



West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 2 Autumn Term 2021

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

It has been really exciting to see West Jesmond Learning taking off this second week of term. The weekly Newsletters are intended to be a mixture of important information for parents alongside a celebration of some of the children's achievements and experiences. Each week we try to give you a small snapshot of some of the things that have been happening in school.

School Allotment

We are very fortunate with our large school allotment and the dedicated group of volunteers who look after it and work with our children and, if possible, we would be very keen to give our parents the chance to have a look at this rich, diverse and extensive site over this next year. Visiting the allotment, working with the volunteers and experiencing the environment are all learning opportunities for our children, but we also want to maximise the space to enrich core curriculum teaching. The allotment can deepen understanding in the Science curriculum, especially knowing more about plants, animals, climate and sustainability. It can also support understanding in geography, design and technology and maths. We want every child in West Jesmond to have had the chance to harvest, cook and eat food they have grown. This week as well as finding out and harvesting crops, some children in Year 4, as a part of their history topic, were learning more about how allotments were created to produce food in times of shortage during the First World War.



Toil and Trouble

If you walked down the Year 6 corridor this week, you would have heard strange cackles, evil laughs and the chilling words of Shakespeare's witches in Macbeth!

The children filmed themselves acting out the scene and added some great effects. Francesca Siddique, Jai Singh, Harith Abied Abdul Khan, Grace Kirkbride Aadam Tariq, Ayan Anas, Maiya Bhabra came to show Me and Mr Jones their videos. We were amazed by the expression, power and atmospheric acting!

Headteacher: Mr Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Tom Jones

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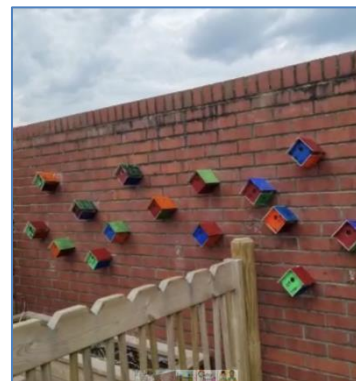
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Secret Garden



We are delighted that some more personal touches were added to the secret garden over the summer holidays. The Eco-pebbles the children designed in STEM Week now form a snake across the wall under the pergola. The bird houses and feeders created by last year's Year 1 and 3 are now attached to the back wall. It's now a lovely space for the children to enjoy at break and lunchtimes. It's great that the children want to investigate the garden, but the children we would rather it not used as a play area before and after school. We have spoken with the children about not walking along the wall with the pebbles and not climbing on the green pod and tyres during break times - we would you appreciate if you could ensure the children don't do this after school too. Thank you.



Virtual History Workshop

Year 5 have launched their history topic on the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings this week with a really interesting workshop from the Oriental Museum in Durham.

'We discovered a cool fact! Vikings didn't have horns on their helmets'
Anouk

'We looked at replicas of artefacts and found out lots of information.'
David

People's Kitchen Harvest Collection

You will have all received a letter from Mrs. Oades this week informing you about our collection for The People's Kitchen. Please note the examples of the food they are asking for. This time of year the harvest traditions remind us to think of others even more than usual. As we move into the winter we know there will be many in our community and across our city who will be finding life very difficult and we invite our West

Jesmond School Family to show our solidarity with them through our food collection. From Monday 27th September to Monday 4th October, every morning, we will be accepting food donations onto trolleys placed at the entrance gates to school. Please do ensure, when you make your donations as you come into school, that you keep a safe distance from those around you. The donations will then be sorted into categories in school on the Monday 4th October and are going to be collected by the People's Kitchen on Tuesday 5th October.



Family Cycle Ride

Look out for a great event this Saturday. Family rides are taking part in different parts of the city. Two of the closest for West Jesmond Families are the one from Gosforth Central Park at 2pm and From St James and St Basil's in Fenham. I hope lots of our families will be able to attend and that our children will tell us all about it on Monday.



School Playground at the End of the Day

At the end of the day our school playgrounds are used by the After School Club, Little Acorns and school sports clubs. To ensure their safety we need to lock the school gates to ensure their safety. Therefore, can we please ask that parents and children leave the school site once the children are picked up and that children don't play on the equipment or around the grounds. Thank you.

Reporting an absence

If there is a day when your child is ill or will be absent for another reason please contact the office through the parents section of Weduc. If you have any problems with this please ensure you ring the office. For requests for absence in the future please use the Forms section of Weduc and the Exceptional Absence Forms.

Year 6 Jesmond Park Open Evening

Year 6 parents will be receiving information about the upcoming open evening at Jesmond Park Academy on Wednesday 6th October and a welcome from the new headteacher Steve Campbell.



Dates For Your Diary

- Thursday 23rd Robinwood Residential Meeting School Hall 6pm
- Wednesday 6th October Jesmond Park Academy Open Day

Have a lovely weekend everyone!
Matt Ward (Headteacher)

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