



# West Jesmond Primary School

## The West Jesmond Family Newsletter 1 Spring Term 2025



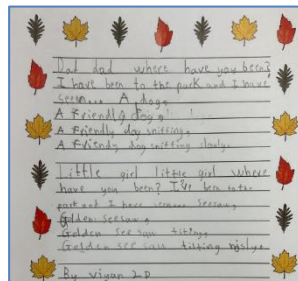
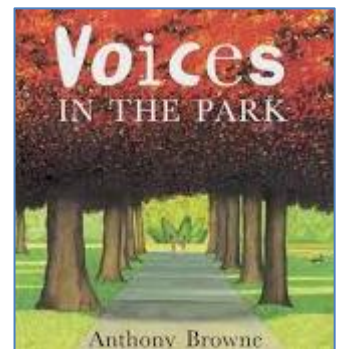
Happy New Year 2025 and welcome back everyone to the new school term.

I hope all of our families were able to enjoy time together over the holiday period and that the New Year has started well for you all. It has been a rather cold start to the term at West Jesmond and we have enjoyed seeing people wearing lots of new and very colourful hats, gloves and scarves – and that is just the parents!

We have welcomed Mark Dinsley to school as our new deputy head this week. Mark has enjoyed being out on the yard in the morning meeting lots of you and thank you for making him feel so welcome to the West Jesmond Family.

### Take One Book Week

We have started the new term with our annual Take One Book Week. Each year, we choose a shared book for every class in the school to work on. We look for books that will allow us to provide stimulating learning with tailored activities from Reception to Year 6. This year, we have been looking at *Voices in the Park* by Anthony Brown. This illustrated book has many layers that allow children of all ages to access its themes. The book is split into four parts where we see through the illustrations how 4 different characters view the world. In our assemblies and class discussions, we have used the book to help our children consider the different ways we all might experience situations and how we can develop our empathy and understanding. Here are some pictures of some of our children responding to the text through art and poetry. There will be lots more next week.



**Headteacher: Matt Ward**  
**Deputy Headteacher: Mark Dinsley**  
West Jesmond Primary School, Tankerville Terrace,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 3AJ  
☎ (0191) 2810000 ✉ office@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk  
🌐 www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk



### Year 4 Went a Wassailing

On Wednesday, Year 4 went to the Jesmond Community Orchard to take part in a traditional Wassail. They wore green, carried instruments and made a great hullabaloo to encourage the spirits in the apple trees to give us a good harvest. We also sang our Wassail song accompanied by Mrs Anderson on the accordion. Our Green man, who looked a little like Mr Cook, led us in our Wassail and we look forward to visiting the orchard later in the year to see the fruits of our visit!



### Important: Keeping safe Online Workshop For Parents

It is very hard to keep up with the many new Apps, games and the ways our children can interact online. We work hard to educate our children about possible risks and know you do at home. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for our **Online Safety workshop** for parents only on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9am (School Hall)**. Our Online Safety consultant Julian Hughes will talk about the very latest apps and ways children are interacting with the online world and will give practical and useful advice on how to help keep your child safe. The session is open to parents in all year groups.

### Tickets for Year 6 Shakespeare on Sale

Tickets for Year 6's performance of Twelfth Night on the 13<sup>th</sup> March are on sale now! They are available to buy from the Northern Stage Box Office in person, over the phone or online (see link below). Get in there quickly; because once they go on sale, they sell rapidly.

<https://northernstage.co.uk/>



Have a lovely and warm weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

## Dates for Your Diary

### Next Week

#### *SEN Reviews for children across January*

- ❖ **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January**                      5S Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens  
4TC/BC River Tyne Fieldwork Visit  
Year 2 SEN Reviews
- ❖ **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**                      5TG Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens  
4DO River Tyne Fieldwork Visit
- ❖ **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**                      Parent Online Safety Workshop (9am)  
Reception and Yr. 1 SEN Reviews
- ❖ **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January**                      5F Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens

### Further Ahead

- ❖ **Monday January 20<sup>th</sup>**                      Year 6 SEND Reviews
- ❖ **Weds 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb**                      Book Fair in School
- ❖ **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb**                      Reception Writing Workshops
- ❖ **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**                      **Break up for half term.**
- ❖ **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**                      **Back to school**
- ❖ **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**                      **Storytelling Evening**
- ❖ **Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup>**                      **Northern Stage Shakespeare Performance**
- ❖ **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March**                      **Parent Consultations**
- ❖ **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**                      **End of Spring Term**