



West Jesmond Primary Family Newsletter 7 Spring Term 2026



Welcome back to the start of the new half term!

Celebrating Academic Achievement at West Jesmond

At West Jesmond, we are always cautious with how we share our academic data as we know that beneath every figure there are the individual journeys of children. We are most proud of the achievement each child makes from their individual starting points and these achievements and success are not always measured in formal tests.

However, we were very pleased to recently receive a letter from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson, congratulating us on the attainment of children at West Jesmond. We wanted to celebrate the achievements of our children when they leave us at the end of Year 6 and to share with our parents our validated data for West Jesmond that we received just before Christmas and is now on the DFE website.

Last year, and over the last three years, the attainment of children at West Jesmond has been judged as well above national standards **Above Sig+**

WJPS Reading Expected Standard 92% of children (National 75%)

WJPS Maths Expected Standard 92% of children (National 74%)

WJPS GPS* Expected Standard 96% of children (National 73%)

*Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

WJPS Writing Expected Standard 86% of children (National 72%)

Highest Standards!

We were very pleased with the extremely large percentage of children who reached the highest, greater depth, levels across all subjects. In most subjects, the numbers of children reaching the higher standard has been at least double the national averages.

WJPS Reading Higher Standard 63% of children (National 33%)

WJPS Maths Higher Standard 56% of children (National 26%)

WJPS GPS Higher Standard 66% of children (National 30%)

WJPS Writing Higher Standard 30% of children (National 13%)

The achievement of every child is created by their hard work and determination and the partnership and support of all of you at home – thank you!

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



West Jesmond Careers Week 2026

Next week, we are holding our annual WJPS Careers Week. Once again, Mrs Oades has created an incredibly busy programme of exciting activities to inform and inspire our children as they learn more about some of the opportunities they might be interested in, as they grow older. During the week, our many visitors will talk to children about how their interests, education and passions helped them to develop their careers. Thank you to all of the parents and friends who have volunteered to come in during the week. <https://nationalcareersweek.com/>

Parent Consultations 17th and 19th March

You will have received a Weduc message this week about signing up for Parent Consultations on **Tuesday 17th March** and **Thursday 19th March** between 3.30-6.00pm.

Our Parent Consultations are the opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making in their learning and in their wider personal development in school and to raise any questions or concerns you may have.

Please remember, that outside of these formal meetings, you are always welcome to talk with your child's teacher or any of our team.

Year 5 and 6 Artists

A group of Year 5 and 6 children went to The Bridge Gallery in Tynemouth Metro Station to see the brilliant exhibition currently on display by our very own artist, Miss McKay. Before we went, we put our artistic talent to the test and all created our own swimmers out of plasticine, in an art workshop, in school. We took these with us today and were delighted to place them on their very own swimming pools in the gallery, as part of the exhibition. The exhibition is on until the end of March, so please check out our artistic talent if you happen to be passing!



Whole School Attendance Update: 96.9%

Our school attendance at the end of last half term was 96.9%. We are incredibly pleased that this puts us in the top 10% of schools nationally and reflects the efforts of parent and children to attend as often as possible. We know that every day matters in supporting children's progress in their learning.

Attendance for a few children remains below this average and a small number of West Jesmond children have attendance below 90% which is the figure the government judge to be persistent absentees. We know and respect that, for a small number of children in our school, there are clear reasons for lower attendance. However, where a child has lower attendance, we want to work closely with parents and carers to help support you and your child to be able to come to school. If your child has attendance below expectations, we will contact you to explore ways we can work together to increase their time in school.

When should My Child Come To School?

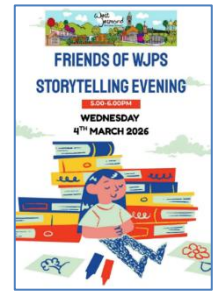
Sometimes we are asked 'should my child come to school?' Our website has lots of information about attendance, including useful advice about childhood health, including the links below.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

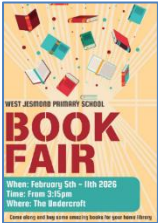
[West Jesmond Primary - Supporting Attendance](#)

Storytelling Evening Reminder: Next Wednesday!

The Friends of West Jesmond are inviting all families to a story telling evening on Wednesday 4th March from 5pm - 6pm at school. Come in your pyjamas, bring your favourite soft toy and settle down to hear the West Jesmond staff read their favourite bedtime stories. You will be able to buy hot chocolate and bedtime snacks from the Friends and buy pre-loved books if you wish. **Please book a place for each child via Weduc in the payments section.** The tickets are £2 per child. All children must be accompanied by an adult (there is no charge for adults).



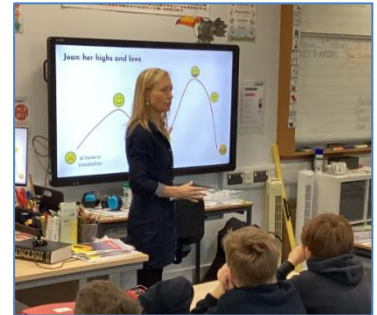
Book Fair Next Week



From Wednesday 4th March - Tuesday 10th March, the Scholastic Book Fair will be visiting school. At the end of the school day, you will find a selection of exciting new titles available to purchase, located on the main yard. The book fair will also be available at the Storytelling Evening on Wednesday 4th March. The fair is a great way to encourage your child's love of reading. The money raised from the fair also helps the school to raise funds to purchase further books for children within school.

Author Visit To year 6

On Tuesday, Year 6 had a wonderful visit from Steph Bellwood, author of our class texts, 'Crimes of their Times' and 'Wicked Wayward Women'. We loved our workshop where we explored the character of Joan Bracey and investigated how her mood and emotions changed throughout the course of the story. We collected a huge range of vocabulary for our working walls which will help us with our own creative writing.



Achievers

This week, we celebrate two fantastic cheerleaders with their medals and a very proud swimmer with his 5-metre badge! Well done!



Secret Garden Mural

Spring has arrived early on our school yard! We are very pleased with the new mural for the Secret Garden. It was created by a group of our children along with Ronda Crosby who runs the Art Clubs. It is part of an improvement of our outdoor spaces led by the School Council and Mrs Oades. Please can you help us by asking your children not to run or climb in the Secret Garden area before or after school.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week

- ❖ **Monday 2nd – Friday 6th March** **Careers and Enterprise Week**
- ❖ **Monday 2nd March** **Year 4 Cricket coaching sessions**
- ❖ **Wednesday 4th March** **Storytelling Evening**
- ❖ **Thursday 5th March – Tuesday 10th March** **Book Fair in the Undercroft after school**
- ❖ **Friday 6th March** **Cake Stall FR**

Further ahead

- ❖ **Tuesday 10th March** **Shakespeare Performance Northern Stage**
- ❖ **Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th** **Parent Consultation Evenings**
- ❖ **Friday 20th March** **Comic Relief**

- ❖ **Break up for Easter Holiday Thursday 2nd April**

- ❖ **Monday 20th April Start of Summer Term**

- ❖ **Sunday 17th May** **Children's Cancer Run**

- ❖ **Thursday 21st May** **International Evening**

- ❖ **Friday 22nd May** **Break up for Half Term**

- ❖ **Monday 1st June** **Back to school**

- ❖ **Friday 17th 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

