



Assemblies and Personal Development – Big Questions

West Jesmond Assemblies

Through our assemblies we:

- come together and celebrate our school community and West Jesmond Family
- develop our children's characters through Our **West Jesmond Way and Fantastic Five**
- celebrate the diversity of our school and what makes us the same and different
- share in the events and stories that unite our communities
- sensitively introduce, discuss and reflect on important issues in our society

They help to develop our children Spiritually, Morally, Socially and Culturally.

Spiritual development: West Jesmond Assemblies allow our children to

- be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) and perspective on life
- have Knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values
- develop a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them

Moral development: West Jesmond Assemblies help our children to

- recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives
- understand of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- explore and share moral and ethical issues and learn to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues

Social development:

- participate in local and national events including charities and community causes
- Learn about and engage with shared values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- Learn about how to keep healthy and safe

Cultural development:

- Understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures in the school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- Ability to recognise, and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities
- Interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Spring 2021 Big Assembly Questions			
Week	Theme	Question (s)	Resources / planning notes
Week 1 3 rd - 7 th Jan	New Year, New Beginnings (Growth Mind-set)	What changes do I want to make?	
Week 2 10 th - 14 th Jan	The West Jesmond Way	What are West Jesmond children like?	Stories and discussion based around the themes of the West Jesmond Way
Week 3 17 th - 21 st Jan	Fairness; injustice and equality	How do we make sure everyone is treated fairly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Martin Luther King Jr Day (17 January) • Dr Martin Luther King - 'Dream on' - BBC Teach
Week 4 24 th - 28 th Jan	Saving the environment	What can I do to help be a West Jesmond Eco champion?	
31 st - 3 rd Feb	Chinese New Year	How is Chinese New Year celebrated in Newcastle?	• Chinese New Year (1 February)
7 th - 11 th February	Children's Mental Health Week	How they have you grown, and how can you help others to grow?	Children's Mental Health Week (childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)
14 th - 18 th February	Our West Jesmond Characteristics	How do the Fantastic Five make us better learners?	
28 th Feb - 4 th March	Books and stories from around the world	Where in the world can a story take us?	World Book Day
7 th - 11 th March	International Women's Day (+ Votes for women)	How do we make sure everyone is treated fairly?	International Women's Day (8 March) Primary assemblies: International Women's Day - BBC Teach
14 th - 18 th March	Comic Relief Red Nose Day (Empathy and solidarity with others)	Why is it important to think of others?	World Book Day Primary Resources
21 st - 25 th March	Friendship	What does it mean to be a good friend?	
28 th - March - 1 st April	Ramadan	Why is Ramadan important for members of our West Jesmond Family?	Ramadan begins
4 th - 8 th April	Easter and Spring	Why new life is celebrated this time of year?	