



## West Jesmond Family Newsletter 14 Autumn Term 2023

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,



### Christmas Performances

Well done to all of our children who have created such energetic and uplifting performances this week. Thank you to everyone who was able to watch a show or attend an event. We are so proud of our children for their singing, dancing and acting and for giving so much energy to the shows. 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

A huge thank you to our Friends of West Jesmond for the Christmas Fair last Friday. Our dedicated team put in enormous amounts of effort to pull the event together. We are all so grateful to everyone who organised the fair and helped to run it on the evening. Thanks to the efforts and generosity of you, our parents, an incredible £5222 was raised! Every penny will go towards helping us to further develop fun and memorable experiences and opportunities for every child in school. Can we also give special mention to Mrs Faulder who helped Father Christmas with the interior decoration of his grotto!



### School Choir On Tour

Our school Choirs and our Music Lead, Mrs Anderson, are especially busy at the moment. They sang at the school fair, helped to turn on the lights at the RVI and entertained audiences at the Central Library and at the Grainger Market. Thank you to all the parents who accompanied us on our tours and came to support the choirs.



[Royal Victoria Infirmary Newcastle sparkling after panto stars turn on Christmas lights - Chronicle Live](#)



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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## Sports News

Well done to our **Year 3 Cricketers** who took part in a tournament in Newcastle this week. The event organised by the Newcastle PE service was packed with games and skills practice. We were very proud of all of our team!

We also want to mention our **Girls' football team**. This week they faced a very strong team in horrendous weather conditions. Every girl played to the best of their ability and never gave up. They showed sheer determination and resilience and the score line did not reflect their efforts. Mrs Rennison was incredibly proud of every single one of them.

## Your Christmas Donations

Your generous donations for the People's Kitchen and for the Be A Santa Campaign have been collected this week and will be going out to support people in our community this Christmas and winter. We have been overwhelmed by the amount you have sent in. The sense of solidarity with others from our children and families and school is a strength of the West Jesmond Family.



## Musical Assembly

Our school hall was filled with music on Friday morning as we were treated to a concert by a wide range of our musicians. Festive music was performed by all of our children who have been working incredibly hard in their instrumental lessons and clubs so far this year. Musicians came from the school ukulele club as well as some of the children having strings, guitar and keyboard lessons. For many it was the first time performing in front of an audience and we were very impressed with their bravery and confidence. Thank you to our music teachers and to Mrs Anderson for organising the concert.



## Keeping safe Online: Advice For Parents

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 only on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 9am**. Please look out for a WEDUC sign up and information about parental settings on devices next week.

Julian has 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). The video is available to stream from YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/5hJeHQen6tM>

## 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.

## Key Stage Winter Songs: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 5pm

To end the term, we would like to invite you to our evening of winter songs school yard on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**. Families of children in Years 3 to 6 are invited to join in with the choir and performers from each year group for an evening of festive song and maybe even a mince pie!



In a slight change to last year, when the children arrive we will be asking them to join their class at the front of the yard and we will be performing together.

Sadly, this year our friends from the Brass Band cannot attend, but we hope to keep you warm with our songs and we hope parents will join in with us! Younger siblings are welcome, but can we ask that they stay with you during the songs.

If the evening is wet, we will try to go ahead by squeezing ourselves into the school hall.

## Clubs Timetable Spring Term

You should have received notifications of some of the clubs for your child's year group during the term ahead. Each term we want to add to our list of extra-curricular opportunities, to include as many children and as many different experiences as possible – so look out for further additions over the term.

In the past our clubs offer has been enhanced through some of our parents running clubs in school. If you have an interest or expertise you would like to share with the children, please contact the school. Please sign up via Weduc and speak to the school office if you have any questions.

Day	Before School	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Multisports (Small Hall – Year 1 - Ms Rennison)	Chimney Sweep Theatre (Music Room - Years 1 and 2 then 3 and 4)	Rugby Minis (St Hilda's Hall - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) Shakespeare (Year 6 - Small Hall) Indian Music Club (Music Room – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Tuesday	Rugby Minis (Small Hall - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)	Knitting Club (Library – Years 5 and 6)	Shakespeare (Year 6 - Small Hall) Chimney Sweep Interactive Story Telling (Music Room – Rec, Year 1 and Year 2) Japanese Club (Key Stage 2)
Wednesday	Netball (Main Yard – Years 5 and 6 – Ms Rennison) Dance (Small Hall - Years 4,5,6 - Brooke)	Choir (Music Room – Years 3 and 4)	Football (Main Yard – Year 5 – Andy Cartwright) Ukulele (Music Room – Years 3,4,5 and 6) Art Club (Year 2) Badminton (Small Hall – Years 4 and 5 – Ms Rennison)
Thursday	Taekwondo (Small Hall – Years 2 and 3 - Faye)		Taekwondo (Small Hall – Years 4, 5 and 6 - Faye)
Friday	Girls Football (Main Yard – Years 5 and 6 – Ms Rennison) Fencing (Small Hall – Years 3,4,5 and 6 - Iain)	Choir (Music Room – Years 5 and 6)	Irish Dancing (Small Hall – Years 1-6 – Arthurs Mason) Art Club (Year 4)

## Free School Meals – Christmas Holidays

All families who are eligible for Free School Meals will receive vouchers again this Christmas (£20 per week). Please look out for notifications of them arriving and contact school if you have any questions

Have a lovely weekend everyone! Especially our hard working Christmas Elves!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)





## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week

❖ Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Year 2 & Year 3 Christmas Parties  
Reception RE visit to St George's Church

❖ Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Key Stage 1 Christmas Lunch  
Year 4 and Year 5 Christmas Parties



❖ Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Dance Club Show 2.30pm  
Year 1 & Year 6 Christmas Parties  
Winter Songs: Key Stage 2 (5-6pm)



❖ Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Reception Christmas Party

❖ Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Choir Singing at Fleming Court



### Further Ahead

❖ Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

End of Term

❖ Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Start of the Spring Term

❖ Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

