



## The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 6 Summer Term 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our final half term of the academic year 2021-22. I hope everyone enjoyed the last week and the extended bank holiday. We hope the sun will shine down on the many events and activities at West Jesmond over the coming weeks. Three big events coming up next week are the Scottish Opera Year 4 Performance for parents on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>, the Comedy Night for Rocco on the same day and our Friends Quiz on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> (More details below).

### Clean Air Day – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June

This week our Eco Committee have been delivering assemblies to each key stage about Clean Air Day. The children feel very strongly about reducing the air pollution around our school, particularly during peak times such as the start and end of the day. This Clean Air Day there are simple steps we can all take to cut down on the air pollution around West Jesmond and use our voices to fight for a cleaner air future.

#### On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June please try to;

- ❖ Walk, scoot or cycle to school and leave the car at home.
- ❖ Talk to someone about the harms of air pollution.
- ❖ Ask local and national decision makers for what would make it easier for you to walk more and have clean air in your community.
- ❖ Take steps to improve your health this Clean Air Day. To find out more visit [www.cleanairday.org.uk](http://www.cleanairday.org.uk)



### Postcards From Peru



This week our children at West Jesmond were thrilled to get a response from the postcards they wrote in Spanish and sent to a school in Peru. The postcards came from Grade 6 in Fleming College, Trujillo where Mrs Pocock is currently forming a link. The children enjoyed reading the postcards and made a list of things that we all have in common with the school children in Peru. This included lots of fun things like ice cream and football! We can't wait to learn more about school life in Peru and look forward to responding to the postcards.



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Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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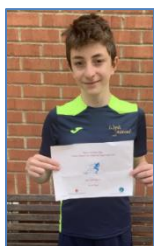
## What's My Job? Health Careers Fair Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June

To support all of the work we already do in school linked to raising aspirations and opportunities for children, Mrs Oades has organised a 'What's My Job?' Health Careers Fair hall at Jesmond United Reform Church. This will be an exciting and valuable learning opportunity for Year 5 and 6 pupils with the aim of opening their minds to the hundreds of possible careers that are available to them, linked to the health sector and through a larger organisation like the NHS. We are so grateful for all of our parent volunteers who have helped to make this event possible.

Year 6 had another careers taster this week when the **North East Raising Aspirations Partnership (NERAP)** came to talk to them about universities, career choices and the different pathways and options open to our children to get there. Thank you Erin and Sean for a brilliant session!



## City Athletics Finals



Our Athletics team competed in the Newcastle Finals this week. They all took part in one relay and an individual event. One of our children who came 1st in his 80m sprint heat race and his 80m final and has now qualified for the country finals! Well done to all of the team for representing the school so well!



## Year 4 Greek Workshops This week.



Year 4 had a visit from a team from the Great North Museum who specialise in Ancient Greek artefacts. To consolidate our knowledge on our Greek learning in the Autumn term, the team focussed on children and toys in Ancient Greece. We learned all about how archaeologists use scanners and



microscopes to gain a better understanding of how Ancient Greek toys were made and we even had a go at making some of our own out of clay. A huge thank you to the team!

## Chess Club

Year 6 Chess Club got off to a flying start this week! There were some very tense moments, requiring lots of concentration! We have had a huge amount of interest in the club and need to run Year 5 and Year 6 on different days. Year 5, it's your turn next Thursday lunchtime. See Mrs Oades if you haven't signed up yet, but would like to join.



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## Quiz Night Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

We look forward to seeing lots of our parents at our Friends of West Jesmond 90's Quiz Night on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June! Contact the Friends or the school office to find out more details. Tickets cost £10 and can be bought via Weduc. As well as the quiz there is pizza provided by Antico. Thank you as always to our incredible volunteers in the Friends of West Jesmond for putting in so much energy, effort and creativity and organising another great event to raise money to provide fun experiences for our children.

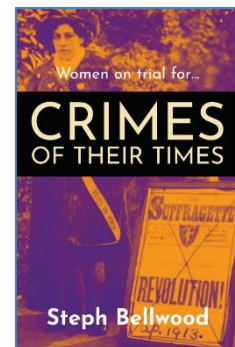


## West Jesmond Author!

We are very proud and excited to announce that Ms Bellwood's latest book has been published! It is called Crimes of their Times and it contains six stories of real-life women who were accused of (and punished for) various crimes.

We're excited to be using it in Year 6 as part of our Crime and Punishment topic.

The book isn't available from all book buying sources until its official publication in October, but you can buy copies directly from the publisher now at [www.mogzillabooks.ecwid.com](http://www.mogzillabooks.ecwid.com)!



