



**March 13<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Sport Relief

Today we have been fundraising for **Sport Relief**. It was wonderful to see the children in all their different kits representing clubs and sports that are important to them. Some classes have worked with **Newcastle Falcons** Community Coaches. In assembly World 50km Record Holder **Aly Dixon** inspired us by telling us the highs and lows of her career from being a small girl in Sunderland who joined a running club to get a trip to Flamingo Club! She took part in the Jesmond Jog with each class and Running Club and spoke to School Council. Her advice is

*“Dream big and work hard. If you have a dream and a passion always work hard towards it. It may take two months, two years or 20 years to achieve it but you will get there. Don’t let anyone tell you can’t achieve your goals. Keep working hard and never ever give up on your dreams!”*

Hassan from Year 4 won the football signed by Steve Bruce in our fundraising raffle. We will let you know how much we raised altogether next week. Thank you to Mrs Oades, Mr Farooqi and Mr Cook for organising a great day.



### Signs of Spring

Year 4 have been busy getting ready for Spring. Volunteers from the **Friends of Jesmond Community Orchard** have been in school showing children how different species of apple tree are grafted together to produce vigorous, healthy trees. These trees will be planted in due course at various local sites and hopefully one day bear delicious fruit! Last week volunteers from the **School Allotment** helped our Year 4 children to sow vegetable and flower seeds. Over a hundred trays of compost were then returned to the allotment where they will spend the next month or two under glass as the seeds grow and are tended by KS2 children on their weekly visits. We’re hoping for a bumper harvest this year, which parents will see for sale on the weekly plant stall on the KS2 yard later in the year. As a school we are so very fortunate to benefit from the many local people who devote their time and energy to share their knowledge with our children!

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### Secret Garden Update

Designs for our Secret Garden in memory of Deborah Hainsworth, a much loved former colleague, have been finalised. We are very pleased with how this will look and create a quiet area for break times and to support our outdoor curriculum. The final fundraising push is underway with the **Spring Ball** in April. If you can't attend you can still support this by buying **Raffle Tickets** which the children have bought home tonight – there are some great prizes! There are also a limited number of ball tickets available to purchase via SIMS Pay – we'd love to see you there.

### Coronavirus Update

Yesterday the government updated their health guidance in relation to the Coronavirus. At present, school will continue to be open as normal and we will follow advice from Public Health England and the DfE. We are ensuring that handwashing maintains its high profile within school. Our cleaning team are working exceptionally hard to ensure school is cleaned thoroughly each evening. We will update our website and social media channels with any key information as we receive it.

We ask that you leave a message on the absence line if your child is not attending school. Helen Jordan, our Attendance Officer, is actively contacting families to support with attendance at present.

We thank you for your support at this time.

Please find the link to the most up to date guidance below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

With my very best wishes for the week ahead,

Rebecca McVittie

## ECO TOP TIP!



**Amelie Y2S:** Reuse your rubbish to make something new! I had lots of fun making a cool robot from mine!

Young Achievers	
Olly 4F	Stage 2 and 25m Swimming Awards
Cecile 1C	Stage 5 Swimming Award
Zinedine 1C	Bronze Football Badge
Sebastian R2	Fantastic Writing and Yellow Stripe Belt in Martial Arts
Harith 4F	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orange Karate Belt
Dania 3C	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orange Karate Belt
Harriet R3	Level 3 Swimming Award
Laud R2	Yellow Stripe Belt in Martial Arts

Isla 5M	Level 7 Gymnastics Award
Vali R1	Fantastic Writing
Anouk 3L	Stage 5 Swimming Award
Omar 4E	Stage 4 Swimming Award
Amelie 2E	Stage 5 Swimming Award