



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 11 Spring Term 2023



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This is our last newsletter of the Spring Term. I would like to thank all of our children for the energy and enthusiasm that they have shown over the last three busy and successful months.

Shakespeare at the Northern Stage

I am writing this newsletter with hands still sore from clapping and cheeks still sore from smiling thanks to our fantastic Year 6 actors! On Wednesday, our cast performed at a packed Northern Stage Theatre as part of the Shakespeare Schools' Festival. They brought incredible energy, creativity and humour to a production of Twelfth Night that would be hard to match. They have been working so hard all year on their production and the efforts really paid off. I know everyone who watched it will share the great pride in our extremely talented West Jesmond performers. We are very grateful to our talented directors Mr Rimmer and Ms Bellwood and to Miss Smith, Mrs Tomlin, Mrs Mackellar and Mr Allen who worked so hard with the children.



Hurrah! It's Back!! The West Jesmond International Evening 2023

After an enforced break over the last few years, Thursday the 25th of May will see the return of our very popular International Evening! We currently have over 45 languages in school and families who have heritage links all across the globe. We are looking for volunteers to share cultural demonstrations, dances and music as well as contributions of dishes from around the world. In the past we have had fantastic calligraphy demonstrations, Bollywood dancing, Northumberland pipes and haggis, all showcasing the diversity we have at West Jesmond. If you would like to be involved, please register interest via the form that will be coming out via Weduc this week and we will be able to send out more information.



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Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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West Jesmond School Allotment Award: Congratulations Jenny!

Our school allotment is a very important part of West Jesmond school life and greatly enhances the experiences and learning of every child. The allotment is made possible by an incredible team of volunteers who give up their time to work with our children and care for the plot. This year their dedication has been recognised by the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society). Jenny Wigston, one of the original team who set the allotment up for the school, has been awarded the very prestigious RHS Community Award. The award is given to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to a community gardening programme over a period of time. Jenny was invited down to the RHS headquarters in central London to receive the award and came in to share it with the children in a special assembly. Jenny told us 'It was a truly memorable occasion.' Thank you to Jenny and all of the team for introducing so many of our children to gardening and the importance and enjoyment of growing our own fruit and vegetables! [RHS People Awards / RHS Gardening](#)



Big Walk and Wheel

Well done to all of our families who made a change to the way they travel to school at the end of term. The overall percentage of children who walked, cycled or scootered to school rose over the two weeks and we are currently second in the Big Walk and Wheel challenge in Newcastle! However, in our large school, even with an increasing percentage of families keeping cars away from school, there is still too much traffic interacting with our children as they arrive and leave school. Please can we all work together to make an extra effort to keep cars away from West Jesmond over the Summer Term



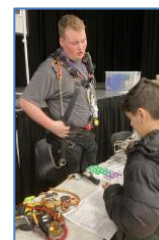
Second hand Book Stall

During the summer term there will be a second hand book sale in the yard on Fridays. The profit will go towards Leavers celebrations and also to ensure Leavers Hoodies are affordable to all. We would love you to bring in second hand children's and young adult book donations.



Jesmond Park Academy Careers Fair

Year 6 had a fantastic morning on Friday meeting employers and educators and thinking lots about our futures at Jesmond Park Academy Careers Fair. The pictures show some of many and varied future opportunities they found out about. Year 6 worked their way around the stands in the hall, talking to volunteers and asking them considered and thoughtful questions about their varied careers. It was a brilliant and inspiring learning opportunity for everyone involved and we are so grateful to JPA for hosting us once again.



Chimneysweep Performance

Well done to our children in our Chimneysweep drama clubs who performed in front of an audience of parents this week. The children filled the school hall with their singing, dancing, acting and sense of enjoyment.

Newcastle Directory – Best Spring Ever

The Newcastle Directory is a great resource for families in our city. It is a one-stop shop for everything from support to children's activities. Look out for lot of activities targeted at families eligible for Free School Meals during the Easter holidays.



I wish all of our West Jesmond Families a very happy holiday and look forward to seeing everyone at the start of the summer term.

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

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| ❖ End of Term | Friday 31 st March |
| ❖ Start of Summer Term | Monday 17 th April |
| ❖ School Allotment Open Day | Sunday 7 th May |
| ❖ Additional Bank Holiday | Monday 8 th May |
| ❖ KS2 SATs Week | 9 -12 th May |
| ❖ Children's Cancer Run | Sunday 14 th May |
| ❖ West Jesmond International Evening | Thursday 25 th May |
| ❖ School Closed for Teacher Training Day | Friday 26 th May |
| ❖ Half Term Holiday Begins | Friday 26 th May |
| ❖ Return to School | Monday 5 th June |
| ❖ Friends' School Summer Fair | Sunday 11 th June |
| ❖ Scottish Opera performance Year 4 | Thursday 15 th June |
| ❖ End of Term | Friday 21 st July |



Friends' Cake Stalls

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| ❖ 21.4.23 | R2 |
| ❖ 28.4.23 | R3 |
| ❖ 5.5.23 | Y2W |
| ❖ 12.5.23 | Y6R |

