



West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 2 Autumn Term 2025



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

At the end of the first two weeks, the children continue to impress us with a great start to term. We have been talking in assemblies about our **West Jesmond Way** and asking everyone to continue to fill our school with the key messages of **inclusivity, respect, responsibility, pride in our actions** and above all **kindness!** Please can you thank your child this weekend for making our school such a happy, kind and supportive place over the first few weeks and especially for how well they have cared for any new arrivals.

Support in School

If your child is having difficulties in settling back to school or you want any support for you or your child, please speak to us about how we can help. You can talk with the class teacher at any time or to **Gemma Jordan our SENCo** (Special Educational Needs Coordinator), **Rachael Spanner (Wellbeing Lead)**, **Emma Clark (Family Support Officer)**, **Verity Groot EAL Lead** (English as an Additional Language), **Vanessa Corker School Counsellor**, **Mark Dinsley our Deputy Head and Safeguarding lead** and of course to me.

Year Group Welcome Meetings

Thank you to everyone who has been able to attend our Welcome Meetings this week. It has been lovely for us to meet so many of you and we hope you have found the meetings useful. This is only the start of our partnership with you over the year ahead. Please speak to the class teacher and any of our team if you have any questions or concerns at any time.

Friends of West Jesmond Cake Stalls and Annual General Meeting!

We spoke with you at the Welcome Meetings about the great work that the Friends of West Jesmond do to provide so many enjoyable events and to raise thousands of pounds to enhance the experiences of your child. This week we have the start of our Friday Cake Stalls. Please see the dates for the classes providing the Cake Stalls this half-term. **We also hope to see as many of you as possible at our AGM on 29th September helping to prepare for the year ahead!**

12/09/25	- Y1A
19/09/25	- Y1S
26/09/25	- Y1Y
03/10/25	- RR1
10/10/25	- RR2
17/10/25	- RR3
24/10/25	- Y2V

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

STAY INFORMED - GET INVOLVED

MONDAY
29TH SEPT 25
9 AM
SCHOOL
CONFERENCE
ROOM

FIND OUT HOW OUR PTA WORKS, HOW TO GET INVOLVED AND HOW THE FUNDS BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley

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Children's School Photographs - Sibling Photographs

The Tempest photographers will be coming in to school on Friday 26th September, to take the individual school photos. This will be during the school day.

Siblings' photographs: **Please come to the school office, between 8:00 and 8:50**, and you will be invited into the music room. You will need to supervise your children at all times and then take them to their classroom door/drop off area for normal drop off time.

Smartphones and Online Safety

Thank you very much to the parents who have spoken at our Welcome Meetings about the Smartphone Free childhood campaign. This is clearly something a large number of our families feel strongly this about and already the number of families signing the pledge has more than doubled. Nationally, many parents are talking about the pressure parents can feel to give children phones at an early age and the worry that they may be missing out. We wanted to share with you the link to growing movement among parents of primary age children that is looking to restrict access to smart phones at an early age - [Smartphone Free Childhood](#)



Teaching about online safety is a key part of our Computing and PSHE (Personal Social Health and Economic) curricula. Parents often talk with us about concerns, and we are always happy to offer advice. The next of our workshops for parents with one of our external safeguarding consultants will be coming up later in the year.

Phones in school: We allow our older children who may be walking home by themselves to bring a phone into school. This is handed in to the teacher for safekeeping throughout the day and no child is allowed access to the phone while at school.

Watches: For the safeguarding of all children, we strongly discourage any type of smart watch or any watch that can take a photograph. If your child does come to school with this type of device, they must hand them into the classteacher and they will be handed back at the end of the day.

Lost Clothing – Please Add Names/Labels: Please reduce the lost property Mountain!

We know how frustrating it can be when children come home without items of clothing and the expense and inconvenience it can cause. **Please write names or label every item of clothing to help us return them to their owners. In a big school, it is particularly challenging to reunite an unnamed item to the right child!**



Great North Runners

Congratulations to all of the parents and children who ran the Various Great North Runs at the weekend. It was lovely to see so many children proudly wearing their medals in school. We even had one very talented runner who won a third place in one of the junior runs! Wow!



Achievements!

We also heard about a number of other children who have been achieving exciting things out of school. We want to share the successes of one of our tennis players and a very proud dancer!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week:

- ❖ Wednesday 17th September Reception Parents Phonics/Reading Workshop
- ❖ Thursday 18th September Year 6 Welcome Meeting 9am

Further ahead

- ❖ Tuesday 23rd September Girls Football League Games (JPA)
Reception Parents' Coffee Morning 9am
- ❖ Friday 26th September Children's Photographs
- ❖ Monday 29th September Friends AGM (9am)
- ❖ Monday 6th October Flu Vaccines
- ❖ Tuesday 7th October Year 6 Great North Museum Workshops

- ❖ Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th October Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30 - 6pm

- ❖ Friday 17th October Year 4 Trip to Jarrow Hall

- ❖ Week Beginning 20th October

Local Study Week

- ❖ Friday 24th October

Break up for half term

- ❖ Monday 3rd November

School Closed for Staff Training

- ❖ Tuesday 4th November

Back to school

- ❖ Friday 14th November

Year 3 Rising Sun Trip

- ❖ Weds & Thursday 5th/6th October

Year 6 visits to SafetyWorks

- ❖ 19th – 21st November

Year 6 Lockerbie Residential Visit

- ❖ Friday 19th December

End of Term

- ❖ Monday 5th January

Start of the Spring Term