



## The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 3 Summer Term 2024

Dear Children, Families and Friends,



It is nice to be able to write to you at the end of a week in which the weather is just beginning to look more promising. For once, our outside clubs have not had to dodge the rain and we are enjoying the lighter mornings and evenings for our school activities.

### Cycling to School

Thank you everyone who cycled, walked and scootered to school during the Big Walk and Pedal. As a result of your efforts, we were among the top schools in Newcastle for sustainable journeys.

Please help us to keep that up and make the most of the summer months to leave the cars and fill our bike sheds!

It was great to see so many bikes ready to be serviced and repaired by **Dr Bike!** Thank you to our friends at Sustrans for their incredible effort working all day to keep us all cycling safely!



### Green Day 2024

We really enjoyed the wide range of activities over our Green Week and our Green Day. Thank you very much to our Eco-Schools lead, Miss Askew, for organising such a stimulating and interesting learning opportunity for our children and staff. Here are just a selection of the activities that took place. Your generosity in donating on the day helped us to raise nearly £500 for the Wildlife Trust!

### Northumberland Wildlife Trust

We would like to say a huge thank you to Alex from the Northumberland Wildlife Trust for visiting our school to help us celebrate Green Day at West Jesmond. Alex's passion and knowledge about wildlife conservation truly shone through as she shared fascinating insights about the importance of protecting our local red squirrel population. Thank you, Alex, for your dedication to wildlife conservation and for igniting a love for nature in our students!



Headteacher: **Matt Ward**

Deputy Headteacher: **Tom Jones**

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## Special visitors

Year 6 were visited by Prof. Haris and Dr. Luca who both built on our previous work on climate change. Prof. Haris shared with us where energy comes from, how it can be more 'green', and the challenges we face in trying to become more environmentally friendly. We explored trends in energy production through different renewable sources and heard about local projects aimed at adapting energy to become 'greener'. Dr Luca talked to us about the effects that continued global warming will have. We heard about how the supply chain of the food that we eat can vary considerably, and which foods have a particularly big carbon footprint.



## Outdoor Adventure

Year 2 went on a Green Day outdoor adventure to our West Jesmond allotment! Here we learned about the conditions plants need in order to thrive and grow. Our expert volunteers showed and talked to us about different types of plants. We even had the opportunity to explore different areas of the allotment such as digging for mini beasts in the beds and pond dipping.



## Sustrans Air Pollution Research

Year 4 had a really interesting visit from Ali from Sustrans, who was talking to us all about air pollution and what causes it. She told us that lichen is an indicator of air pollution, so we all became lichen detectives taking our magnifying glasses and clipboards out to search for signs of it around our school grounds!



## Sports News

### Well Done WJPS Panathlon Team

On Tuesday, 7 children from Years 4 and 5, went to a Panathlon Event. Taking part in 7 different games, the children gave it their all. Playing with enthusiasm and determination, they came away with a silver medal and a trophy to proudly display in school. We are very proud of their efforts and the brilliant way they represented the school.



### Celebrating Sporting Stars

A number of our children have talked to us over the last few weeks about their achievements in dance, football and other sporting events! Well done girls – we are very proud of you!





### Year 3 Visit to Great North Museum

Year 3 were super geologists when they visited the Great North Museum for a workshop on Rocks from one of the museum experts. We learned all about different types of rocks and the 'stories' they can tell us. We also got the chance to look around the gallery, investigate fossils, and make our own fossil rubbings. We talked about this back at school and how it helped us with our Science topic and study of Mary Anning.



### Friends of West Jesmond Summer Fair

Plans are in place for an exciting Summer Fair on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**. Put the date in your diaries. The Friends are busy collecting raffle prizes. If you, or people you know, own a local business - we would be very grateful for any raffle prize donations - no matter how big or small. Please contact [friendswjps@mail.com](mailto:friendswjps@mail.com) if you would like to donate. **The Friends also need volunteers to help on the day - this can be before, during or after. Please email them on the address above if you can lend a hand to this great event.**



### Summer Packed Lunches

Mrs Young, our Healthy Schools Lead, has further sources of great advice for preparing packed lunches. When preparing packed lunches, please remember to include a variety of healthy options. Aim for a good balance of fruit, vegetables, protein, and carbohydrates. Here is another link that has ideas for packed lunches as well as other healthy meal ideas [ChopChopFamily.org - Publications](http://ChopChopFamily.org) .

### Scout Group Leaders Needed

(Please see the message below from one of our parents)

The 4<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Scout Group at Jesmond Parish Church is looking for volunteers, to help with various roles in the Group. This will allow us to continue to take more young people from the local community and schools including West Jesmond into the Scout Group.

Our Scout Group is in need of more leaders to work with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. If you would be able to [volunteer as a leader](#), even just on an occasional basis, we would love to hear from you. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts all meet on Friday evenings in term time. You can come along and try it out at first, to see if it is for you. Appropriate training is available, and no prior experience is needed.

We are also keen to appoint some new Trustees, including a Chair of the Trustees. Our Trustees work behind-the-scenes, organising, and helping to improve Scouts for all. Trustees don't work directly with young people. Trustees attend up to 4 meetings per year, which are normally conducted online. Take a look at our [information pack](#) for more information, and further details can be found [here](#).

**Please get in touch with Paul Blaylock, Group Scout Leader, at [pdblalock@hotmail.com](mailto:pdblalock@hotmail.com) to discuss any of these opportunities further, or if your child would be interested in attending Beavers/Cubs/Scouts.**

### Training Day Reminder

This is a reminder to parents and carers that there is a school training day when the school will be closed to children on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!  
Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

### The Week Ahead

- ❖ Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Bank Holiday  
Class 5HS Cake Stall

### Further Ahead

- ❖ May 13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May
  
- ❖ Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> May – 24<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May
- ❖ Thursday 23<sup>th</sup> May
- ❖ Friday May 24<sup>th</sup>

Year 6 SATs Week  
2J Trip to Newcastle Council  
2D Trip to Newcastle Council  
2W Trip to Newcastle Council  
Year 3 and 4 Disco  
Children's Cancer Run  
Take One Book Week  
School Choir and Djembe Band Jesmond Festival  
WJPS International Evening  
School Closed: OLT Training Day

- ❖ Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- ❖ Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June
- ❖ Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- ❖ Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July (pm)
- ❖ Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July
- ❖ Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July (pm)
- ❖ Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July
- ❖ Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Back to school  
Allotment Open Day  
Friends Summer Fair  
Year 4 Scottish Opera Performance  
Sports Day Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2  
Reception Sports Day  
Year 6 Graduation Evening  
End of Term