## Comedy Night For Rocco Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Headliner Lost Voice Guy

Next Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm at The Stand Comedy Club is the special Comedy Night For Rocco. Ben Crompton, has organised a great line up of comedians to help raise money for Rocco's treatment, including

The Britain Got Talent winner, Lost Voice Guy!

The link below can be used to purchase tickets.

<https://www.thestand.co.uk/performances/1299-12907-a-comedy-night-for-rocco-email-to-reserve-20220616-newcastle/>



## Wooler Countryside Show

Year 4 had a fantastic trip to the Children's Countryside Day in Wooler. We were given the chance to meet farmers and their animals, food producers and members of the emergency services. This was an amazing opportunity to bring the countryside to life and celebrate all the resources that are right on our doorstep. Ask us all about it, we would love to share our experiences!



## Shakespeare Appraisal 2022

We are very proud to have received our appraisal for the performance by our children of Romeo and Juliet at the Northern Stage last half term. We have attached it to this newsletter and we know you will be as proud of our West Jesmond Actors as we are!

Have a lovely sunny weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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## **“PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW”**

**Romeo & Juliet**

**by West Jesmond Primary School**

**at Northern Stage, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

**appraised by Martin Leonard**

I would like to send my sincerest congratulations to West Jesmond Primary School for your wonderful production of Romeo & Juliet as part of the Spring 22 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a brilliant evening of theatre, and I'd like to talk about a few elements that really shone.

Your play began in fantastic style with a brilliantly powerful haka performed between the two houses. Loud, rhythmic and visually impressive, it meant that your production began with a great burst of energy and set a fast pace that then did not let up for the entire production. It also evoked the intensity of the emotions that the characters felt - the anger and animosity.

You handled the shifts in tone within the story really well. The fight scene in the middle of the play was very gripping, characters spitting out lines like 'mark my words!' and the audience really felt the anguish at the various deaths (ie Lady Capulet, 'Tybalt, my cousin!'). Equally moments of joy and levity were created with ease: I particularly loved the party scene, that began as very regal, subdued and stately but then exploded into a riot of exuberant dancing along to Beyonce's 'Single Ladies'.

Your stage presence and particularly the way you handled the language was really impressive. Lines were spoken confidently and clearly and you projected really well - ensuring that they all landed right at the back of the auditorium. You clearly had a great grasp of the language and it being so well articulated meant that the audience were kept gripped throughout.

There were lots of lovely details that you created as an ensemble. For instance the way you set certain scenes, like the servants clearing up and opening the Capulet house, letting us know that this was now the morning and the household were waking up. You used the space on stage really well. Another memorable scene was the finale of the production, in which you created a really atmospheric version of the Capulet's tomb, complete with grief stricken mourners, hunched over the bodies of those who had already died, holding candles that glinted in the blue light. This image then melted into a final one of reconciliation, as both households, in their contrasting blue and red, finally came together in a moment of reconciliation. A reconciliation that had come at a terrible cost. This was an energetic, intense production of Romeo and Juliet, powerfully performed by a committed and skilled company. Well done to everyone involved!

Staging a Shakespeare play in these changing times takes extra courage, tenacity, and creativity. You should be incredibly proud of what you and your teachers have achieved.

I hope to see West Jesmond Primary School in the next Festival!

**Martin Leonard**

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OF ROMEO & JULIET, POWERFULLY PERFORMED  
BY A COMMITTED AND SKILLED COMPANY”**

**WEST JESMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week

- ❖ Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
Year 1 Parents' Workshop  
Parent Partnership Meeting (2.15pm)
- ❖ Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June  
Health Careers Fair Year 5 and Year 6
- ❖ Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
Scottish Opera Performance Year 4 Parents  
Comedy Night for Rocco
- ❖ Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June  
Dance Festival (Virtual) Dance Club  
Friends of WJPS Quiz Night

### Further Ahead

- ❖ Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> June  
Year 6 Hawkhurst Residential
- ❖ Monday 20<sup>th</sup> (5pm) & Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> (9.30am) New Reception Parents' Welcome Meetings
- ❖ Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Year 2 Parents' Workshop
- ❖ Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
Year 4 Parents' Workshop
- ❖ Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July  
Newcastle Sings (Choir)
- ❖ Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July  
The Big Sing (Choir)
- ❖ Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup>  
Year 3 Enterprise Day
- ❖ Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July  
Year 5 Enterprise Day
- ❖ **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Green Day**
- ❖ Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July  
Key Stage 2 Sports Day (9.30 -12pm RGS field)
- ❖ Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Key Stage 1 Sports Day (9.30 -12pm RGS field)
- ❖ Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July  
Reception Sports Day (9.30 -12pm School Yard)
- ❖ Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July  
Year 6 Secondary School Transition Days
- ❖ Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Year 6 Graduation Event (5pm)
- ❖ **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**  
**End of Summer Term**

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