term.

We know the Covid restrictions will still be there after Easter, but with each step in the easing of regulations we are carefully adjusting school life and reintroducing the curriculum enrichment and events that our children enjoy and flourish in so much. This week we were able to bring back outdoor cricket coaching for Year 3.



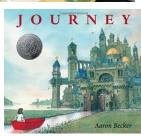
With creativity and careful planning, we are sure that we will be able to offer lots of opportunities for all children before the end of the school year!

### **Take One Book Week**

This week, every class at West Jesmond Primary took a magic carpet ride through mystical lands and past majestic sunsets to visit ancient temples and snow-peaked mountain ranges, all from the comfort of their own West Jesmond classroom! During our Take One Book week, which focussed on Aaron Becker's beautifully illustrated picture book 'Journey', each class practised their setting description writing skills and created some skilful artwork. Take a look at our Facebook page to see some examples of work from each year group. If your child enjoyed Journey, we would recommend the other two books in the trilogy – 'Quest' and 'Return'.









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#### **Newcastle's Best Easter Ever**

Organisations across Newcastle have come together to build on the success of the Best Summer events to create Newcastle's Best Easter Ever. There are fun, free events across the city for Newcastle children over the holiday period. The link below and flyer give details of some of the venues and events.

Newcastle's Best Summer Ever - Home | Facebook



### **Important Easter Covid Testing Information: Email the School Office**

If your child has a Covid test over the holiday period, please ensure you continue to notify the school office. We will closely monitor emails over the first week of the holiday and it is important that any positive cases are very promptly reported as we will need to follow Public Health guidance and contact the families of any children judged as close contacts.

#### **Summer Safe Travel to School**



Thank you to all of you who are avoiding driving around the roads outside of our school. We ask every West Jesmond family to use the warmer weather of the Summer Term to think hard about walking, scootering and cycling to school and, if you need to drive, to park at least a 5 minute walk away. Together we can do so much to make the walk to school safe for every child.

### **Lovely News!**

Mr and Mrs Edwards have welcomed a beautiful baby girl into their family. Rosie Sofia Edwards was born on Tuesday – mother and baby are both doing brilliantly!

**Finally:** (one for the children) Your child may have told you about the excitement today of the escaped chimpanzee running around school. The creature caused a great deal of mayhem and was finally caught using bananas from Mr Ward's lunch. It had a tag with name Loofa Pril. If anyone knows anything about the owner, who we presume is local, please phone the school. It is currently relaxing in Mr Jones' chair and we really want it picked up before the holidays. Thank you!

## **Dates For Your Diary**

- > Thursday 1st April: Break up for Easter Holidays
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April: Return to school for the Summer Term
- From week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> May: **Parent Evening Consultations** (More details to follow)

Have a lovely holiday everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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