



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable half term break. I had a lovely couple of days in Amsterdam with Poppy and Sam, while Mrs Martin was working!

You may have noticed we've got new lanyards in school. We decided upon **rainbow coloured lanyards as a sign of our commitment to inclusivity**. With its many shades and colours, we consider the rainbow to be an appropriate symbol of the many different communities, beliefs, families, cultures and languages that come together to make West Jesmond the vibrant and colourful school community that we are. Everyone is most welcome at West Jesmond!



We were also visited by a second **group of delegates from Iraq**. This time, a group of ministers, each responsible for hundreds of schools. They were very keen to find out more about how schools are organised in the UK, particularly our curriculums.



It has been a very busy few weeks for our **sports teams with lots of children out taking part in competitions around the city**.

The Y5/6 football team have begun their league season with 2 wins and 2 defeats from their 4 games so far. Mr Snelders and Mr Hopkins were particularly impressed with the teamwork shown in the 4-0 win against St Charles' and the 5-1 victory over St Oswald's.

Thirty children from Y2 took part in the Newcastle School Sports Multiskills festival. This event involved number of challenges which encouraged them to develop their Determination, Passion, Respect, Self-Belief, Honesty and Teamwork in all aspects of sports. The Y6 Badminton team participated in the Ouseburn Badminton Championships. There were a mixture of singles and doubles matches against the other 4 schools who took part. The results were:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| West Jesmond 3 | Hotspur 2 |
| West Jesmond 2 | Ravenswood 3 |
| West Jesmond 4 | Cragside 1 |
| West Jesmond 3 | Benton Park 2 |

This meant West Jesmond finished 2nd overall. Finally, it is a huge well done to our Y6 Hockey team who took part in the first round of the Newcastle Hockey Championships. The team played 4 games, winning two, drawing one and losing one, scoring three goals and only having one goal scored against them. This means the team has qualified for the City Finals next month.

Mr Wallis-Clarke was in the Manchester this week at the Evo North Conference. He was delighted to represent 'northern' primary schools at this prestigious Northern Powerhouse event. He made great links and there was huge interest in West Jesmond Primary



I know **WhatsApp groups** can be a very useful means of sharing information between parents about up and coming events; who has got a spare costume for an event etc. I would politely like to ask that social media groups are not used to discuss school staff in any way shape or form. If you have a question about staffing, whatever that may be; please make an appointment to see myself or Mrs McVittie. Both of us would be more than happy to answer any questions.

Young Achievers	
Ismaeel, Y10	5m Swimming Certificate
Daniel, Y4J	Stage 7 Swimming Certificate
Amelie, Y1W	10m Swimming Certificate
Cecile, R2	Stage 3 Swimming Certificate
Aaron, Y2TJ	Player of the course – Lee Sterry Football
Finn, Y2TJ	Alpine Skiing Badge
Amelie, Y2H	50m Swimming Certificate
Rahaf, Y3F	Certificate of Achievement, Newcastle Arabic and Quaran School
Betsy, Y10	10m Swimming Certificate
Sam, R2	10m Swimming Certificate
Rahaf, Y3F	Beautiful diary writing
Isaac, R3	10m Swimming Certificate
Chalida, Y6W	250 Dojo Points
Duncan, Y6W	250 Dojo Points
Evie, Y1W	Shark Teeth found at the aquarium
Emma, Y3F	Stage 4 Swimming Certificate
Ethan, Y3F	Stage 4 Swimming Certificate
Henry, R2	Excellent Handwriting
Evie, Y5R	Grade 2 Ballet – Merit
Ada, Y5R	Grade 2 Ballet – Merit
Dylan, R1	Fabulous subtraction work

With best wishes for the week ahead.

Best wishes

Dominic Martin Head of School