



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 13 Spring Term 2025



We think there are many things that make our school so special and one of the most important is the diversity of the backgrounds of our children and families that make up our enriched West Jesmond Family. Our children come from Jesmond, Newcastle, different parts of this country and from all over the world and play, learn and grow together at West Jesmond. We celebrate our backgrounds at many times in school, through our curriculum, assemblies, events and celebrations. One of the most important school events is our annual International Evening.

International Evening 2025 Thursday 22nd May

West Jesmond Primary School International Evening will return on Thursday the 22nd of May!

As the sun starts shining, it is time to put on our best outfits, cook up a storm and get ready to dance and sing along with our amazing performers! We always have an amazing turnout and it is a fantastic chance to share the food, music and traditions of our, incredibly diverse, West Jesmond Family.

The event is free, so join us and bring **food and drinks** to share, this could be anything from cream teas to bhajis and all food contributions will be shared in a street party style.

We are looking for talented **performers** to take to our stage! If you and/ or any family or community members would like to play, dance or demonstrate please get in touch as soon as possible, with an idea of what you would like to share!

We are also looking for people who would like to share **crafts, clothes or traditions** away from the stage at stands around the event.

Please email Verity Groot v.groot@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk to express interest in performing or helping in any way!



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Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley

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Safe Journeys to School: How you can keep our children safe this summer?

Everyone agrees that the traffic, parking and turning outside of school is unsafe, unhealthy and unpleasant for our children, but we need your help to change this!

Over the summer term, we would like to encourage everyone to do all they can to walk, cycle or scooter to school. We want a big push to help our children to be healthy, happy and ready for school, by making safe and environmentally friendly journeys to school.

We continue to press the Newcastle City Council to create additional road markings and restrictions around school and to enforce those that are there. We are still waiting for promised markings and restrictions that have been consulted on, but have now been told they will not be after Easter, as we hoped, but later in the year.

Park and stride: There is always parking 5-10 minutes away from our school. If you have no choice but to drive, please do not park around the school on Tankerville Terrace. If you are coming from Gosforth, the north or west of Newcastle, why not consider parking around the other side of the moor and joining our families (and Mr Ward) who enjoy the privilege of walking, cycling, and scootering across the moor in the morning?



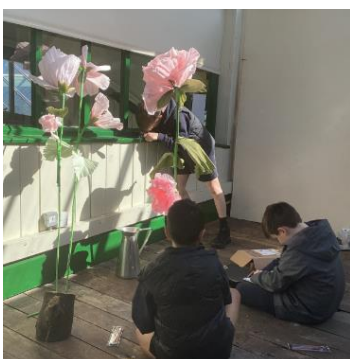
Reception Explore What Does it Mean To Be An Artist?

Reception have had a wonderful few weeks exploring the question "What does it mean to be an artist?". We have been exploring artwork from a range of artists and experimented with creating our own artwork from paintings, sketches, photography, portraits, sculptures and even fashion. A particular highlight was our trip to the Laing Art Gallery where we were asked to think about how different art made us feel and also how to express different feelings in our pictures and drawings. A huge thank you to the friends of West Jesmond for funding the trip and the workshop.



More Talented Artists And A Very Talented Member Of Staff!

On Thursday, a group of us went to the gallery on the bridge in Tynemouth metro station to see the artwork we have created in school, come to life. Whilst there, we proudly planted our own sculptured flowers into part of a new exhibition, learnt about the history of the gallery, met with the curator, gallery assistant and artist (**our own Miss McKay!**) and had a wonderful time sketching, admiring and observing our own creations and of course, seeing our name in print as part of a real exhibition! The exhibition is running for the next month, so if you are out and about at the coast in the holidays, please go and check it out!



Young Engineers

At West Jesmond, We are very proud of our links with the universities in Newcastle and the enriched opportunities they provide our children. This week, a group of Year 5 children went to Newcastle University's School of Engineering to visit Maryam, who is an engineer, for the launch of our project Young Engineers Make the Future 2025: Wind Energy. We had a fantastic tour around the university facilities and then began working together, collaboratively and creatively, to develop our project design ideas into a potential finished product.



Easter Visitor

On Monday, as a part of our learning in RE, Year 4 were visited by Reverend Debbie from St Hilda's and St George's who talked to us about how important forgiveness is to Christians and about Easter. Thanks for visiting!



