



West Jesmond Primary Family Newsletter 9 Autumn Term 2025



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the second half term of our school year 2025-26. There are lots of activities happening over the next few months and, towards the end of term, we have our Winter and Christmas events. Please keep looking at the **Dates for Your Diary** section at the end of the newsletter.

Local Study Week 2025: Coal Mining in the North East!

Thank you to everyone who was able to come along to our Coal Mining Pop-Up Museum, in the school hall, on the last day of last half term to celebrate the end of our Whole School Local Study Week. The children guides from each year group were amazing History Ambassadors helping to showcase their Big Questions and Big Answers and their fabulous charcoal artwork from the week. Thank you to Mrs Byatt and Miss Draper for organising our week and to Mrs Anderson for leading our choirs in learning their coalmining songs! Can we also thank all of you at home for your great support over the week.



Anti-Bullying Week 2025: STOP

Next week, we will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week. We are very proud of the behaviour of our children at West Jesmond. Our West Jesmond Way sets out the aspirations for all of us. Above all, we talk about the need for kindness. No school can ever say that there is no bullying taking place and we know how important it is to empower our children to be able to talk about different behaviours and to speak up when they have worries. We will be talking about the different forms bullying can take, how to define it and what to do if you feel you are affected. One way we help children to identify if it is bullying is to use **STOP (Several Times On Purpose)**. We then talk to them about what they should do which is **STOP 2 (Start Telling Other People)**.



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Learning How To Keep Ourselves Safe

This week, Year 6 visited SafetyWorks and took part in lots of workshops about keeping ourselves safe online and when using the Metro. We also learned about safety around water, what to do if we discover a fire and how to make the right choices to manage peer pressure. Thank you to the Friends of WJPS for funding this fantastic learning opportunity.



RE Religious Education at west Jesmond

One of the great strengths of our school is the enrichment of understanding and learning our children receive through mixing with peers from such diverse backgrounds. With some of the current pressures in our society, this is more important than ever. We know that children learn best about each other from their daily mixing, friendships and conversations. Our RE curriculum can also help to further develop understanding. Our curriculum allows us to share and introduce some of the key elements of different religions and beliefs.

Last half term, Year 3 were learning about some of the traditions of Jewish festivals of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the New Year and Day of Atonement. One of these traditions is to dip apples into honey to welcome in a "sweet New Year!" In class, the children tried this tradition and agreed that it was a great way to welcome in the New Year. If parents or children want to help us in our learning and understanding by talking to our children, please speak to Miss Young our RE lead.



School Council Children in Need Friday 14th November

You will have all received a letter this week about Children in Need. This year, we invite children and staff to come to school in non-uniform on Friday 14th November and to 'be spotacular' in spots/fancy dress/onesies and wearing their Pudsey ears if they wish. We would ask for a suggested minimum donation of £1 in support of this year's BBC Children in Need appeal, but please give what you can. Donations for our fancy dress non-uniform day can be made via Weduc at any point from Monday 10th November or in cash on the day itself.



People's Kitchen Visit

This week, School Council had a fantastic visit to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Tom very kindly showed us around all areas, introduced us to lots of the volunteers and explained exactly what they do at the People's Kitchen to help the friends who visit them regularly and how our donations have been used. Thank you once again to everyone who supported our food bank collection.



Year 3 Apple Day

Year 3 had an absolutely superb day at the allotment to celebrate Apple Day! We took part in a variety of apple themed activities from apple tasting (and enthusiastic rating!) to apple bobbing. All of the apples used were grown in our very own orchard! It was a brilliant, albeit soggy, day that would not have been possible without the time and dedication of our wonderful allotment volunteers. We are so incredibly lucky to have them, and we are all so grateful. The joyful photos speak for themselves!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week

- ❖ Tuesday 11th November R1 Parents' Phonics Visit
- ❖ Wednesday 12th November Friends Coffee Morning and Uniform Sale
R3 Parents' Phonics Visit
- ❖ Weds 12th & Friday 14th November Year 3 Rising Sun Trip
- ❖ Thursday 13th November R3 Parents' Phonics Visit
- ❖ Friday 14th November Children in Need
Friends Uniform Sale (on yard)

Further ahead

- ❖ Monday 17th- Weds 19th November Year 4 Bikeability
Year 3 to Great North Museum
- ❖ Tuesday 18th November Reception to Great North Museum
- ❖ Weds & Thursday 5th/6th October Year 6 visits to SafetyWorks
- ❖ 19th – 21st November Year 6 Lockerbie Residential Visit
- ❖ Thursday 19th November Choir at Newcastle Cathedral
- ❖ Friday 28th November 2WD & 2V Discovery Museum
- ❖ Wednesday 3rd December 2W Discovery Museum

- ❖ Friday 5th December Friends Xmas Fair (From 3.30pm)
(Non-uniform day for fair donations: Christmas jumpers or accessories welcome)
- ❖ Tuesday 9th & Weds 10th December Reception Christmas Shows (9.15am)
- ❖ Thursday 11th December Year 2 Christmas Shows 9.15am & 2.15pm
- ❖ Friday 12th December Year 1 Song and Crafts (2pm)
- ❖ Wednesday 17th December 2.30pm Year 5 & 6 Winter Songs (School Yard)
- ❖ Thursday 18th December 2.30pm Year 3 & 4 Winter Songs (School Yard)

- ❖ Friday 19th December End of Term
- ❖ Monday 5th January Start of the Spring Term 2026





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