



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 10 Spring Term 2025



Through partially gritted teeth, we need to acknowledge the rather significant event that took place on Sunday! As it won't be until sometime in the late 2070's that it happens again, it only seems fair to mark Newcastle's victory. We had a lot of excited children, parents and staff on Monday and we were pleased to agree to the School Council and children's suggestion to have the choice of dressing in red or black and white/Newcastle strips on Comic Relief day.

It has been suggested that Newcastle's success was due to the good luck wished on them by Sophie and our dedicated catering team who cooked up a NUFC themed menu with special NUFC cookies and cakes for dessert!



Comic Relief at West Jesmond

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Comic Relief events at school today and to everyone who was able to donate to the cause. We had a very enjoyable whole school run (nearly 700 people) around the school to complete 40 miles to mark 40 years of Comic Relief. Our School Council led a special assembly to focus in on why we are holding the day and to help our children in their understanding of, and empathy for, people in our local and international communities who need our solidarity and support.



Neurodiversity Celebration week

This week, it is Neurodiversity Celebration Week and we have been discussing neurodiversity in classes and in the assemblies within school. We have looked at what neurodiversity means and how our differences and similarities enrich our West Jesmond School Family. Please talk with your children about this week and their understanding of neurodiversity.

Here are some useful videos, similar to the ones we are sharing with our children, that you may find interesting at home.

https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/Introducing+Neurodiversity+%28LEANS+resource+1.3%29/1_t9x6udrg/257595732

https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/Explaining+Needs+and+Wants+%28LEANS+resource+4.3%29/1_xpqf8pu/257595732

https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/Explaining+Fairness+%28LEANS+resource+5.3%29/1_xno6jmfc/257595732

Can we also remind all parents about our SEND focussed **Newcastle Parent Carer Forum Coffee Morning on Tuesday 25th March at 9:15-10:15 am?**

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Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley

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Special Musical Assembly

We were delighted to welcome one of our parents, Dr Nilufer, to our whole school assembly. Dr Nilufer is a musician who works at The Glasshouse. She told us all about her job and showed us the instruments she plays, which are part of the string family. She even treated us to a wonderful performance of some special pieces of music! Thank you for coming to our assembly Dr Nilufer!



Well Done Cross-Country Team

Well done to our Year 4, 5 and 6 Cross Country teams for their efforts in the Newcastle City Cross Country Competition at Watergate Park. They competed in teams of 6 with our Year 4 Girls, Year 4 Boys and Year 5 Girls and Year 6 Boys all placing 3rd in their leagues. The children immensely enjoyed running and cheering each other on while supporting all participating teams. A huge well done to everyone that took part! Hopefully there will be more events on the horizon for our superstars to shine in once again!



Well Done Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Year 6 Basketball team for their efforts this week. They played in a Newcastle Basketball Tournament on Tuesday afternoon. The team played brilliantly and had showed some fantastic basketball skills throughout the competition. Well done to the team!

Whole School Attendance 96.4%

Thank you to everyone for continuing to work so hard with school to ensure children have the very highest attendance at West Jesmond. Attendance continues to rise compared with the last few years and is above national averages. **Please remember that we cannot authorise holidays or extended visits overseas.** The school must be notified of any absence, except for illness using the Exceptional Absence Form that can be found on the school website or requested from the school office.

If you want any support from school or advice about attendance please speak with us. Our Family Support Officer, Emma Clark, our Wellbeing lead, Rachael Spanner and all members of the team are there to do all we can to support you and your child!

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

To be completed by parent		To be completed by the school that the child attends		
Please list the names of all children who will be absent		Current Attendance	Date of Receipt:	Recorded by:
Name of child (please print)	School / Class or Year Group		Name (please print)	Signature and Date
				Authorized %/%
Please note if 10 sessions over a 10 week period are missed and the reason is unauthorised absence due to holiday, a referral will be made to Attendance Services to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice - this will be £160 per pupil per parent.		For school use: In the event of late, email or telephone submission, how was the parent notified that absence was unauthorised?		
Original form will be returned to parent, a copy will be kept in school		Signed: _____ Date: _____		

Happy Holi

We hope all of our West Jesmond families who celebrated Holi at the end of last week and over the weekend had a very colourful and enjoyable time!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!
Matt Ward (Headteacher)



Dates for Your Diary

Next Week

- ❖ Tuesday 25th March SEND and Inclusion Parent Carer Coffee Morning
- ❖ Thursday 27th March Year 4 Healthy Lifestyles Event
- ❖ Friday 28th March Year 3 Trip to Hadrian's Wall
Cake Stall 4DO

Further Ahead

- ❖ Monday 31st March Year 2 Parents' Workshop
- ❖ Tuesday 1st April Dance Festival
- ❖ Wednesday 2nd April R1 to Laing Gallery
- ❖ Thursday 3rd April R2 & R3 to Laing Gallery
- ❖ Friday 11th April End of Spring Term

Summer Term

- ❖ Monday 28th April Start of Summer Term
- ❖ Friday 23rd May School Closed For Training Day

Half Term Break

- ❖ Monday 2nd June Return to school
- ❖ Friday 18th July 2025 End of Term

