

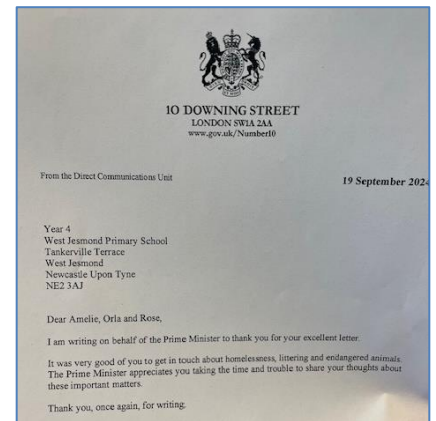


West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 5 Autumn Term 2024



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Once again, West Jesmond Primary School has been buzzing with activity this week with so much effort and learning in and out of school. One of the great pleasures of being a Headteacher is talking with lots of our children who come to our room to proudly share their achievements. These can include next steps in writing and maths, great efforts reading at home, working hard at friendships and upholding our West Jesmond Way, lovely artwork, science experiments and exciting activities out of school! This week, we found out a great piece of initiative by three of our Year 5 children. Our Curriculum has a key thread of encouraging our children to be positive and active members of community. Amelie, Orla and Rose exemplified this when they wrote a letter to the Prime Minister sharing their thoughts and concerns about homelessness, littering and environmental dangers. And...this week a special letter arrived in the post from Downing Street!



West Jesmond Junior Park Run Take Over!

This year our whole school Local Study will be all about The Town Moor. To kick start our week and as a part of our school development objective of helping our children to do more physical activity, West Jesmond will be taking over the [junior parkrun UK](https://www.parkrun.org.uk) on The Town Moor on Sunday 20th October at 9am. We would love to have as many West Jesmond families taking part as possible. To join us, all you need to do is register for free at <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/> or bring along your existing Park Run bar-code. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day. We would be very grateful if some adults could help at the finish line on the day too.



Parent Consultations

The sign up forms for our Parent Consultations opened this week. Please sign up for a meeting with your child's teacher. If you have any problems with the sign up process, speak to the school office. If for any reason you cannot make the meetings on these days, please speak to the classteacher.

Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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Black History Month 2024 at West Jesmond Primary

During October we mark Black History Month, a national celebration that aims to promote and celebrate the contributions black people have made to society. It is also an opportunity to promote an understanding of black history in our school more widely. Over the next few weeks, we will be talking about Black



History in our assemblies and within our classrooms and sharing with our children, the contributions black people have made over the centuries in shaping the dynamic and diverse community and country we have today. Although Black History Month only happens once a year, the teaching of black history does not begin and end there. We want our West Jesmond curriculum to support children's learning about it all year round. In our year 4, 5 and 6 Assembly this week we introduced the inspirational singer, **Paul Robeson** and listened to him singing Sweet Chariots. Have a look this really interesting webpage and read about when he

sang in Newcastle! [8 Places Connected to Black History in Newcastle – The Historic England Blog \(heritagecalling.com\)](https://www.heritagecalling.com)

School Council 2024-25

Our School Council is a very important part of democracy in our school and making sure our children have their voice heard in our decision making. This week, Mrs Oades met with our new School Councillors who were ready and raring to get started on official business in our first meeting! They were discussing lots of exciting plans and ideas for the new school year ahead!



Year 4 Archaeologist Visit

On Tuesday, Year 4 had a visit from expert archaeologist Andy Agate who told us about his work digging up Anglo-Saxon and Roman artefacts and what skills a good archaeologist needs. We also discussed what we could infer from artefacts and what the Anglo-Saxons might have believed in.



Year 4 Chess Club

Year 4 chess club got off to a brilliant start this lunchtime. There were some excellent matches with lots of very intense levels of skill and concentration on show! If your child would like to join in, they need to come to Mrs Oades' class on a Thursday lunchtime.



Reminders of Events Next Week

World Mental Health Day is celebrated each year on 10th October. To raise awareness, we would like to invite the children to come to school wearing something yellow on Thursday 10th October.



Year 6 Parents and Carers Support For Secondary School Applications

On Tuesday 8th October at 9am, we have a senior officer from Newcastle City Council hosting a drop in session to help with secondary school applications. You are welcome to come into school via the main entrance and they will be on hand to guide you through the process.

School Playground At The End of the Day

Can we remind parents to keep a careful watch over children on the yard at the end of the day. This week, we had some children climbing over equipment in the Secret Garden area. This causes damage to structures we have there and is also dangerous for the children. Please remind your children that the playground safety rules are the same at the end of the day as during playtimes. Children should not climb on walls or our equipment and if your child goes on the trim trail or pirate ship, you must closely supervise them. Thank you for your support.

Our Office Team

We think that we have an outstanding team in the school office. They are the first faces many parents and carers meet and have a wealth of information to share with you. Every day they field many, many questions and, if they don't have the answer straight away, they are committed to find it for you! We know that most of you will have met nearly all the team, but wanted to take this moment at the start of the year to introduce them all again!

Meet the Office Team

Miss Nikki Corbett Mrs Sarah Waters Miss Mahnaz Hussain Mrs Lisa Miller
Busines Manager Office Manager Administrator Administrator



We can help you with a lot of things:

- Queries about Weduc – the school app
- Queries about iPay Impact – the lunch app
- Logins for most of the school teaching platforms.
- School Admissions
- Free School Meal and Pupil Premium advice
- Parent Consultation queries
- Trip information
- General school information
- Communicate with us via email, telephone or in person between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.

If we don't have the answer, we can find it for you.

Out of School Achievers

Well done to a number of children who have told us about their achievements out of school. We have two very kind charity collectors raising money for Barnardos!

Two great gymnasts celebrating Bronze and Silver Awards and a very successful tennis player!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week:

- ❖ Monday 7th October R3 Mastering Number parent workshop
- ❖ Tuesday 8th October Secondary Schools Admissions Drop-In
- ❖ Wednesday 9th October R1 Mastering Number parent workshop
- ❖ Wednesday 9th October R2 Mastering Number parent workshop
- ❖ Wednesday 9th October 2D visit to Newcastle Quayside
- ❖ Thursday 10th October **World Mental Health Day**
- ❖ Thursday 10th October 2V visit to Newcastle Quayside

Further ahead

- ❖ Tuesday 15th, and Thursday 17th October Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30 - 6pm
- ❖ Sunday 20th October WJPS @ Junior Park Run
- ❖ Week Beginning 21st October Local Study Week
- ❖ Thursday 24th October Friends Yr. 5/6 Halloween Disco
- ❖ Friday 25th October Break up for half term
- ❖ Monday 4th November School Closed for Staff Training
- ❖ Tuesday 5th November Back to school
- ❖ 20th – 22nd November Year 6 Lockerbie Residential Visit
- ❖ Friday 29th November Friends Christmas Fair (from 3.15pm)
- ❖ Friday 20th December End of Term
- ❖ Monday 6th January Start of the Spring Term

