



## West Jesmond Primary Family Newsletter 8 Spring Term 2026



School has been buzzing all week, possibly, more visitors to West Jesmond than ever before! Once again, can we say a special thank you to all of our parents, ex-parents and pupils and friends, who have given up time to come and inspire our children and who have made such an impression on everyone!

### West Jesmond Careers Week 2026

The aim of WJPS Careers Week is to share with everyone some of the many exciting opportunities, interests and learning they may want to explore as they get older.

We hope your children have told you what a busy and exciting week it has been!

We wanted to share and celebrate the range and diversity of the visits with you. Here are just a few of the events from Careers Week – apologies to any of our parent visitors not mentioned here! To see more of our visitors look on our Weduc and Facebook pages)

We kicked off our Careers Week with a visit from West Jesmond alumni, Claire, who came to talk to us about her role as a barrister. Following a whole school assembly, she turned each Year 6 classroom into a courtroom with a judge, jury, witnesses, prosecutors and defence. We discussed and practised the skills needed for each role within the courtroom.



Year 6 also had an exciting and fascinating visit from Leigh, who works as an airline pilot. Leigh told us all about his job, the shift work, the early starts and late finishes, and who sits with him in his 'office' the cockpit of the plane. He showed us videos from his viewpoint of a plane taking off and then landing. He also shared his career pathway with us and told us about the many benefits to his job; such as lots of travel, plenty of time off, the opportunity to work abroad and a competitive salary. Thank you for coming in to speak to us Leigh!



Neuroscientists Clara and Wolf came to talk to Year 6 about their roles and research. We learned about how different animals' brains develop and how important observational skills are to researchers.



**Headteacher: Matt Ward**

**Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley**

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MUSIC MARK SCHOOL

Year 1 were so excited to have a visit from local police officers for careers week. The police officers talked to us all about the different roles in the police and how they keep us and our local community safe. They said their favourite thing about their job was that they got to help people. Lots of the children said they were inspired to be police officers when they grew up.



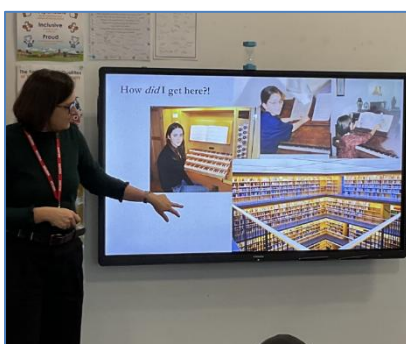
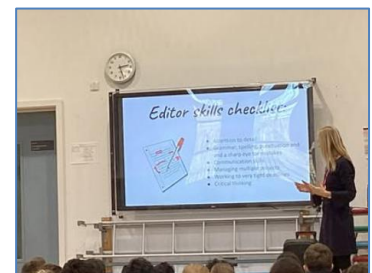
Each Year group took part in an Enterprise Day organised by Primary Enterprise World. Year 4 considered what it means to live in an urban area and designed our own cities. We also had to think about all the things that adults have to spend their money on when they create a budget for their family. During the afternoon, we thought about how we might plan an event to raise money for charity, designing posters to advertise our ideas

Year 5 had a great start to 'Careers Week' with a visit from an ex-pupil Ajaz Rafi. He delivered an assembly to all of KS2 about the digital world and what he does for a living. He is a team leader in a digital department! In our workshop we designed robots that could help in our school! He told us all about the different roles within the software programming industry and prompted us to consider which skills are needed for each role. Ajaz emphasised the importance of the tech industry in our increasingly digital world.



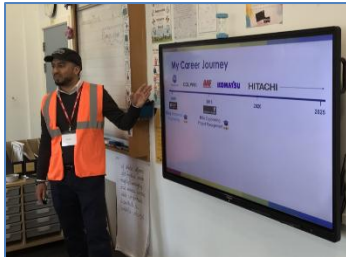
We had a brilliant and inspiring talk from developer, Neil. Neil talked us through his career pathway and then told us all about his own company, TOWN, which focuses on making places that enable people to live happy, healthy and prosperous lives while treading lightly on the planet. Neil also told us about lots of other exciting careers within the built environment. Thank you for coming in to talk to us Neil!

Years 5 and 6 had a fantastic visit from author, Steph Bellwood. She told us all about the creative writing and editing process. Steph also explained that you need a wide range of skills to be a writer, for example, organisation, planning, researching and time management.



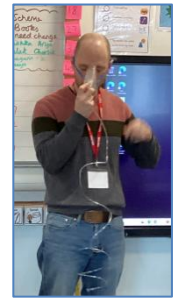
Katherine from Durham University told Year 4 all about her job as a musicologist. As a child she loved music and she was able to turn this passion into a job researching the history of music. She likes to research how people have used music throughout history. Thank you for a fascinating insight into your job!

Year 2 had a visit from Charlotte Flower who is a civil engineer. She showed us some of the projects she has worked on, including designing and building bridges and wind ports. She spoke to us about the skills needed to be in this career, like teamwork and problem solving. Thanks for visiting us, Charlotte!



