



# Jessie Younghusband School

## Year R – Summer Term – Curriculum Letter

We hope you all had a relaxing and peaceful Easter break and enjoyed spending time with family and friends under the new restrictions. Can you believe your child has begun their last term in Year R? Their first year at JYS is definitely flying by!

I hope you were able to look at some of the support packs I sent home at the end of last term. It is no different from what we always ask parents to support with at home, but I hope that the more personalised approach allowed you to focus your attentions where your child would benefit from most. Even five minutes, several times a week, will make all the difference.

This term is set to be an exciting one! There is so much talk of 'catch up' all over the news. We will be 'catching up' on missed experiences and making memories in Year R. Happy, engaged, enthusiastic children learn the best.

Please find below key notes relating to your child's learning from the previous term and what we will be exploring in the first half of the summer term.

### Last term's highlights:

Both in school, and at home we:

- Learned about space and famous astronauts such as Tim Peake and Neil Armstrong, and much more;
- Learning about different traditions and celebrations such as Chinese New Year, Pancake Day and Valentine's Day;
- Discovering a suspected dinosaur egg and footprints in our outside area;
- Sharing the story "Alien's Love Underpants" and theming our week around pants!



### This term:



Our fun-filled topics for the first half term will be 'The Bear-necessities' and the second half term 'Commotion in the Ocean' with plenty of hooks for learning.

As we all eagerly await the next restriction lift update, I hope to be able to update you on any dates we are able to add to the diary- so watch this space!

We hope that you are enjoying using Tapestry as an insight to your child's learning. We can see that you have all activated your accounts, and as a result have access to your observations. Please spend the time looking through the photographs and captions – they really are a joy to read; children say the funniest things! The children often ask us to 'show Mummy / Daddy' something they have made at school, and we explain that we can send the photo home via Tapestry. We are sure they would love to see that in practice on your phone / tablet.



**Did you know that you can comment on and 'like' observations? We love to read your comments; keep them coming! You can also submit your own observations by**

clicking the '+' button in the top right hand corner of the app. So far, we have had photographs from home of paintings, models, holidays, writing, number sentences and much more. Thank you to those parents who have contributed so far.

### **Reminders and Information:**

- Please check that **your child's name is still clearly visible in all their clothing and on all of their belongings** (such as snack pots and drink bottles). We are finding that as the year has gone on and more washes have taken place, some names have faded which makes returning the item to its owner a slower process.
- **Just to remind you, your child will need plimsolls for P.E this term. We would be very grateful if a pair of plimsolls could be included in their P.E kit as soon as possible.** Again, your child's name needs to be written inside these to ensure they end up with the correct pair at the end of each P.E session. Thank you! As per the whole school letter sent home, children will now be changing for PE at school so should wear normal school uniform every day.
- Please feel free to write any general comments about your child's reading in their purple comments book. It is also helpful for us to receive some notification of your child having read their book. This could be as simple as the title being recorded and a tick put next to it. We are continuing to read with your child weekly at school, but have a different reading book here to share with them. We will continue to change your child's home reading books weekly. Of course, it is still vital that you read books to your child that are rich in vocabulary from home or from the library.



### **Finally...**

Thank you for your continued support. It certainly hasn't been the first year of school I had hoped for your children. However, they have been incredibly resilient, as have you. I hope to end the school year with as much fun as I can possibly squeeze in... for they are only four and five year olds once!

Best wishes,

Mrs Appleby