



West Jesmond Primary Newsletter 2 Autumn Term 2023



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Libya and Morocco earthquake

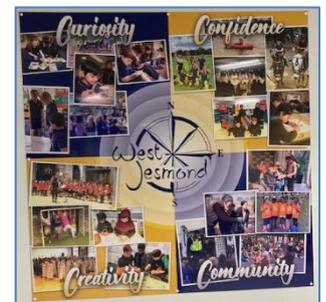
Can we start our newsletter this week by passing on our thoughts to any of our families from Libya or Morocco following the terrible flooding this week and the earthquake at the end of the summer. We hope that any extended family members in affected areas are safe and well and ask you to come and speak with us if there is any support we can offer at this time.

Year Group Welcome Meetings

Thank you to everyone who has been able to attend our Welcome Meetings and Reception Coffee Mornings 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 classteacher and any of our team if you have any questions or concerns at any time.

The West Jesmond 4Cs – Community Solidarity

Visitors to school will have seen our new display just inside the entrance celebrating our work towards the West Jesmond 4Cs. The 4 C's are four key drivers that underpin our West Jesmond Curriculum. They are Curiosity, Confidence, Creativity and Community. These are the four key attributes of learners that we want to develop in our children as they move through our school. The C of Community is at the heart of what we want your school to be. We are very proud of our children's active participation in our local, national and international communities. This week you will have received a letter about our annual autumn collection to support The People's Kitchen. There are many families and individuals who are in Newcastle who are struggling at the moment. All donations we can raise will be a great help moving into the winter months. We will be talking with our children about why we are supporting the People's Kitchen and how their donations can help people in their city. From Monday 2nd October until Friday 6th October, every morning, Mrs Oades and our School Council will be accepting food donations onto trolleys placed at the entrance gates to school. Items that would be of particular benefit to the foodbank at the current time are listed in the poster attached to the Weduc message. If you feel you are able to contribute, please do so during that week. All donations will be collected by the People's Kitchen on Friday 6th October.



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Deputy Headteacher: Tom Jones

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MUSIC MARK SCHOOL

A Few requests to our families! Can you help further improve our curriculum and learning?

Parent Experts – We Need You!

You will have also had a letter about our parent, carer and grandparent volunteer experts list. Every year our children's curriculum and learning is greatly enhanced by so many of our families giving up time to come in and talk to the children about careers, interests, experiences and expertise. We have had explorers, archaeologists, train drivers, pilots, a wide range of scientists, academics, medical professionals, architects, chefs, local businesses, dancers...and so many more. We think every one of our parents can bring skills or experiences to school to enhance the education of our children. We would like to create an up to date volunteer expert list in school, that enables staff to access you as a potential volunteer expert, which will help and support their planning and teaching, across as many subject areas as possible.

If you would be willing to be on our volunteer expert list and potentially spare a small amount of time to come into school at some point to share your expertise, please complete the google form attached to the letter.

And...please remember we have our Volunteer Reading Support Coffee Morning 20 September at 9am for anyone interested in giving a little time each week to support children with their reading in school.

International West Jesmond Family – Celebrating Diversity in our school

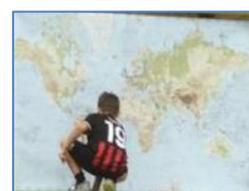
Last year, we began to build up a **West Jesmond Festival Library** of very short videos with the children talking about important festivals and events celebrated within their families, which were then shared in assemblies, in class and on our social media pages.



This year we want to continue to add to this.

Every month we are asking families to send clips of them preparing and celebrating for a particular occasion, which has taken place that month.

We will be looking for someone who has the expertise and time to help edit these and/ or to teach us how to edit them so they are lovely reflection of what is happening in our families' lives over the year. This could be from individual families or as a shared submission by families celebrating the same event or festival.



Please e-mail Mrs Groot who is coordinating this project with ideas or information. Vgroot@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk

Year 4 Anglo – Saxon Adventure

Year 4 visited Jarrow Hall to kick off their Anglo-Saxons History topic. In the morning they visited an Anglo-Saxon farm and heard a retelling of the Beowulf epic in a thegn's mead hall. Later on they tried to work out what herbs and natural cures the Anglo-Saxons could have used and how they dealt with crimes and punishment in that period. Thank you to our parent volunteers who supported us on the visits.



A Polite Request: Families on the Playground at the end of the day

We know it is nice for families and children to meet and talk at the end of the day, but can we ask everyone to ensure the playground is empty as soon as possible. We have clubs who use the yards every night as well as our After-School Club and Little Acorns. Therefore, we need to lock the gates as soon as we can to safely let our children use the outdoor spaces.

Important: Please keep children off the Secret Garden area and particularly off the green shelter which is becoming damaged. Thank you.

Lost Clothing – Please Add Names/Labels

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 very challenging to reunite an unnamed item to the right child!

This weekend, please can everyone check inside cardigans and jumpers to see if your child may have come home with another child's item of clothing and help us by returning it to school.



Great North Runners

Congratulations to all of 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.



Friday Cakes and Books

Don't forget every Friday after school in Undercroft we have our Parent - Pupil Library and Friends Cake Stalls! A great way to start the weekend!



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Matt Ward (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

Next Week:

- ❖ Monday 18th September Reception Parents' Reading and Phonics workshop
- ❖ Thursday 19th September Year 5 Parents' Welcome Meeting 9am
- ❖ Wednesday 20th September Volunteer Reading Team Meeting
- ❖ Thursday 21st September Year 6 Parents' Welcome Meeting 9am
- ❖ Friday 22nd September Year 4 Parents' Welcome Meeting 9am

Further ahead

- ❖ Thursday 28th September Year 2 J Quayside Trip
- ❖ Friday 29th September Year 2 D Quayside Trip
- ❖ Monday 2nd October People's Kitchen Donations All Week
- ❖ Wednesday 4th October Year 2W Quayside Trip
- ❖ Monday 9th & Thursday 12th October Mastering Number at Home Yr1 Parents' Workshop
- ❖ **Week Beginning 23rd October** **Local Study Week**
- ❖ Friday 27th October Break up for half term
- ❖ **Monday 6th November** **School Closed for Staff Training**
- ❖ Tuesday 7th November Back to school
- ❖ **Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th November Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30 - 6pm**
- ❖ Friday 22nd December End of Term
- ❖ Monday 8th January Start of the Spring Term



Children's School Photographs