



West Jesmond Family Newsletter 14 Autumn Term 2024



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 of 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 created such energetic and uplifting performances this week. We are so proud of all of them 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.



Key Stage 2 Winter Songs: Wednesday 18th December 5pm

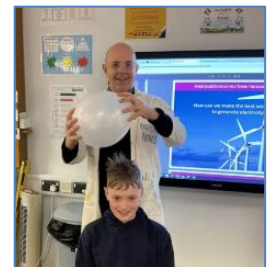
To end the term, families of children in Years 3 to 6 are invited to join in with the choir and performers from each year group for an evening of festive song and maybe even a mince pie!

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. Sorry there is no brass band this year, but we hope parents will help us to fill the yard with song by joining in with us! Younger siblings are welcome, but can we ask that they stay with you during the songs.



Hair-Raising Science In Year 6!

This week in science, Y6 have been researching the work of Michael Faraday. We found out how static led to the discovery on electricity and what effect it has on us. It didn't work on Professor Jones though...



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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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 16th	Year 2	Year 6
Tuesday 17th	Year 1	
Wednesday 18th	Year 3	Year 4
Thursday 19th	Reception	Year 5

Year 1 Toy Historians

In Year 1, we were lucky enough to have some grandparents come into school to visit us a couple of weeks ago. They were in helping us with our 'Toys Past and Present' history topic. When they came into school they brought with them some of their old toys. We were able to hold them and feel them.



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 15th January at 9am**. Please look out for the WEDUC sign up and information about parental settings on devices next week. 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>

Panto Fun!

On Wednesday, some of us were lucky enough to get a wonderful treat, going to see the fabulous Peter Pan pantomime at Whitley Bay Playhouse. What a treat!



Year 5 and 6 Online Safety Training

This week, Year 5 and Year 6 worked with Northumbria Police on staying safe online. We learnt about age restriction, privacy settings and the consequences of sharing online content. Ask us what our top tips are!

Friends' School Raffle

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets for our Friends' Christmas Raffle.

Well done to the lucky ones who won one of the many great prizes!

Here are some of our School Council along with our Friends Team and our new Deputy head Mark Dinsley drawing the tickets.



Seven Stories At Christmas

Seven Stories are delighted to announce that they are delivering the HAF Programme again this year as part of Newcastle's Best Holiday Ever.



They will be running free sessions on **Friday 27th December, Monday 30th December, Thursday 2nd January and Friday 3rd January** from 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm.

Sessions will take place at Seven Stories, and are open to any pupils entitled to **means tested free school meals** as places are intended for those most in need. Children will get to take part in interactive story times, crafts, exploring our magical building and local area and will finish with a hot meal.

Places are limited, please book via the website through <https://sevenstories.org.uk/event/haf-best-winter-ever-2024/>

Eco Team Christmas tree Winner...

Well done to the Eco Team, Miss De Vere and Mr Cook for creating this great tree made of recycled materials for the St Hilda's Christmas tree competition. It won first prize in its group after voting from the public!



& A Christmas Card Winner!

One of our talented Year 1 children won the prize for the annual Christmas card competition for the Newcastle Virtual School! This design will be sent out across Newcastle!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary



Next Week:

- ❖ **Monday 16th December** **Year 2 and Year 6 Parties**
- ❖ **Tuesday 17th December** **Winter Stories with Chris Bostock (Yr. 1 & 2)**
Key Stage 2 Christmas Lunch
Year 1 Party

- ❖ **Wednesday 18th November 5-6pm** **Year 3 Party**
Winter Songs by Lantern Light Key Stage 2
Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Lunch

- ❖ **Thursday 19th** **Reception and Year 5 Parties**

- ❖ **Friday 20th December** **End of Term**

Further Ahead

- ❖ **Monday 6th January** **Start of the Spring Term 2025**

- ❖ **Wednesday 15th January** **Parent Online Safety Workshop (9am)**