

# John F. Kennedy Primary School

## The Buzz Newsletter



7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. It's lovely to be back after the week off and I hope everybody had the chance to relax.

Today's Buzz is going to start with a bit of a reading theme

**World Book Day:** It may have been a day later than other schools, but today, we celebrated World Book Day. The theme we decided to use was 'What Makes me Special?' because as a school, we have been reading 'The Most Remarkable Children I've Met – So Far!' by Clotilde Perrin. In their English lessons this week, each class have been exploring the characters from this story in detail. Children (and staff) were encouraged to come to school today dressed as any book character or in clothing that 'makes you feel special' – please visit our Facebook page to see examples of some of the fantastic ideas and concepts they arrived in. I hope the pupils also enjoyed the special World Book Day lunch that the kitchen staff had prepared for today – I thoroughly enjoyed the ice-cream, pancake and raspberry sauce! Thank you to everybody who has made today a success.

**Bedtime Stories:** Our school hall was turned into comfy reading areas after school on Thursday, as our reception families were invited to attend a Bedtime Stories event. It was wonderful to see our children snuggling up with hot chocolate and reading stories with their grown-ups! They even had the opportunity to watch the staff performance of the Three Little Pigs, which was definitely the highlight of evening. We hope everyone who was able to come along enjoyed the evening.

**'Book in a Box' Home Learning Project:** I have been blown away by the amazing homework projects that have been brought into school from pupils across the whole school. Thank you to everyone who has helped with these fantastic pieces of work – the effort put in is clear to see. The finished designs were so imaginative, from well-known books to others I had never heard of before. If you were lucky enough to visit the hall after school tonight to have a look at all the creations, I hope you were as impressed as I have been. Please keep your eyes peeled for a selection of the 'Book in a Box' projects on our Facebook page.

**Facebook Winners:** Thank you to anyone who voted for our school on Facebook over the holidays in the competition organised by Little Monkeys Bookshop. We received the most votes (1192) out of over 100 schools in the local area and yesterday, Kerrie, from the shop visited us to hand over the 1<sup>st</sup> prize to members of our School Council.



**Bouncing Fun:** Year Four were treated to a fantastic Boogie Bounce PE lesson on Wednesday. The session encouraged the children to try a selection of dance inspired exercises on small trampolines while dance and pop songs played on the speakers in the hall. All the children (and staff) seemed to enjoy the sessions. Please take a look at our Facebook page to see images of the children enjoying the morning.

**New Staff:** At the start of the new half-term, we are pleased to welcome four new staff to our JFK teams. Mrs Barron has started in the Treehouse. Mrs Burnett, Mrs Hall & Miss Hanson are supporting pupils across the school over lunch – either in the dinner hall or outside on the yard/field. I hope they have enjoyed their first week.

**Year 4 Parent Information Meeting:** Next Monday, our year 4 teachers are holding a parent information meeting regarding the upcoming residential to Grinton Lodge in Richmond. The meeting will begin at 3:30pm and will be held in the school hall.

**Year 5 Bikeability:** Next week, 5MA are participating in Bikeability. Please can children bring bikes and helmets into school to be left near the music room/year 6 entrance. P.E. kit can be worn on these days but, as these lessons take place outside, please make sure this is weather appropriate: long jogging bottoms and a jumper.

**Attendance:** This week our attendance is 96.27%, which is the best attendance we have had for a long time – I am so proud of this total. Our running total since the start of the year is now 94.03% - the Easter target of 95% is still achievable. The class with the highest attendance in key stage 1 was 1MT (with 100%) and in key stage 2 it was 3DF & 4AF. These classes will be rewarded with an additional break time next week.

Class	Nurs	RAM	RES	1AP	1MT	2JW	2MA	3DF
Attendance	97.5	94.76	97.00	98.85	100	96.00	96.54	98.52
Class	3GB	4AF	4BK	5MA	5RN	6LM	6PP	TH
Attendance	95.67	98.52	95.56	94.80	97.08	92.31	96.43	94.58

**School Crossing Patrol Vacancies:** Sunderland City Council are recruiting for SCPs across various schools in the Sunderland area, one of which is outside JFK. If you, or anyone you know, are interested please contact the Road Safety Team.

**JFK Superstar:** I was so pleased to hear about Max F's recent trip to London where he celebrated his 7<sup>th</sup> birthday. While he was there, Max visited all the places he had learnt about in his recent Great Fire of London unit in History, including visiting Pudding Lane where the famous fire started. It's lovely seeing the children put their learning to good use in their free time – well done Max!



