



# Jessie Younghusband School



Ref:Aut4.20

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy December, and it is thanks to the support of all of the staff, Governors, parents and children that we have been able to do so much, during the most difficult of times. You should have received links to the KS1 and KS2 Virtual Performances that we created – and I am indebted to the dedication and hard work of all of the teachers, but particularly Mrs Hayers who has pushed us to create such spectacular shows in these times. (There are links to the videos on the school's website under "Parents" and then "Christmas 2020".)

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas, and we hope to see you all back safe and well on Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>.

*Mr Neaves*

## Dear Parents and Carers, children and staff,

We have tried to adjust our Christmas activities as much as possible and there is definitely a 'Christmassy' feel around school. It was wonderful to see the children's excitement on Wednesday when we had a surprise visit from Santa who had found time in his busy schedule to pop in and drop off some gifts during our fun day.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you should have received the link to our Christmas performances. It has been a different experience for all of the children and the staff this year but everyone in school has pulled out all the stops to produce these recordings for you to enjoy and to celebrate Christmas. I would like to say a particular 'thank you' to Mr Neaves who has worked extremely hard on all the editing to bring this together in time for the end of term.

My appreciation and thanks also go to all of the staff here at JYS for their dedication and commitment this term. It has been a time of unprecedented challenges and different ways of working but everyone has given their all and really earned a restful break and time with their own families.

Finally, my thanks to all of you for your support this term. I hope you are able to spend time with those you love over the Christmas period.

Merry Christmas to everyone and let's hope 2021 brings an opportunity for a gradual return to nearer normal life.

*With very best wishes Mrs Sadler*



## COVID-19 Advice for parents

As we continue to receive new advice and guidance from the Government, we will pass it on to you through ParentMail so that we can keep you up-to-date. Latest advice for parents can always be found by clicking on this link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

### **The Friends' Christmas Raffle**

Thank you for your support with this last week. On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, the Friends we held their Christmas Raffle. We had been overwhelmed with generous donations, which meant we had a lot of great prizes to be won. The draw was filmed in Santa's sitting room (although rumours abound that it was in Mrs Sadler's office using Green Screen technology!), and we raised a staggering **£734!**



### **Christmas Fun Day**



Our thanks go out again to the Friends for their support in running our first "Christmas Fun Day". The children were thrilled to have a socially-distanced visit from a present-bearing Santa. Chocolate Santas were awarded as prizes in each classroom after the Christmas Cracker competition winners were announced – and thank you all for supporting the children to produce such great entries again this year. Christmas jumpers were worn and crackers pulled during the Chartwells' Christmas lunch. Unfortunately, there were some technical issues by the company streaming the "Live Panto" on the Wednesday afternoon, but many of the classes have now had a chance to share this event with the children, but the staff rallied on the day and were able to share the Christmas Productions the children themselves had been a part of.

It was lovely to be on the playground at the end of the day and hear the children speaking to all the parents about how exciting the day had been.

### **Y5 Novium Competition**

We are delighted to be able to tell you that Year 5 have won the Novium writing competition on the subject of 'A day at The Roman Baths'! We are very proud, as all the entries were very good. Here is an extract of the letter we received from the museum;

***Dear Mrs Cooke,***

***Thank you for your entries to our writing competition. We had over 100 entries this year and we thoroughly enjoyed reading them all.***

***I am delighted to tell you that one of your students, Otto, has been chosen as one of our winners and has won a Roman activity day here at the Novium Museum for your entire class.***

***The day will consist of a Roman workshop, craft, treasure hunt and building activity.***

It is something for the class to be looking forward to in the New Year – congratulations, Otto! And thank you to Mrs Cooke, who I know spent many hours working with the children on their story writing.

## Sporting News



The children have been very active this term and they have not let the weather discourage them from their PE lessons! As part of our PE Curriculum, we have involved the children in a variety of sporting events organised by the West Sussex West School Sport Partnership. Because of current restrictions, the children have not been able to compete against other schools in person, as they normally would do. All of the events so far have taken place in the children's 'bubbles' and for some events we have been able to compete against other schools 'virtually'.

Early in October we took part in a 'virtual athletics' event, which included jumping, throwing and running activities. All years 3-6 took part and had a great time. Overall, Year 5 and Year 6 finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively. An extra well done goes to Oscar D (Year 6), who scored the highest score in his category across all schools.

Across all year groups, the children have, as part of their PE lessons, been running (you may have noticed muddy shoes from time to time). Year 5 and 6 children were able to enter the SSG Cross country competition and as a school, we finished a fantastic 2<sup>nd</sup> overall! A particular well done to Iona, Ava, Olive, Matty, Oscar C, Joshua P, Jake and Edward who all managed to make the top 15 in their category out of 431 runners!

In November, both Year 1 and 2 took part in and 'Infant agility' competition, and like the virtual athletic events the children took part in a variety of different throwing, catching, balancing, jumping and running activities. Both classes did amazingly well and Year 2 were delighted to find out they finished 1<sup>st</sup> in their category! A special mention to Valentina and George who scored the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest score across all schools respectively; Jacob for the best bouncer score; and Shiori and Kian for best Bowler score.



In December, Year 2 also entered a virtual Dance Festival. Despite the event being cancelled, the children's final performance was great and they really enjoyed themselves.

After the Christmas break we have numerous other opportunities for children across all year groups. These include:

- Table tennis Yr6 - Virtual challenge
- Skip2bfit Personal challenge
- Multi skills invasion games - Virtual challenge

We are very proud of all the children's effort and look forward to another fantastic term of PE.

### Congratulations!



Well done to Ralph in Y4 who entered a competition to design a front cover for the well know children's author and illustrator Tom Gates. Ralph's artwork won and will be printed in a new book being published in February 2021. The book is called TOM GATES: THE TREMENDOUS TALES. Keep an eye out for its release, and brilliant work Ralph!

## Covid in the Christmas period

Once again, we would like to thank you in all of your support this term, especially in your wearing of face-coverings around the site to try and protect us all.

Despite the government's lifting of restrictions to allow gatherings indoors of up to three household groups after schools have broken up, current guidance states schools must take "swift action when they become aware that a pupil or staff member has tested positive, help health teams identify close contacts and report all confirmed cases using the government's online attendance form".

If, after we break up, your child starts showing symptoms of Covid and you get a positive test result back before the 24<sup>th</sup> December, then please will you contact the school via [deputy@jys.org.uk](mailto:deputy@jys.org.uk). Please write "COVID TEST" in the subject, so that we know that this is the case.

This email account will be monitored during the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> December for such emails, and we will make sure that we contact Public Health England, the DfE and send out any notifications to parents that we are advised to.

**Term begins on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January (there is no INSET Day)**

Spring Term 2021	
w/c Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Term Begins
w/c Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Clubs start this week (except R'n'B which starts next week)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole school Individual Photographs by Frasers
w/c Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5 Novium Workshop (all day)
w/c Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	
w/c Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	
w/c Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	
Half Term Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	
w/c Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Term begins after half term
w/c Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Paul Ullson – Y5 'Vikings'
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Paul Ullson – Y1 'Houses and Homes'
w/c Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	
w/c Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	
w/c Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Last week of ALL clubs
w/c Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Last day of term

### Spring Term 2021

Starts: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January  
Half Term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
Ends: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
**\*INSET day Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

### Summer Term 2021

Starts: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
Half Term: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June  
Ends: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July  
**INSET days to be confirmed**

**\*The INSET days are subject to any further guidance in respect of COVID-19 and Governor approval. Please note that future term dates are available on the West Sussex Council website <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-term-dates/>**



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