



## West Jesmond Primary Family Newsletter 3 Spring Term 2026



It has been a bit of a dark and cold week for our West Jesmond families, but the days are slowly getting a little lighter - and there are some early signs of spring! 🌸

This weekend is the perfect time to take part in the **Big Garden Birdwatch** (details attached). Whether you're outside or watching from your window, it's a great way to connect with nature.

### Welcome Molly!

We are delighted to warmly welcome Molly Atkin to our West Jesmond Family! Molly joins Mahnaz, Sarah and Nikki in our school office. I know she has already met with many of you and thank you for making her feel so welcome.



### Inclusion Coffee Morning For Parents 11<sup>th</sup> February: All Welcome

All parents and carers are welcome to join us for an informal drop-in coffee morning on Wednesday the 11th of February 9am-10am. It will be a great opportunity to make connections with other families; find out what support and resources are available in schools and in the community and talk to professionals and organisations that will be able to offer advice on a range of issues. It will include information on SEN drop-in sessions, Autism Hub information and also a range of parenting workshops or sessions. These will cover a variety of topics such as understanding your child's emotions, sleep workshops, as well as many other areas of family support.

### Year 6 Special Author Visit

Year 6 were really lucky to have a visit from local author, and ex-member of staff, Steph Bellwood, who wrote our class texts - *Crimes of their Times* and *Wayward Women*. Steph told us all about the history of Anne Askew and her family and gave us a bit of background on Tudor punishments. She also told us about the importance of religion during the Tudor period. Steph read us the first part of the story of Anne Askew, and we had a chance to ask some of our questions too. A huge thanks to Steph - we can't wait to read the rest of the story!



**Headteacher:** Matt Ward

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mark Dinsley

West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 3AJ

📞 (0191) 2810000 📧 office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk

🌐 www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk



## Well Done Boccia Team!

Here is a photo of our excellent Year 5 Boccia team who went to Walker Dome for the Boccia Festival on Wednesday.

Boccia is a fast growing and very inclusive sport of strategy and accuracy. Our team competed against other schools by throwing and rolling coloured balls as close as possible to a white target ball, known as the jack. Well done team WJPS!



## 100 Dojo Achievements

Many of your children will be coming home over this term with their 100 Dojo certificates. We award Dojos when we see our children following the West Jesmond Way around school and demonstrating the Fantastic Five Qualities of West Jesmond Learners. The children come to see us to be awarded their special certificates and to talk about the efforts that helped them to earn them. We hope all children will gain their certificates this year and we look forward to seeing their proud faces arriving at our office door!



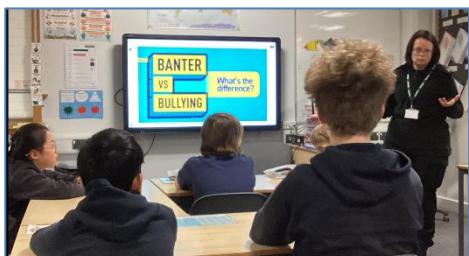
## Year 1 Sculpture

The Year 1 art topic this half term is sculpture. A lot of exploration and enjoyment took place this week as the children embraced making sculptures out of recyclable materials. Thank you to all the families who brought into school, copious amounts, of boxes, tubes, egg cartons, tins and other materials for the children to use.



## Cyber Bullying Workshop

Vicky from Northumbria Police came to talk to Year 6 this week about bullying and cyber bullying. She told us all about what bullying is and how it includes an imbalance of power in a relationship. We also talked about the word banter and how it can escalate and turn into bullying. Vicky also talked to us about cyber bullying and what to do if we see or experience this.



**How is online bullying different to face to face bullying?**

- ◆ It can happen anywhere and anytime
- ◆ Lots of people can see what is being said
- ◆ Evidence can be kept
- ◆ If you don't know the identity of the bully it can be scary
- ◆ You can't see the person's reaction and therefore the impact



## Would You Like A Place For Out of School Club?

We currently have a number of places available at our Breakfast and After School Club and have some flexibility if parents want particular days or sessions. Please contact our school business Manager, Nikki Corbett, in the school office to see what we can offer to suit your needs.



## Big Garden Birdwatch

This weekend, our school, led by our Eco Committee, is taking part in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds **Big Garden Birdwatch**. It is the world's largest garden wildlife survey and every year hundreds of thousands of nature lovers take part.

Sign up for free at the RSPB website [Big Garden Birdwatch](#) to record your sightings and help us learn how birds are thriving in our area! All you need to do is make a tally of how many birds you see land in your garden and send this information to the RSPB. Please see the attached information that comes with this newsletter which can be printed at home so you can take part.

Our Eco Team have drawn a few examples of birds you might see in your garden over the weekend. Let your class teacher know if you spot any of them!



## Mrs Groot Fundraising Challenge!

In September, Mrs Groot is doing a 10km Charity swim through Snowdonia one of the UK's wildest open water swims! She will be raising money for Level Water, a charity who teaches children with disabilities to swim and discover the freedom of being in the water.

If any families would like to support Mrs Groot here is her Just Giving page and information about the charity.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/verity-groot-1?newPage=true>

<https://www.levelwater.org/who-we-are>

Have a lovely weekend everyone! (it might stop raining!)

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week

- ❖ **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January**
- ❖ **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

**Year 4 Trip to El Torero**

**Cake Stall 6S**

### Further ahead

- ❖ **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**
- ❖ **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Weds 11<sup>th</sup> February**
- ❖ **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**
- ❖ **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**
- ❖ **Half Term Holiday**
- ❖ **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**
- ❖ **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**
- ❖ **Weds 4<sup>th</sup> – Tues 10<sup>th</sup> March**
- ❖ **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**
- ❖ **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**
- ❖ **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

**Choir of The Year (Glasshouse)**

**Year 4 Robinwood Residential**

**KS1 Disco (3.30-5pm)**

**School Closed for OLT Training Day**

**Back to school**

**Careers and Enterprise Week**

**Scholastic Book Fair in school**

**Shakespeare Performance Northern Stage**

**Parent Consultation Evenings**

**Comic Relief**

- ❖ **Break up for Easter Holiday Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

- ❖ **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April Start of Summer Term**

**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

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

AVAILABLE  
TO ALL:  
RECEPTION -  
Y6

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

(subject to confirmation and demand)

OFFICE@WESTJESMOND.NEWSCASTLE.SCH.UK