



West Jesmond Family Newsletter 10 Autumn Term 2024



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Mr Dinsley

As you all know, our Mr Jones is leaving us after Christmas to start in his exciting new role as Head of Rockcliffe first School.

Before half term, the school undertook a rigorous recruitment process to find our next deputy head.

Governors, staff and children were all involved in the vitally important task of finding the very best person for our school. As you can imagine, there were many excellent candidates wanting to be a leader at West Jesmond Primary and to work with and make a positive difference for our fantastic children.

We are very pleased to be able to share with you that Mr Mark Dinsley is going to be the new deputy head at West Jesmond and we thought the best way to introduce him to our West Jesmond children and families would be with a personal message.

Hello, I'm Mr Dinsley and I'm extremely excited to be joining the West Jesmond family as your new Deputy Headteacher.

I was born and raised in Newcastle but spent my time at university in Loughborough where I studied for a degree in politics and French. I came back up to Newcastle for my teacher training and have worked in an academy trust in Northumberland for my career so far. Here, I have held numerous roles both in the classroom and in leadership and I am currently in my third year as a Deputy Headteacher. I have also studied for a master's degree in educational leadership.

In my spare time I enjoy playing squash for my local team and playing a round of golf with friends. Sport is a big passion of mine and I spend my weekends watching Newcastle United among other local teams in various different sports. Aside from sport, I enjoy watching live music and comedy, cooking up new recipes in the kitchen, taking my dog Rosie for walks along our beautiful Northumberland coastline and travelling to experience new cultures.

It was lovely to meet future colleagues, parents and children during the interview process and I can't wait to start working alongside you all from January.

Mark Dinsley



Headteacher: Matt Ward

Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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Anti-Bullying Week

This week in assemblies we have been talking about Anti-Bullying Week and our school approach of **STOP** (Several Times On Purpose and Start Telling Other People). We discussed being respectful to each other and the differences between respectful and disrespectful relationships in the classrooms and on the school yards. We also talked with our younger children about who they can talk to if they have worries and also reminded them about our **Worry Boxes**. Children are always encouraged to talk with adults in school, but they are also able to place a worry in the Boxes around school that are responded to by Mrs Spanner, school leaders and our Wellbeing Team.



School Council Children in Need 2024 - Be Spotacular

Thank you to our School Council and Mrs Oades for organising a great day of fund raising for Children in Need and thank you to everyone who was able to donate to the cause. School looked truly Spotacular today and lots of money has been raised. Here are our School Council leading a special assembly.



IMPORTANT: Please Help Make Our Streets Safe For Our Children

As the nights get darker, we once again ask all of our families to be extra considerate at drop-off and pick up times. Please think about the safety and comfort of all of our West Jesmond Family. Try not to drive or park near our school. It is especially important not to park on double yellow lines, or across pavements



We are continuing to work hard with local police and civil enforcement teams to support us in our attempts to stop parents parking in a dangerous manner near our school. We are also pushing for better alternatives to make the streets safer outside our school and are waiting on new markings that we were promised by the Local Authority earlier in the year.

Parents and Grandparents Reader Volunteers

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to be a part of our Parent Reader Scheme. Our children gain greatly from reading to additional adults in school and your support is invaluable to us.

If you want to become involved in the scheme, please contact school and ask to speak to Mr Snelders.

School Reading/Therapy Dog

Some of your children may have mentioned meeting a new member of staff called Mabel. Please don't think they were being rude when they described her as being very hairy and having quite a long nose! Mabel is a specially trained dog who visits our school with her owner, Alyson, and spends time with individuals and small groups of children. Mabel is a part of our work to make our school feel a happy, safe and welcoming environment for all of our children.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week:

- ❖ **Tuesday 19th November** **School Council Visit to the People's Kitchen**
Year 5/6 Football Match (JPA)
- ❖ **20th – 22nd November** **Year 6 Lockerbie Residential Visit**
- ❖ **Friday 22nd November** **2V and 2W to Discovery Museum**

Further Ahead (Seasonal events in green)

- ❖ **Friday 29th November** **Friends Xmas Fair (From 3.15pm)**
(Non-uniform for fair donations: Christmas jumpers or accessories welcome)
- ❖ **Thursday 5th December** **Choir to Newcastle Sings Christmas**
- ❖ **Tuesday 10th & Weds 11th December** **Reception Christmas Shows (9.15am)**
- ❖ **Thursday 12th December** **Year 2 Christmas Show 9.15am & 2.15pm)**
- ❖ **Friday 13th December** **Year 1 Christmas Songs and Crafts (2pm)**
Choir Singing at the Grainger Market
- ❖ **Tuesday 17th December** **Winter Stories with Chris Bostock (Yr. 1 & 2)**
Key Stage 2 Christmas Lunch
- ❖ **Wednesday 18th November 5-6pm** **Winter Songs by Lantern Light Key Stage 2**
Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Lunch
- ❖ **Friday 20th December** **End of Term**
- ❖ **Monday 6th January** **Start of the Spring Term 2025**