



## Weekly Newsletter 12.2.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of what may have been one of the strangest and more challenging winter half terms in the long history of West Jesmond Primary school, I want to once again express our gratitude to every one of our children for the resilience, energy and enthusiasm you have shown. I would also like to thank all of you at home who despite everything, have been managing to give your time and energy to support our children. Thank you!

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> Government Announcement:** It can be rather risky looking ahead at the moment and trying to predict what will happen with schooling in the next few weeks and months. However, we do know that the government announcement on the first Monday of next half term will address the next steps for education during the Covid pandemic and we will communicate with you as soon as we receive any guidance on possible further opening. We are all hoping that as soon as conditions allow, we are able to get all of our children back to school.

### Shakespeare Gold School Award

Offering our children the very broadest range of opportunities is a key part of the West Jesmond curriculum and among the areas of school life we are so desperate to return to are music, drama, dance and the widest choices of creative performances.

Last term, despite all the changes forced upon schools, we were still able to put on our performance of Macbeth. This week, we were very proud to be pronounced as a 'Gold Shakespeare School' by the Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation. Throughout our association with the charity, we have staged nine different productions of the playwright's various plays and Coram SSF have recognised our "commitment to creativity", in "providing inspiring opportunities year after year." We owe huge thanks to Mr Rimmer, Miss Bellwood and all the teachers who have given up their time, energy and creativity to give our children such great experiences.

Well done and thank you to all cast members who have contributed over the years - your hard work, enthusiasm and dramatic talents have all set the stage alight for so many people across the school's community to enjoy.



### Safer Internet Day – How do you support your child to be safe online?

This week as a part of Safer Internet day 2022, we shared with our children advice on how to keep safe on-line. This is something we are all acutely aware of as children spend more time on screens for remote learning and as one way of keeping in touch with each other.

We are always there to talk with parents who want any advice about internet safety. The following link has lots of very useful tips to help keep your child safe. [Safer Internet Day 2021 Top Tips | Safer Internet Centre](#)



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## Half Term Activity Challenges

We know that lots of you have been enjoying the Activity Challenges set by Mr Stenhouse and Miss Taylor. There have even been a number of celebrity guest appearances by staff, some looking rather fitter than others! Last week we were featured in **Jesmond Local Tweets get children moving at West Jesmond Primary | JESMONDLOCAL**. For the half term holiday we have a few more activities to keep our children active and warm, at a time when there are possibly less activities than usual for them.

### HALF TERM PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DAILY CHALLENGES.



Twitter



FACEBOOK

Find your daily challenges on the school website, Tapestry, Seesaw, Twitter and Facebook.

#### MONDAY – DAY 26

Your daily challenge today is to go for a walk for at least 30 minutes today. Do 3 jumps every time you see a dog!

#### TUESDAY – DAY 27

Your daily challenge today is called stair climb. How many times can you go up and down stairs in 15 minutes?

#### WEDNESDAY – DAY 28

Your daily challenge today is to play a throwing and catching game with someone in your family, see if you can do 50 catches.

#### THURSDAY – DAY 29

Your daily challenge today is bowling. You could use rolled-up socks as the ball, and empty bottles or toilet roll tubes as the skittles - remember to recycle them afterwards!

#### FRIDAY – DAY 30

Your daily challenge today is den building. Build the best den you can, either inside or outside.



And finally....the **West Jesmond Igloo!** A talented team of architects, designers, builders and scientists have been working hard every lunch time to construct our igloo. Hopefully, the roof will go on today.

Have a lovely half term everyone and as the snow melts we look forward to seeing those signs of spring and signs of hope all around us when we return to home and school learning on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February!



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