



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 15 Autumn Term 2023



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of our children, parents and friends, for all your support and encouragement over the Autumn Term. It has been lovely to see so many of you in school and at our events over the last few weeks. We think all of our children deserve a lovely break and we hope all of our families get time to enjoy the next two weeks.

Whole School singing at the end of term.

We continued with our West Jesmond end of term tradition today. The whole school gathered on the yard to sing songs and to wish each other happy festive holidays! As always, we finished with a rousing rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas!



Winter Songs

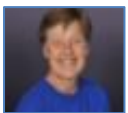
Thank you to all our families who joined in with our Key Stage 2 Winter Songs. On a wild and windy night, our children lifted their voices and warmed us all with their singing. We were also warmed by the refreshments provided by Sarah and Hazel, on behalf of the Friends of West Jesmond – thank you!

We are very grateful to Mrs Anderson and all the Key Stage 2 staff for working on the songs with the children.

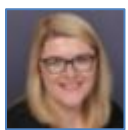


Goodbyes

At the end of this term, we are saying goodbye to two members of our West Jesmond Family.



Gill McKinnon has been a hugely important part of our Out of School Club and our dinner and support staff and much loved by all the children she has worked with. Gill has been unable to be in school for much of the last year and has been missed by us all. I know there will be large numbers of children who have been fortunate to have played and worked with Gill over the years who will have very fond memories of her and how fun, caring, hugely enthusiastic and very kind she was towards with everyone!



Following her maternity leave, **Claire McDonald**, our School Business Manager, is moving to a new post in a group of schools in the city. Claire joined us at a challenging time in September 2020 and played a very important role during, after the pandemic, and through the change of leadership at the school. We will miss her and wish her the very best in her new role.

Headteacher: **Matt Ward**

Deputy Headteacher: **Tom Jones**

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Parent Governor Election

We are very proud and very grateful that so many of our parents put themselves forward for election to be Parent Governors. We would like to thank each of them for being a part of the process and the support this demonstrates to the school and our continuous efforts to further develop and improve West Jesmond Primary for our children. Thank you to all of you who nominated parents and took part in the vote. The four parents who were elected and will join the governors in the new year are Jessica Callaghan, Georgia Ross, Graeme Tyndall and Raj Hoque.

Christmas Meals

This term our kitchen staff have served thousands of meals to our children and the peak of their endeavours has been over the last two weeks when they have produced over 500 Christmas dinners! A huge thank you from all of us to the incredibly hard working team!



Competition Winner Oliver

Congratulations to Oliver in Year 2 who was the winner of a special competition with the Centre For Life. Oliver had to design a Santa sleigh that would help Santa deliver all the Christmas presents around the world faster than ever before. He has won a skating trip for the family at the Centre for Life!



Year 1 Songs and Crafts

It was so lovely to see you all at our Year 1 Christmas song and craft afternoon. Having you there really made it extra special for the children. We hope the Christmas baubles look fabulous on your Christmas trees.



Telyn quartet Visit School

One of Christmas treats this year was a concert in school from the Telyn Quartet. They visited school ahead of a concert they were performing in Newcastle later in the day. They performed to our older children and then led workshops with some of our aspiring musicians. The group contains one of our ex-pupils, Seth Collin. It was inspiring to have him back in school and showcasing his musical journey with many of our children who are learning instruments.



Keeping safe Online: Advice For Parents

This is a reminder about our Online Safety workshop for parents only on **Friday 19th January at 9am**. Please look out for a WEDUC sign up.

Our useful online safety video for families can be following this link <https://youtu.be/5hJeHQen6tM>

Choir singing in our community

I would like to give one last big thank you to the school choir who have given so much to us all over the last few weeks. They have been extremely busy entertaining the public, parents and children in and out of school. For the final gig of the term, they went to entertain the residents of Fleming Court. The children sang Christmas Songs and then the School Council gave out gifts and wished our friends at Fleming Court a very Happy Christmas!



Your Christmas Donations

Tina and Andrew from Home Instead came in to school to collect the remainder of our gifts and told us all about the important charity events they will be taking our gifts to and how much they will mean to those who will not receive many gifts this Christmas.



Manus' Magical Image

We thought we would end our last newsletter of the term with this incredible photograph by Manus in Year 3. He took these photos of these Nacreous clouds also called rainbow clouds and mother of pearl clouds. Manus has shared a magical and very atmospheric image to mark the solstice!



We wish the warmest seasons greeting to all of our West Jesmond children and families. We hope you all have a lovely holiday and look forward to seeing everyone in 2024!

Mr Ward and all the staff



Dates for Your Diary

❖ Monday 8th January 2024

Start of the Spring Term

❖ Friday 19th January 9am

Parents' Online Safety Workshop

EasyFundraising

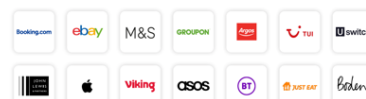
The Friends are registered with a shopping app called **easyfundraising**. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use the **easyfundraising** link to shop with them – at no extra cost for you. All you need to do is sign up and remember to use **easyfundraising** whenever you shop online.

It is easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us.



How to sign up

- 1 Visit the link below or scan the QR code
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause
- 2 Search for us
"Friends of West Jesmond Primary School"
- 3 Your favourite brands donate whenever you spend with them



Download the
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Excellent 3.9K reviews on