Year 4 had a visit from former student Umayr who is a chartered engineer. He took us through his career pathway and told us all about his fascinating job working for Hitachi on the development of high-speed trains and all the skills it takes to be an engineer. Thank you for a great visit!

We met Jim Hanson, an anaesthetist from the hospital. We found out what his job involves and what kind of skills he has to have. He told about his career path and how much training he has had. He shared with us some of equipment he uses for his job and let us have a try.



Year 5 and 6 were treated to a fabulous insight to Life at a University by Helena. Helena told us all about lots of the different course options available to study, what clubs and societies you could choose to join (including some very unusual ones!) and what it is like to learn at university in a lecture. Helena told us all about her job as a university lecturer at Northumbria University and how important storytelling is whatever job you might choose to do in the future. She even told us about a very exciting book she has researched and written, which isn't even out yet! Thank you so much for coming to

talk to us Helena!

We had a fantastic visit from James Wokes who is a plastic surgeon. We found what he does in his job, what he wears to prepare for a surgery and what skills are needed, for example, team work. Thanks for your time, James



We had dentists visiting Year 1! They came to talk to us all about how to take care of our teeth and keep our smiles bright and healthy. They explained that brushing our teeth twice a day helps to stop germs from hurting our teeth and making holes called cavities. The dentists also told us why it's important to eat healthy foods and not too many sugary snacks. Everyone had a chance to ask questions, and the dentists showed us the best way to brush to keep our teeth strong.

## Festival of The Girl

Thank you to one of our parents who has told us about another very interesting STEM and careers-based event coming up soon in Newcastle that might be interesting for lots of our families!

Festival of The Girl Newcastle is an exciting festival on Saturday 21st March at Newcastle University's Sports Hall. The event opens doors to hands-on workshops, immersive activities, and empowering opportunities to explore topics including sport, STEM, physical and mental health, friendships, sustainability, and future careers.

It's an opportunity for young girls to explore exciting activities, meet inspiring role models, and build confidence in a safe, inclusive space.

Events are designed for girls aged 7–11 and their families (boys also welcome).

Event flyer and image for one the events (attached). More information and link to the tickets are available here: <https://www.festivalofthegirl.com/newcastle>



The flyer for the Festival of The Girl Newcastle is vibrant with green and purple stripes. It features the NorthStandard logo in partnership with Newcastle University. The event is scheduled for Saturday 21 March at the Sports Hall, Newcastle University, for 7-11 year old girls and their families. A QR code is provided for ticket information. The flyer lists various activities and workshops ranging from engineering to sports, aerospace to construction, shipping to science, mental health to sustainability, politics to friendships, and forensics to activism. It also states that although aimed at girls, everyone is welcome, and tickets are available via QR code or website at www.festivalofthegirl.com, with pay-what-you-can and SEND options available. Images show children participating in activities and a girl using a power drill.

## Reminder Parent Consultations 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March

If you haven't already, please remember to sign up for your Parent Consultation on Tuesday 17th March and Thursday 19th March between 3.30-6.00pm.

## Friends' Storytelling Evening

Thank you so much to everyone who came to our World Book Day Storytelling evening and thank you to the Friends for organising such an enjoyable event. We hope you enjoyed the books and stories, and we all think you were a great audience! Here a few of the storytellers!



## Achievers

This week, we celebrate a super skier, proud rugby player back from playing in Scotland, a great cheerleader and a very proud swimmer! Well done!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week

- ❖ Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March Book Fair before and after school  
Year 4 Cricket Coach sessions
- ❖ Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March Shakespeare Performance Northern Stage
- ❖ Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March Under 9's Football Team Matches
- ❖ Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March Cake Stall 5D

### Further ahead

- ❖ Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evenings
- ❖ Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March Year 1 School Trip to Hancock Museum
- ❖ Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March **Comic Relief**
- ❖ Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Year 2 Parents Workshop (9am)  
Year 3 Trip to Housesteads
  
- ❖ Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March Reception Trip to Northumberland Zoo
- ❖ Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March Spring Music Concert
  
- ❖ Break up for Easter Holiday Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April
  
- ❖ Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April Start of Summer Term
  
- ❖ Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May Children's Cancer Run
  
- ❖ Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May **International Evening**
  
- ❖ Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Break up for Half Term
  
- ❖ Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June Back to school
  
- ❖ Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July End of Summer Term



West Jesmond Primary  
School



# Breakfast and After School Club



AVAILABLE  
TO ALL:  
**RECEPTION -  
Y6**



**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

**SERVICES  
PROVIDED:**

- **Breakfast Club**  
8-8.45am  
£7.50 pp, per session
- **After School Club**  
3.20-5.55pm  
£15.50 pp, per session
- **10% sibling discount applied to subsequent child bookings**



**Sessions now available! Please  
contact the office for further  
details**

(subject to confirmation and demand)



**OFFICE@WESTJESMOND.NEWCASTLE.SCH.UK**

