



## West Jesmond Primary Family Newsletter 14 Autumn Term 2025



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

With only one week until the end of term, we have reached those dark December days when everyone needs a little light and good cheer. The West Jesmond children have been working very hard to provide just that this week and we hope you have enjoyed sharing some of their efforts!

### Christmas Performances

Thank you to all our families who were able to come to see one of our Reception and Year 2 performances this week and to join Year 1 with Christmas songs and crafts.

Well done to all of our children who have worked so well together and with such energy and enthusiasm. We are so proud of all of them for their singing, dancing, and acting and for being so brave standing up in front of our very big audiences. Thank you to all the staff for the enormous effort they put in to rehearsing with our children and creating the great performances.

### Friends' Christmas Fair

Can we also say a huge thank you to our Friends of West Jesmond for the Christmas Fair last Friday. It was incredibly busy, and we are so grateful to all our families who attended and who gave so generously. As always, we are so grateful to everyone who organised the fair and to the incredible volunteers on the evening. Can we also thank Mrs Anderson and the choir for the entertainment and Father Christmas for visiting our grotto at such a busy time of year.



### Key Stage 2 Winter Songs: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Year 5 and 6 & Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December Years 3 and 4 Gate open 2.15 pm

Families of children in Years 3 to 6 are invited to come and join in with festive songs on the school yard. **Entrance to the events will be through the side gate on Tankerville Terrace (near Reception classes).** Children will return to class after the songs and parents can pick up in the usual way. The Friends of West Jesmond have kindly volunteered to provide some refreshments for parents. We will try to go ahead unless it is too wet.



### Christmas Lunches

On Christmas Lunch days, children are welcome to wear colourful or festive tops/jumpers

- ❖ **Reception and Key Stage 1** (Years 1-2) Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December
- ❖ **Key Stage 2** (Years 3 – 6) Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley

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## Christmas Parties

We are looking forward to some fun Christmas parties next week. Children are invited to wear non-uniform/party clothes to school on party day.



**Party Food:** Please bring a paper plate, covered in cling film, and labelled with the child's name with a few party tea treats. Please remember, to protect children who may have allergies, **do not send in any food containing nuts.**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4	Year 1
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2	Year 3
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6	Reception

## Keeping safe Online: Advice For Parents and Workshop 14<sup>th</sup> January

With Christmas coming up, we know some children may be getting new devices or games. To help parents with managing settings and helping your children navigate a digital world, we have our Computing Consultant Julian Hughes from GEM Education coming to school to deliver an Online Safety workshop for parents on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 9am**. Last year, Julian created a very useful, family friendly, video to show where you can find support to set up parental controls on new devices (which can set time limits, block spending, inappropriate content and contact among other features). <https://youtu.be/5hJeHQen6tM>

## Be A Santa Campaign

Thank you so much to everyone who has so generously supported our School Council 'be a Santa' campaign so far. The first sackful of gifts has been delivered to some very happy and grateful recipients at the first party event of the year and the remaining presents are stacking up wonderfully, under the tree, ahead of our final, few deliveries. If you have not donated yet and would like to, there is still plenty of time and we would be delighted to accept wrapped gifts into school, up until the morning of Tuesday 16th December.



## Eco Team Christmas tree Winners!

The WJPS Eco Committee are proud to announce that they are the winners of the St Hilda's Christmas Tree Festival! Thank you to everyone who showed up on the day and voted for our fabulous tree. We have also been filming an exciting top secret eco project with the BBC this week... more to be revealed early next year!



## Jesmond Walking Advent Calendar

If you are walking around Jesmond, look out for the Jesmond Advent Calendar Window. And look out for our window display that has been created by Miss McKay and some of our Year 6 children. The big reveal is this Friday on a window at the front of the school!

## Achievers

We have two piano players' achievements to share with you this week. A proud Year 4 pianist holding her Grade 1 with distinction certificate and a talented Year 5 musician during a Grade 2 exam! Well done both of you.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

(Please also see the Winter and Christmas at West Jesmond Letter)



### Next Week

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ❖ Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December    | Year 5 Xmas Party  |
| ❖ Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December   | Year 1 and Year 4 Xmas Parties   |
| ❖ Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 2 and Year 3 Xmas Parties<br>Year 5 & 6 Winter Songs (School Yard) 2.15pm<br>Reception and KS1 Xmas Lunch |
| ❖ Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December  | Year 6 and Reception Xmas Parties<br>Year 3 & 4 Winter Songs (School Yard) 2.15pm<br>KS2 Xmas Lunch            |
| ❖ Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December    | Choir visiting Fleming Court Care Room<br>End of Term  |

### Further ahead

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ❖ Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January   | Start of the Spring Term 2026            |
| ❖ Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> WJPS Take One Book Week! |  |
| ❖ Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> January  | 5S to Sunderland Winter Gardens          |
| ❖ Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January   | 5D to Sunderland Winter Gardens          |
| ❖ Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January                                       | Online Safety Workshop for parents (9am) |
| ❖ Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> January  | 5TG to Sunderland Winter Gardens         |
| ❖ Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> February                  | Year 4 Robinwood Residential             |
| ❖ Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February                                       | KS1 Disco (3.30-5pm)                     |
| ❖ Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February   | School Closed for OLT Training Day       |

### Half Term Holiday

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| ❖ Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February                      | Back to school              |
| ❖ Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March | Careers and Enterprise Week |

Break up for Easter Holiday Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April



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