



The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 9 Spring Term 2025



Shakespeare at the Northern Stage

I am writing this newsletter fresh from watching our very talented Year 6 Shakespearian actors performing Macbeth at the Northern Stage theatre. It is hard to write with hands sore from so much applauding! The children have all worked so hard as a team to create this fantastic performance full of drama, tension and memorable scenes! I know all the family, friends, teachers and the wider audience who watched it shared the great pride in our West Jesmond performers. We are very grateful to our brilliant directors Mrs Nelson and Miss Donnelley and for working with our children to develop this tremendous production!



From Little Acorns...

Some acorns planted by our children in 2018 have, since then, been looked after at the school allotment and adopted by our Year 5 children. They were ready to plant out and Jesmond Dene agreed to include them as part of their regular tree planting program. Ranger Mike showed us how to carefully plant our oaks and explained that they could live for 250 years or even longer! We hope the children will visit the Dene with their families to show them their contribution to the maintenance of our beautiful local Dene. Thank you to Gavin Aarvold, one of our amazing West Jesmond allotment team, for having the vision to raise the oaks, care for them and make this possible!



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Comic Relief 2025 Friday 21st

You will all have received a letter about Red Nose Day next Friday. School Council would like to invite children to come in to school wearing something red for a suggested minimum donation of £1, but please give what you can. This year, is the 40th birthday of RND and we will be doing a fundraising run, as a whole school, in the afternoon, running the equivalent of 40 miles as a year group. There will be a whole school assembly led by School Council, we will be spending time during the day learning about the importance of charities such as Comic Relief. We will also be holding a cake stall after school on Friday 21st March and this time it is Key Stage 2's turn to bake!

Neurodiversity Celebration week

Next week, it is Neurodiversity Celebration Week and this will be the theme for the assemblies within school. There will also be lessons happening throughout the school. Some of the themes of these assemblies and lessons will be looking at what neurodiversity means and celebrating the fact that everybody's brain is different. There will also be some children who will look at fairness and equity and what that looks like in terms of neurodiversity, as well as discussing the difference between needs and wants.

At West Jesmond, celebrating neurodiversity and children who are neurodivergent is something that happens every day, however, it is always beneficial to allow more dedicated time for children to learn and reflect. It is so important for us all to understand what neurodivergent means and how it can look and feel very different depending on the need and the individual. Please feel free to continue these conversations at home.

SEND and Inclusion Newsletter and Parent Carers Coffee Morning

Look out for our March edition of our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Newsletter. If you are not on the mailing list for this newsletter, but would like to receive it, please speak with the school office.

Can we also remind all parents about our **Newcastle Parent Carer Forum Coffee Morning on Tuesday 25th March at 9:15-10:15 am?**

Well Done Football Teams

Well done to our Year 4/5 Girls' Football team for their efforts this week. They played their first three fixtures of their Tony Knox Tournament at Walker Riverside Academy on Wednesday evening. The girls played brilliantly, winning two games and drawing their third game. The team have made it through to the finals in May!



More Football News

We are very pleased to include in the newsletter this week a report on the Year 4 football team by one of our budding young reporters.

Victory for WJPS Yr. 4 Boys Football Team By Sidney Rawstorne

Far, far away we travelled, to be exact, to Walker Riverside Academy for the Yr4 football tournament We arrived after a tense ride on the school bus and we couldn't wait to play! Our team was: - Muad, Isaac, Donni, Oli, me (Sid), Josh, William S, Bertie, Felix and Henry.

In our first match, against St Vincent's, we absolutely thrashed them, winning 4-0. The goal scorers were Oli, the first one, then Josh, Felix and me (Sid)!

Our next game was practically against our arch RIVALS – RGS! It ended in a 0-0 draw, although we nearly lost but Henry, our goalie, made some great saves. In the final game, against Tyneview, at the last second, I had a shot...but the keeper saved it! Then Josh was in place to take a shot, but the keeper saved that one too. A nil-nil draw in the end. We won 5 points in total

Year 4 Parents' Workshop

On Wednesday, Year 4 hosted a reading workshop with our parents. We used our retrieval and inference skills to find out information about Ancient Greek gods/goddesses and then created our own Greek artefact based around what we had learnt. Thank you to all of our families who were able to join us!

Cricket Coaching

On Monday, Year 4 took part in a cricket coaching session led by staff from South Northumberland Cricket Club. We had a great time learning to field and bat and may have unearthed some future cricketers in our ranks!



Book Club News

Mrs Walker's book club have finished their final session on 'The Nothing to See Here Hotel' by Steven Butler. We loved the book and have spent some time designing our own magical hotels, full of weird and wonderful creatures. Now we patiently await our Blue Peter book club badges!



Year 3 Roman visitors

Year 3 had a visit from some Ancient Roman experts from Durham University who helped us be super West Jesmond Historian as we looked at artefacts, made coins and asked questions about life in Ancient Roman Britain.



Please help our school raise funds. Sign up to Easy Fundraising. It is really user friendly and makes us money while you shop. 💰 🛒 Thank you x

 Raise £100 for your school

It's peak-time for holiday bookings, and when a getaway is booked with TUI this month, it could raise your school a **£100 donation** thanks to TUI and [easyfundraising!](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

TUI's Classroom Commitment
Only available **until 31st March**, and exclusive to schools, **every holiday booked with TUI via easyfundraising by a supporter of your school, will raise a £100 donation***. So, if 5 parents book a TUI holiday, that's £500 raised!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

 Friends Of West Jesmond Cake Stall Spring 2025

Every Friday
3.15 pm
Undercroft



14/03/25 - Y3B
21/03/25 - Red Nose Day
28/03/25 - Y4DO
04/04/25 - Y4BC
11/04/25 - Y4TC



Ramadan

We send our greetings and best wishes to all of our families who are fasting over this period and marking the month of Ramadan. Could we remind parents to please inform school if your child is choosing to fast on any days during this time.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!
Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week

- ❖ **Tues 18th & Thurs 20th March** Parent Consultations (Wednesday Mr Edwards)
- ❖ **Tuesday 18th March** Year 6 Basketball team Competition
- ❖ **Wednesday 19th March** Schools Cross-Country Competition
- ❖ **Friday 21st March** **Comic Relief (Red Nose Run)**
Year 6 to JPA Careers Fair
Cake Stall Red Nose Day (Year 2)

Further Ahead

- ❖ **Tuesday 25th March** SEND and Inclusion Parent Carer Coffee Morning
- ❖ **Thursday 27th March** Year 4 Healthy Lifestyles Event
- ❖ **Monday 31st March** Year 2 Parents' Workshop
- ❖ **Tuesday 1st April** Dance Festival
- ❖ **Wednesday 2nd April** R1 & R2 to Laing Gallery
- ❖ **Thursday 3rd April** R3 to Laing Gallery
- ❖ **Friday 11th April** End of Spring Term

Summer Term

- ❖ **Monday 28th April** Start of Summer Term
- ❖ **Friday 23rd May** School Closed For Training Day

Half Term Break

- ❖ **Monday 2nd June** Return to school
- ❖ **Friday 18th July 2025** End of Term