

# John F. Kennedy Primary School

## The Buzz Newsletter



7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

There has been a great buzz around reading this week, as all pupils, staff and even parents have had the opportunity to share their favourite book. One of the school priorities this year is to promote a love of reading and show how amazing a book can be. Thank you to anyone who attended our reading café or was a mystery reader.

### National Storytelling Week:

We have had such a lovely week in school celebrating stories. On Monday, our school council took a trip to Waterstones in Sunderland City Centre to pick out a selection of books for each of their classes. Prior to the trip, they discussed which books each of their classes would like and then with the help of the Waterstones staff, chose some new releases to try out. They represented our school brilliantly, impressing both the staff and public.

We have also really enjoyed welcoming in parents this week during our Breakfast Reading Café and Mystery Reader sessions. Pupils have loved guessing who the mystery reader will be each day and have really enjoyed listening to a range of wonderful stories. Thank you to all who volunteered. Hopefully we can do this again in the future!

**Special Visitor:** Today, Sharon Hodgson MP visited our school, observing our fantastic breakfast club as well as being delighted to see the number of the parents at this morning's reading cafe. Our school council were thrilled to meet with Sharon. While she was in school, Sharon explained to the children all about her role in the government and how she became an MP. After having a chat with our councillors, she answered questions from the children before taking a group picture.

Mia R, chair of the school council - "It was a really fun time and I learned a lot about the different parts of the government. It was interesting to speak to Sharon and hear about her responsibilities and about the work she has done with the Prime Minister. She was very impressed by our election week in October and was delighted to see we were acting on our promises that we made in our speeches.



**Children's Mental Health Day:** It was fantastic to see everyone dressed up in clothes to show their personality and individuality today. This year's theme is 'Know yourself, Grow Yourself' so children have been exploring their own emotions through a range of resources including the characters from Inside Out 2.

**Attendance:** This week our attendance is 94.47%, and our running total since the start of the term is now 93.92%. Unfortunately, this is still significantly below the government attendance targets, as the expectation of all schools is to have attendance of 96%+. The class with the highest attendance in key stage 1 was 2MA and in key stage 2 it was 5RN. These classes will be rewarded with an additional break time next week.

Class	Nurs	RAM	RES	1AP	1MT	2JW	2MA	3DF
Attendance	96.06	90.00	98.00	91.92	97.27	94.40	98.46	96.30
Class	3GB	4AF	4BK	5MA	5RN	6LM	6PP	TH
Attendance	95.00	86.54	95.93	95.60	98.80	92.31	94.81	93.33

**JFK Superstars:** Evelyn (3GB) had her diamond debut performance with North East Cheer! We are sure this promises to be an exciting journey in her cheerleading career. Well done, Evelyn!



**House Points:** This week's winner of the most house points was Franklin.

**Parent Reminders:** Can I please remind all adults that dogs are not allowed on the school yard at either the start or end of the school day - they should also not be tied to the school fence. This is for the safety of all children around school.

Can I also ask all parents to be considerate when parking around school. No car should be parked partially on a pavement as pedestrians and pushchairs have been obstructed. It has also been very difficult for visitors or staff who are leaving the school to have a clear view of the road and be confident to pull out safely if cars are parked on the pavement outside the school gates.

**SEND Services Support:** Please see poster for details of a support session which will be held at Columbia Grange later this month, on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, to share information for families of children with SEND, whether you have a diagnosis or are awaiting a diagnosis.

**Support for New Nursery Starters:** Is your child starting nursery soon – perhaps in April or September? Together for Children are running some drop-in sessions across the Sunderland area to help families prepare for nursery. One of their sessions will be at the Rainbow Family Hub on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April (9:30am-11:30am), which is based close to Concord centre. The session will include support and advice from the Speech & Language team, 0-19 service, CAMHs and more. During this session your child will be able to explore and have fun! For more information contact the Rainbow Family Hub on 0191 561 3995.



**Football:** Last night saw our final two games of the Girls' Futsal League. Our first game was against Usworth Colliery. Usworth started strongly and took an early 2-0 lead but the team refused to give him, with Ella-Mae hitting the post before pulling a goal back. Ella W and Lucy H worked hard throughout the game but unfortunately, we could not find the equaliser with the game ending 2-1.

Our final game was against an unbeaten Rickleton. Olivia B and Georgia T worked hard in defence and formed a formidable partnership with Darcy G in goal, who pulled off several excellent saves. Unfortunately, the game ended 2-0 to Rickleton.

A great effort during the Futsal games this season and the team should be proud of the improvements they made across each of the six games.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr B. Adams - Head of School



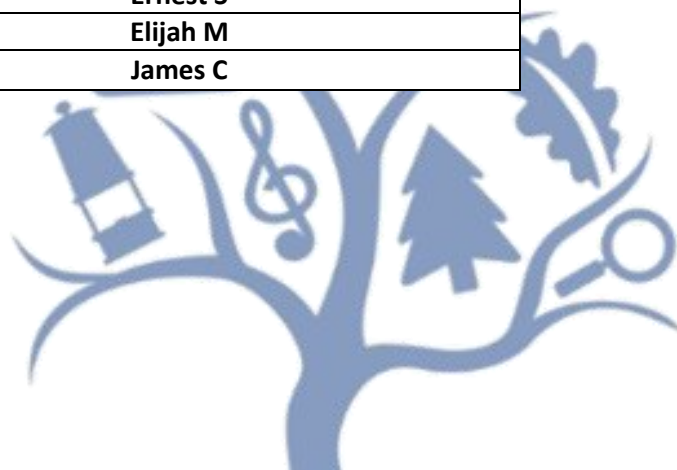


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Primary School

# Stars of the Week



Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAO	Rowan B Olivia M
	RAM	Lola R Bobby Y
Reception	RES	Noah C Asher S
	1AP	Olivia C Isaac D
One	1MT	Junior S Emilia F-L
	2MA	Khadija D Reuben D
Two	2JW	Lennox B Jack M
	3DF	Jayden L Ollie S
Three	3GB	Harper P Ceejay C
	4AF	Greia T Joseph W
Four	4BK	Jack H Leo H
	5RN	Ted C Calvin T
Five	5MA	Bobby J Freddie B
	6PP	Joseph B Emilie O
Six	6LM	Ernest S
	TLC	Elijah M
Treehouse	TNP	James C



# 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> February		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 4 (Swimming) Year 1	Year 3
Tuesday		Year 2
Wednesday	Reception	Year 4
Thursday	Treehouse	Year 6
Friday		5MA – Swimming 5RN – 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> February		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		Year 2
Tuesday		Reception
Wednesday	Treehouse	Nursery
Thursday	Year 3	Year 3
Friday	Nursery	1MT

