



# West Jesmond Primary School



## The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 3 Spring Term 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading All Over The School!

Mr Snelders was very excited to open our first two Outdoor Libraries this week. They were inspired by the Year 5 children's Book Club and requests from our School Council. The Outdoor Libraries are intended to create another option at lunchtime and to allow children to find a new book or author to read or share with others. Thank you to all the parents and children who have so generously helped to build up our stock of Outdoor Reading Books – more are always welcome to build up variety of choice! Please can we ask parents to ensure children do not use the libraries at drop-off and pick up times, but look out for the reintroduction of our Parent- Pupil Libraries in the spring!



### West Jesmond Authors

I have had a number of children coming to read me stories that they have written at home this week. It is a highlight of the day to be entertained by our creative writers. We also have some gifted writers on the staff. We are very excited that our incredibly talented, Ms Bellwood, signed a contract to have a volume of short stories published this autumn, and the publisher would like another volume to follow next year. Both books are collections of stories based on the fascinating real lives of little-known women through history who have been accused of all kinds of crimes, including witchcraft, theft, highway robbery, spying and even poisoning. Ms Bellwood originally wrote the stories to form the basis of our Year Six humanities unit on Crime and Punishment last year, and is really looking forward to sharing them with Year Six again this year!



### Parent Partnership Meeting Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February

On Tuesday 8th February, Mrs. Sanderson will be meeting our newly reformed Parent Partnership Group at 2.15pm in the Music Studio. This group consists of parent volunteers who meet to discuss and review the effectiveness of our communication with families. This group is very much intended as a two-way dialogue, with both school and parents having the opportunity to initiate topics for discussion. The comments from the meetings are then fed back to the school leadership team for reflection. In the past the group's suggestions for change have been extremely helpful and led to some significant improvements in our communication with families. It would be lovely to have a few more parent volunteers to join us. The meetings will finish in time for pick-up at the end of the school day.

If you are interested in joining the group and coming to the meeting, please contact Mrs. Sanderson at: [dsanderson@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:dsanderson@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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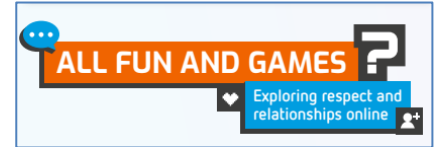
### Athlete Visit

Next week, our Olympic athlete Charlie Myers, a top pole vaulter on the Great Britain team will be coming into school to talk with the children and take part in a fun fitness circuit with them. Please can all children come to school in a PE kit on Tuesday and thank you to those who are completing the sponsor forms for the activities on the day.



### Keeping Safe Online Week

Tuesday 8th of February is Safer Internet Day and at West Jesmond, we are making a week of it! The theme this year is 'All Fun and Games.' We want children to think about their online communities and how they engage with them. It's important for the whole family to get involved. Our older children have been set a special 'family' homework. Complete this with your child and discuss as a family how they engage with others online and what positive digital citizens are. There is also our **Parent Online Workshop on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February between 5.30pm and 7pm** in which you can learn more ways to keep your children safe online



### Big Game Mascot



We are very proud of Sophie, who was chosen to be a mascot for the big FA Cup Game at Kingston Park last weekend for Newcastle United Ladies match against Ipswich in the FA Cup. Sadly, Newcastle lost 1-0, but we know it was a great experience in front of such a large crowd!

We held the players' hands and ran out on the pitch and everyone clapped. I was excited and I would like to do it again!

### Netball and Football tournaments

We are very proud of our netball teams who competed so successfully in the Newcastle Schools Games Tournament this week and our 5/6 boys football team who just missed out on getting to the final stages in a local competition this week. All the teams represented the school with skill, determination and enthusiasm and demonstrated all of the characteristics of the West Jesmond Way!

### National Ukulele Day!

You may not have known, but it was national Ukulele day on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and Years 4 and 5 celebrated this week by learning some new chords and songs on their Ukuleles. They have only had 3 lessons and are making fantastic progress!



Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Headteacher: **Matt Ward**

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