Year 4 Art Workshop

Year 4 had an art workshop with Rhonda, who runs Art Club, to learn how to draw a self-portrait. Thank you so much for coming in to help us Rhonda, we are really proud of our artwork!



Year 2 Design and Technology Parents' Workshop

Last Week, Year 2 welcomed parents and carers into school for their Design & Technology workshop. The children worked with their families to create a vehicle that they had researched and designed as a part of their mechanics topic. Thank you to all those who could attend!



Children's Achievements

Lots of children have come to see us this week to celebrate their work in school. We have had many, many children being awarded their 100 Dojos, some great writing and a huge amount of pride in progress over the term. We have also been told about some exciting successes out of school.



We would like to start with the very exciting news that Martha and her partner have been selected to join Team England to dance in the Juvenile Sequence at the British Dance Championships in Blackpool! This is an amazing achievement and we are so incredibly proud of her and the whole school will be wishing her the very best and can't wait to find out how it goes!

One of our talented Year 2 children has been extremely successful at a local area (Tyne region) inter-club Judo competition, where he won first place among the under 8 boys competition. This was only his third competition after starting practicing Judo in September 2024. He's a member of the Battle Hill Judo Club. He also successfully passed his Sho grading (official British Judo Association exams) to move levels and is now a yellow and white belt (Sho 2 level).



We know you will be as impressed as we were by this very skilfully created piece of art by one of our Year 5 children in her art classes. The piece was inspired by Georgia O' Keefe and beautifully captures the colours, depth and in-depth study of the flowers! We think this will shine out from any wall it hung on!

We also wanted to share with you a picture of two of our rugby stars who have been on a very successful tour and shared their successes and medals with us!



BENEFITS OF TAEKWON-DO



Builds Confidence - Children learn to believe in themselves as they master new skills and earn their belts.

Improves Focus and Discipline - Taekwon-Do helps kids develop concentration, listening skills, and respect for others.

Encourages Physical Fitness - Through fun and active classes, children stay healthy and develop strength, balance, and coordination.

Teaches Self-Defense in a Safe Way - Kids gain practical skills to protect themselves, all while learning control and responsibility.

Fosters Friendship and Teamwork - Classes provide a positive, social environment where children make friends and feel part of a supportive community.

West Jesmond Primary School,

Thursdays 8 a.m. Y2&3.

Thursdays 3:30 p.m. Y4+

Enquire at:

www.northeastmartialarts.co.uk/school-clubs.html

Taekwondo Club!

A number of children from WJPS were successful in their belt tests last weekend. Here is a photo of a very proud student holding her new belt! They did a fantastic job and worked very hard on both their physical skills and their theory tests. Paris and Tony were very proud of them.



Spaces Available

There are a few spaces available currently at this popular club. Please see the posters below. Remember if your child is eligible for Free school Meals, the school will fund the place at any club. Please speak to the school office about this club and any other club.

Jesmond Community Festival

Jesmond Community Festival is coming up in May. There are lots of events for all the family over the month and our school are involved in a number including a musical showcase at the library, open allotment and an art exhibition.

[Jesmond Community Festival | Annual Showcase for Community Activities](#)

One great family and community opportunity is the Jesmond Garden Awards! All the family can join in to make our front gardens great for wildlife and wonderful to look at for everyone walking past!



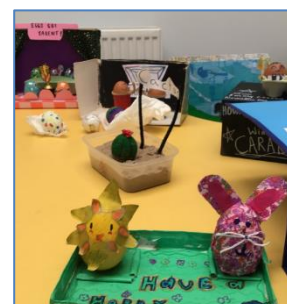
Digital Leaders

Our West Jesmond Digital Leaders had a fantastic visit to the Apple Store today. We learned all about how to code our very own app using programming language and designed our own characters and storylines. A huge thank you to the amazing staff at the Apple Store for giving us all such a memorable experience!'



Decorated Eggs!

Thank you to all of our children who marked the end of term and the start of the Spring and Easter holidays by bringing in a decorated egg! We enjoyed looking at them in our Egg-hibition. What a creative lot you all are! Every child who brought in an egg has been awarded one of our certificates of Egg-cellence!



Have a lovely holiday everyone!
Matt Ward (Headteacher)