



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 3 Summer Term 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

The Friends of West Jesmond: A Message from Mr Jones

One of my (many!) roles at West Jesmond is being Co-Vice Chair of the Friends of West Jesmond. When I first joined the school 10 years ago, I was amazed with what an incredible body of volunteers the Friends is and how their fund raising has given so many great opportunities for your children. Sadly the pandemic years curtailed the opportunities for fundraising and with that the profile of the Friends has possibly decreased, especially with newer parents. We know that not all parents are fully aware of who the Friends are and what they do so here's a quick guide...

Who are we? We are a group of parents and staff. Some members hold committee roles - some of which are shared between two people.

What do we do? We organise events throughout the academic year for parents and children that help fundraise for projects in school. For example, the Christmas and Summer Fairs, cake stalls, parent quizzes, discos. We have one AGM a year and then groups meet to organise events.

Where does our fundraising go? Where doesn't it go is probably a quicker answer! Staff in school can apply for funds to help enhance the children's experiences at West Jesmond. In the past there have been big fundraising events for the trim trails, funding for additional pupil iPads - this year we are raising money for a makeover of the Key Stage 1 yard. The money has also gone towards; Shakespeare performance costumes, the chick hatching project, Sport Team kits, books for the library, coding equipment, cooking equipment, outdoor learning equipment, a visit from Animal Antics.... the list could go on and on and on and on!

What events are coming up?

Summer Fair - Sunday 11th June Quiz - Friday 30th June School Discos - TBC in final half-term

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in sponsoring the fair or donating prizes, please let us know.

Can I be involved? Yes, yes, yes! We really need volunteers to come forward to make these events a success. We're also looking for people to help the Friends with their part of the **International Evening on May 25th**. Being part of the Friends doesn't mean you have to be involved in every event. As several member's children are leaving the school, they will be moving on too. This is a vital time for new members to join and help shape the future of the Friends and events in school. There are opportunities to have a role on the committee too. Without more support, there is a danger that the Friends won't be able to be as active as it has been historically. If you can spare time to help at the fair or other events, please email friendswjps@mail.com or ask to speak one of us to find out more.

Many hands make light work - and give excellent opportunities and experiences for the children and Families of West Jesmond.

We look forward to hearing from you soon,

Mr Jones

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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STEM Week

This year's annual STEM Week will be from June 19th - June 23rd. We don't want to give anything away on the theme just yet. However, we would love to invite any parents who work in the STEM industry or product design industry to come in to speak to the children about their career path and what their job entails. We can be flexible about when you join us in the week. If you'd like to come and share your expertise or ask more about what it might entail, please contact Lucy Oades, our Raising Aspirations Lead, on loades@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk

Year 5's Exciting Visitor

Joe Alexander - an expedition leader - visited Year 5 on Wednesday to talk about his adventures in the Himalayas. He explained that preparation, planning and the right equipment is necessary to climb the highest mountains. Year 5 recognised that the teamwork and resilience we practise in class is just as essential in the mountain ranges of the world.



Well done Year 4/5 Girls' Football Team

Our Sports Mentor, Ms Rennison, was very proud of our football team this week. It was the first time for many of them playing as a team in competitive games and they were great and played some fantastic football. Thank you to all the parents there to support. They all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and got very excited at times!



Allotment Open Day Sunday 7th May 11am - 2pm

Don't forget to come and visit our school allotment this Sunday. As well as the chance to visit with your children, you will get to meet some of our great volunteers, enjoy refreshments and hear our West Jesmond Choir Sing!

Year 6 Second Hand Book Sale

This is a reminder that every Friday, there will be a second hand book sale in the Undercroft raising money for our Year 6 Leavers events.

The West Jesmond International Evening Thursday 26th May

We are still looking for even more of our families to join in with our International Evening. Please contact school and speak to Mrs Groot if you want to know more.

School Council Fundraising Project

School Council are shortly going to be organising a fundraising cake stall and non- uniform day to raise money for a charity education project we have been learning about in Tanzania, which a local medical student Megan, who has been volunteering with us in our school, will soon be going out to Tanzania to support. The charity is called **Travel for Charity Tanzania** and its overarching aim is to '**eradicate poverty through education**'. To help Megan raise funds towards their valuable work, School Council will be holding a **cake stall after school on Thursday 18th May and a non- uniform day on Friday 19th May**. Please support us if you are able to do so. Please could we ask for **cake donations from KS2 classes** to come into school on the morning of **Thursday 18th May**. Donations for the non-uniform day on the Friday can come into school as a cash donation via the children or be donated in the usual way on Weduc.

Thank you very much for your support. *KS2 School Councillors*

Northumbria Police Advice

Northumbria Police's Prevention Through Education team contact us on a regular basis. Their advice to parents from the summer newsletter is: **Do you know which apps your children are using?** It's important for the adults in a child's life to be aware of what and who they are interacting with online, and for young people to be aware that what they share online can affect their lives in the 'real' world. For example, sharing their location (school, home) via images can give those who wish to do harm an opportunity to do so. Parents and carers may need help with having these conversations, especially if they feel they know very little about the many apps available. NSPCC Chat Apps and Have a Conversation contain helpful advice on how to approach this subject with children and young people.

Learning Support Assistant Posts at West Jesmond

We are currently looking for two enthusiastic, exciting and talented Learning Support Assistants to join our staff team from September. You can find out more about the role and application process here:

<https://www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk/web/vacancies/417656>

Shakespeare Gold School Status

We've been awarded the Shakespeare Gold School Status for participation in [Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation](#) for 7 + consecutive years



Have a lovely weekend everyone and I hope to see lots of you at the allotment!

Mr. Ward

Dates for Your Diary

- ❖ **School Allotment Open Day** **Sunday 7th May**
- ❖ **Additional Bank Holiday** **Monday 8th May**
- ❖ **KS2 SATs Week** **9 -12th May**
- ❖ **Children's Cancer Run** **Sunday 14th May**
- ❖ **Jesmond Festival: Choir and Djembe band at Jesmond Library** **Friday 19th May**
- ❖ **West Jesmond International Evening** **Thursday 25th May 6-8pm**
- ❖ **School Closed for Teacher Training Day** **Friday 26th May**
- ❖ **Half Term Holiday Begins** **Friday 26th May**
- ❖ **Return to School** **Monday 5th June**
- ❖ **Year 4 Countryside Day (Wooler)** **Thursday 8th June**
- ❖ **Non-Uniform Day Summer Fair donations** **Friday 9th June**
- ❖ **Friends' School Summer Fair** **Sunday 11th June**
- ❖ **Scottish Opera performance Year 4** **Thursday 15th June**
- ❖ **Years 1, 2 and 3 Sports Day** **Monday 10th July (9.30 – 11.30am)**
- ❖ **Years 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day** **Monday 10th July (1.30 – 3.00pm)**
- ❖ **Reception Sports Day** **Thursday 13th July**
- ❖ **Year 6 Graduation** **Wednesday 19th July 5pm**
- ❖ **End of Term** **Friday 21st July**



Friends' Cake Stalls

- ❖ **5.5.23** **Y2W**
- ❖ **12.5.23** **Y6R**

