



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 14 Autumn Term 2022



Christmas Performances

Thank you to everyone who came to watch our performances this week. We are so proud of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children for their singing, dancing and acting and for giving so much energy to the shows. This was the first time we have been able to perform Christmas shows to an audience since 2019 and it was lovely to have you all back with us. Thank you to all the staff for the enormous effort they put in to rehearsing with our children and creating the great performances. We hope they gave you a glow of warmth and happiness during a very cold week!



Climate Super Heroes Kids

Last Friday was the final day of this term's KATS (Kids Action Through Science) project, focusing on being Climate Superheroes. This was the second time our children have been fortunate enough to take part in this amazing project. The children took part in a celebration, with several of our local schools, where we showcased the work we had done on sea turtles, took part in a quiz, went on a treasure hunt around the Great North Museum, created recycled boats and made key rings from sea waste. We are really proud of all our children who took part in the project. Huge thanks to Andrea, Elle and their team from Newcastle University who enabled us to be involved in such an incredible learning opportunity.



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Presents Thank you

We received this enormous thank you card this week. It came from a member of our community who has received a present from children in the school. The card was full of lovely comments about the children and the gifts.

"We received gifts we were not expecting, but we were overjoyed to find out it was with kindness and consideration of the caring children in your school. All the senior folk here send their heartfelt "Thank You" to your fine pupils.

I know these sentiments will be shared by many other older members of our community who received the gifts you and your children sent in to school as a part of our Home Instead Christmas campaign – thank you!



Healthy Eating in Year 3

Year 3 wanted to share with us some of their work in Food technology this week.

They practised skills for cutting, grating and peeling and prepared a healthy sandwich. They then carefully evaluated the sandwiches and, of course, enjoyed a taste test!



Computing curriculum and Keeping safe Online

We were very pleased to welcome Martin Bailey from Animate2Educate into school to meet with our Science Leader Alex Mackellar to help further develop our WJPS Computing Curriculum. We are very proud of our Computing curriculum, but in a very fast moving world of technology we are always looking for the very latest ways to enhance our children's learning.

We have also recently worked with safeguarding consulting Dan Tolan who spoke with all of our Year 5 and Year 6 children about the risks they can face while online and strategies to keep themselves safe. Look out for further information, to help parents, coming out next week.



IMPORTANT: Reminder: Ordering School Dinners from Home in 2023

When we return to school in January 2023, school will no longer be taking school meal options in school. This will be done by Parent/Carers at home using the **iPay Impact system**. **This includes parents who do not normally pay for meals (Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and those eligible for Free School Meals)**

This will allow you to talk with your child about their choices and to have more input into what your child is eating in school. You will be able to quickly order your meals for a 3 week period in advance. You will also pay for any school meals taken using this system and not WEDUC as of January 2023.

Winter illness and Strep A Advice

Parents will be aware of widely reported cases of some childhood illnesses this year. We have been advised that increases of illnesses such as Strep A are not unusual for the time of year, but we do know that heightened awareness can raise concerns and questions about when and where to seek advice. Here is a useful link for parents to help them know when to seek help from the GP services: <http://nhs.uk/strep-a>.

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

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	Multi-sports (Year 3/4)	Chimney Sweep Drama (Year 1,2, 3 and 4)	Running (Year 4/5) Hockey (Year 3/4) Shakespeare (Year 6)
Tuesday	Fencing (Years 3,4,5 and 6)	Chatty Tuesdays (Years 3,4,5 and 6) School Council	Basketball (Year 5/6) Netball (Year 5/6) Shakespeare (Year 6)
Wednesday	Dance (Years 4,5 and 6)	Cube Club (Year 5/6) Choir (Year 3/4)	Girls' Football (Year 5/6) Art (Year 2) Film Club (KS2)
Thursday	Taekwon-Do (Year 1/2)	Chess (Year 3/4) Choir (Year 5/6)	Taekwon-Do (Years 3,4,5 and 6) Hockey (Year 5/6)
Friday	Multi-sports (Year 2)		Art (Year 4) Djembe Drumming (Year 6) Multi-sports (Year 1)

Happy Hanukkah

All of us at West Jesmond would like to wish our families who will be celebrating Hanukkah over the next week peace, hope and happiness and light!



Have a lovely, wrapped up, weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)



Dates for Your Diary

(Please also check Weduc)

❖ Monday 19th December

Reception and Key Stage 1 (Yr. 1-2) Christmas Dinner
Year 4 and 5 Christmas Parties



❖ Tuesday 20th December

Reception Christmas Party

❖ Wednesday 21st December

Key Stage 2 Winter Songs on the Yard

Year 2 Christmas Party

Chris Bostock Storyteller Visit



❖ Thursday 22nd December

Year 3 and Year 1 Christmas Party



❖ **End of Term**

Thursday 22nd December

❖ Friday 23rd December

School Closed For Staff Development Day



❖ **Monday 9th January 2023**

Start of Spring Term