**Football:** On Thursday evening, the school football team resumed their league campaign at Rickleton.

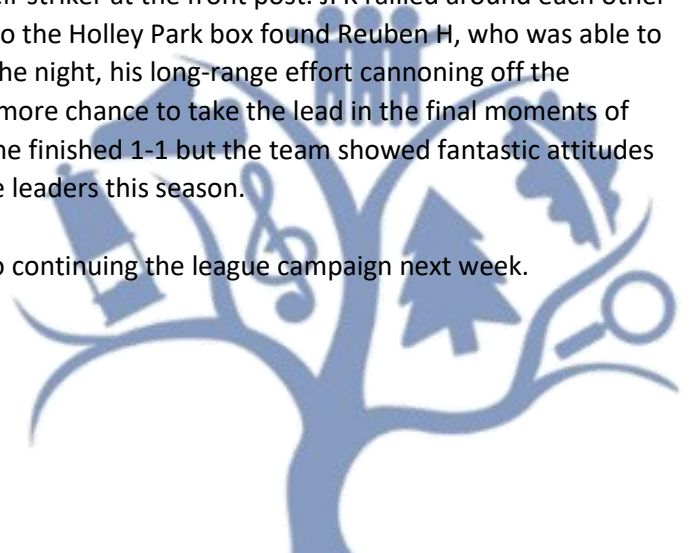
Their first game of the night was against Biddick Primary. During the first half, the team worked brilliantly while off the ball to nullify any opportunities for the opposition. Joseph B, Jenson T and Adam W were fantastic at dealing with any potential threats before they got close to the JFK goal. Evan Mc was a constant nuisance for the opposition defenders and was always pressing them, leaving them with no time to think on the ball. Henry A made several top-quality saves to keep the score 0-0, including tipping one shot around the far post. Deep into the second half, Biddick were able to open the scoring, a volley from outside of the box finding the top corner. This proved to be the only goal of the game with Biddick winning 1-0.

The second game saw JFK take on Holley Park, the league leaders. In the first couple of the game, Holley Park were able to open the scoring with a well worked move finding their striker at the front post. JFK rallied around each other despite the early setback. A long throw in by Lucas S deep into the Holley Park box found Reuben H, who was able to level the score at 1-1. Lennox B nearly produced the goal of the night, his long-range effort cannoning off the crossbar (which is most likely still shaking now). JFK had one more chance to take the lead in the final moments of the game but were denied with an off the line block. The game finished 1-1 but the team showed fantastic attitudes throughout, being the only team to take points off the league leaders this season.

Well done to everyone who took part and we look forward to continuing the league campaign next week.

Kind regards

Mr B. Adams - Head of School





# Stars of the Week

Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAO	Maya D Charlie L
	RAM	Chesca H Dylan R
Reception	RES	Sia G Tommy S
	1AP	Kyran C Dezi C
One	1MT	Finley R Junior S
	2MA	Lachlan C Darcie P
Two	2JW	Emily C Isla O
	3DF	Harry R Lilly-Mae C
Three	3GB	Bailey P Harper G
	4AF	Ollie F Ada-Grace T
Four	4BK	Poppy H Lilly H
	5RN	Olivia S Thomas B
Five	5MA	Cora P Ernest H
	6PP	Lucas S Lucy H
Six	6LM	Charlie F Emmy H
	TLC	Scarlett G
Treehouse	TNP	Luka J

**Head of School Award:** It has been noticed in the dinner hall from several staff that Robbie H in 2MA has shown kind and helpful behaviour towards others in the school hall. An example of this was when one of the reception children struggled to get to the bin area Robbie asked if they were ok, took their plate and cleared this all away for them. Well done, Robbie!

There has been some amazing maths work in year 6, and Amelia T in 6PP produced great angle work when working out missing angles on a straight line and around a point. Well done, Amelia!

# Timetables

**PE Lessons:** This year we are asking for pupils wear their normal school uniform and bring their PE kit on the day of their lesson, where they will have time to get changed. Just to remind that the PE kit should be a plain white t-shirt, black shorts or black jogging bottoms/leggings and trainers. A jumper can also be worn. At this time of year, PE may still be held outdoors, therefore please ensure your child bring appropriate clothing.

Week Commencing: 10 <sup>th</sup> March		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year Four (swimming)	Year 3
Tuesday		Year 2
Wednesday	Reception	
Thursday	Treehouse	
Friday		Year 6 5RN – Swimming 5MA – P.E

**Forest School:** Please send your child into school dressed appropriately for their session – **long sleeves and trousers, wellies and a waterproof coat if possible**. No other accessories should be worn. Forest School still takes place when raining, and we don't want children sitting in class with wet clothes, so it would be useful to provide spare clothing/shoes on the day.

Week Commencing: 10 <sup>th</sup> March		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		Reception
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		4AF and 4BK
Friday	Nursery	1AP

