



## West Jesmond Family Newsletter 12 Autumn Term 2024



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

### Stars in Our Schools November 29<sup>th</sup> 2024!

We have been talking with our children about Stars in Our Schools, an annual celebration of school support staff. In assemblies, and around school, we give our thanks to all the people who ensure that our school is a safe, happy and successful place for us all. Our support staff team (Learning Support Assistants, Breakfast/After School Club, Wellbeing team, Cleaners, kitchen staff, caretakers...) are all a vital part in creating the school and the provision for your children and we take this week to thank them and celebrate the incredible work that they do!



### Kindness Workshop

The most important word in our West Jesmond Way is kindness. We want to work together to make our school the kindest place it can be!

This week, we had a Kindness Workshop from the charity 52 Lives ([www.52-lives.org](http://www.52-lives.org)) and their School of Kindness in Year 2! We learned that kindness has three qualities – being friendly, generous and considerate. We learnt about the science of kindness and the positive impact it has on our physical and mental health. Next, we practised empathy by watching videos of kindness in action and then said kind things to each other in the classroom. To put our kindness into action, we thought of someone we knew who could do with a little kindness. We then made them something in our classrooms and plan to give it to them this week. Finally, we looked at the quote 'be the change that you want to see in the world' and decided that **we** can help to create the kind of world we want to live in. The School of Kindness has a Kids' Club which is free to join where you will get a free newsletter with kind challenges, stories, activities, jokes, competitions and videos to watch. Just visit [www.schoolofkindness.org/kids-club](http://www.schoolofkindness.org/kids-club) to sign up.



**[Important Christmas Dinner Reminder: If your child would like a Christmas dinner, please make sure that you have signed your child up via Weduc before the deadline of Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.](#)**

### Star Writers

We're really proud of Audrey and Amelie in Y6 who earned an amazing second and third place in the Jesmond Library 500 Words writing competition. The theme was Light. Audrey's entry World War 1 "true" story about aliens - she had to do a lot of research to be factually correct. Amelie created a diary of a character called Agatha. It is great to see such creativity in our young writers. Well done!



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 3AJ

☎ (0191) 2810000 ✉ [office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk)

🌐 [www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk](http://www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk)



## Be A Santa Campaign

You will have had a letter this week about the Be A Santa Campaign. This week, the team from 'Home Instead' came into school and gave a presentation in assembly about their 'Be a Santa' campaign. It is a wonderful campaign and is one that this year, as a school, we are hoping to be able to support once again.



The campaign itself essentially supports people in the community, who may not otherwise receive a present by giving them a gift at Christmas time. Home Instead would therefore, greatly appreciate a wrapped gift donation, which can be a gift of your choice suitable for an older person, male or female.

Your child should have brought home a gift label today in their book bag to attach to the gift, should you wish to donate. Should you feel able to support the campaign, the gifts can be brought into school from Monday 2nd December until Wednesday 11th December.

## Important Parents and Carers Online Safety Messages

On the **15th January at 9am** in the School Hall Julian Hughes, from GEM Education, will also be delivering a **Parent Online Safety Workshop**. This is open to parents of children in all year groups and will cover aspects of privacy, online security, parental controls and online profiles. However, due to the content of some of the material unfortunately it is not suitable to bring younger siblings to. **Please sign up via Weduc if you are able to attend. You will find the details in the Payments – Offers section.**

Years 5 and 6 will be receiving online safety sessions from Northumbria Police over the coming weeks and Year 4 will be working with Julian Hughes in January.

We know some children may be receiving new devices and games over the festive period. To help families with setting up devices in an ever changing digital world there are guides from the National Online Safety Organisation. You can also find guides to key apps and games here to help you here: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

## Year 3 Archaeologists

Year 3 were West Jesmond Archaeologists with a visit from some Prehistory Experts from Durham University who helped us look at artefacts, skeletons and evidence from The Stone Age, The Bronze Age and The Iron Age. Year 3 also thought about early agriculture and visited the allotment looking at how people from the end of The Stone Age in Britain might have started to plant their own food as they moved from being nomads to farmers.



## Year 2 artists

Year 2 took part in an exciting Qbicart art workshop with artist, Kübra Müjde Braun. We really enjoyed expressing ourselves through drawing different topics: our favourite food, favourite celebrations, favourite games and our likes / dislikes. These themes are designed to encourage children to express their cultural identities artistically. Kübra has been working with children from diverse cultural contexts, including Turkey, England, Scotland, China and Italy, to explore cultural influences are reflected in their artwork through colours, shapes, and themes.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!  
Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week:

- ❖ Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December Year 5/6 Team to Athletics Event
- ❖ Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December Choir to Newcastle Sings Christmas
- ❖ Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December R2 Cake Stall

### Further Ahead (Seasonal events in green)

*(Please see Christmas and Winter at West Jesmond Letter for further details)*



- ❖ Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> & Weds 11<sup>th</sup> December Reception Christmas Shows (9.15am)
- ❖ Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December Year 2 Christmas Show 9.15am & 2.15pm)
- ❖ Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December Year 1 Christmas Songs and Crafts (2pm)  
Choir Singing at the Grainger Market
- ❖ Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Winter Stories with Chris Bostock (Yr. 1 & 2)  
Key Stage 2 Christmas Lunch
- ❖ Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 5-6pm Winter Songs by Lantern Light Key Stage 2  
Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Lunch
- ❖ Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December End of Term
- ❖ Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January Start of the Spring Term 2025