

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe it's the end of another school year. It has been as eventful as ever, with many opportunities for the pupils across the year. Throughout it all, we've all enjoyed working with your children - they have so much to be proud of themselves for.

Summer Music Concert: I was so proud of our brass and guitar players on Monday as they filled the hall with amazing music, led by Mr Smith. It was lovely to hear over 30 pupils perform to a range of modern music tracks. I found it difficult to choose a favourite, but if I had to pick, it would be 'Summer of 69' by my namesake Bryan Adams. We have such a talented bunch of pupils, and I hope that everyone continues to create music next year, either at JFK or at secondary school. Thank you to Mr Smith for working with the pupils every Wednesday to reach the high standard.

Open Afternoon: Thank you to everyone who was able to attend on Monday afternoon, and I hope everyone was impressed after looking through your child(s) workbooks. Every single pupil has worked so hard this year and made progress across all areas of the curriculum. As in previous years, the books will be passed up to the next class teacher, so the work can continue into the next academic year.

Family Picnic: My sun dance worked on Tuesday morning, as the rain held off yesterday so the annual picnic could take place. As always, it was lovely that so many of you could join the picnic yesterday on our field. As I walked around talking to many of you, everyone seemed to be enjoying the event, and it's times like this that makes me so proud to be the Head of School with such an amazing extended JFK family.

Year 6 Leavers: This week has been mixed with emotions in the two year 6 classrooms, as they have been having their final week at JFK before starting out on the next academic adventure. Today, we have had the tradition of signing leaver books and t-shirts – I hope they treasure the messages written by their friends and staff. Personally, I couldn't have asked for a better year 6. They have worked so hard across the year and achieved some excellent SAT results (above national data) that they should be proud of. Make sure that you grasp every opportunity next year and fulfil the potential you have shown all year. I can't wait to hear of all your successes in the future.

School Patrol Crossing: This week, I'm sure many of you will have noticed, the new School Crossing Patrol Officer (Donna) has started. Certainly a welcome presence on the road, I'm sure you'll agree! I look forward to Donna continuing her role in the next academic year.

Attendance: This week our attendance is 86.38%. Our attendance for the 2024/25 academic year ended at 93.48%.

Today we had a raffle for families around attendance. Pupils were entered into draws based on their overall percentage attendance this term. Jackson M-B (4BK) won the draw for 100% attendance – winning a family pass to Adventure Valley and vouchers for Hollywood Bowl, Alex S (1MT) won the 96%+ attendance and Scarlett G (TH) won the draw for improved attendance this term – both winning vouchers for Hollywood Bowl. Well done to all winners and to everyone who was entered into the draw.

Attendance will be a continued key focus for our school next year, and we will be looking to work with all families to help us achieve the 96% target.

Staff: It is always sad when a member of staff leaves the school, and this year we have three teachers who are leaving us today. Miss Conner, our wonderful Deputy Headteacher, is moving to Monkton Academy becoming their new Headteacher. Over the last three years, Miss Conner has played an instrumental role with all our pupils, but in particular with EYFS, where she has created an environment that is nurturing and supportive for all our younger children to succeed. As we say goodbye to Miss Conner, I want to express my deepest gratitude for her unwavering dedication, leadership and the inspiration she has brought to our school.

Mrs Parker, our amazing teacher in the Treehouse, is moving to Hope Wood Academy, where she will have the chance to share her outstanding knowledge and expertise of SEND within a specialist provision. During her time at JFK, she has always put our pupils at the heart of her decisions, helping them thrive and grow both academically and personally.

Finally, Miss Walker, our excellent year 2 teacher, is moving to Barbara Priestman, where she will also have the opportunity to work with pupils within a specialist SEND provision. Over the last two years, she has been committed to providing a rich curriculum for the pupils she has taught.

I would like to wish all three members of staff good luck for their new education adventure – they will all be missed!

I have listed below the teaching staff for next year.

Wrap Around Care: The link for breakfast and afterschool club for the 4th & 5th September and week commencing 8th September by Mrs Watson towards the end of the summer holidays.

Timetables: There will be no PE or Forest School on Thursday 4th or Friday 5th September. We will send out the timetables for week commencing 8th September on our return.

WCFP: Washington Community Food Project will be offering free packed lunches to all school children over the summer holidays. The packed lunches can be collected from their unit in The Galleries.



HAF: For details of the Holiday and Food Programme over the summer holidays please visit: <https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/article/21867/Holiday-Activities-and-Food-HAF-Programme>

Have a lovely summer holiday, we'll see all pupils back to school on **Thursday 4th September.**

Mr B. Adams - Head of School

2025-26 Staffing: We are also welcoming new staff to join the JFK family next year – they have already been in school to meet and work with the pupils. For a full list of all staff, please see the table below.

Chief Executive Officer	Dr Taylor	
Headteacher	Mr Adams	
Deputy Headteacher	Mr Pearson	
Assistant Headteacher	Miss Sheriff	
Year Group	Teachers	Teaching Assistant
Nursery	Mrs Mowatt	Mrs McDonald
Reception	Miss Owens Miss Thornton	Mrs Bell Mrs McDermott
Year 1	Mrs Stewart Mr Thompson	Mrs Appleby Miss Hartshorne
Year 2	Miss Anderson Miss Atkinson	Miss Stockdale Mrs Johnston
Year 3	Mrs Bolton Miss Fairless	Mrs Sarma
Year 4	Miss Keogh Mr Smith	Miss Elder
Year 5	Miss Newsome Mrs Fort	Mrs Cooper
Year 6	Mr Pearson Mrs Mewes Miss Sheriff	Mrs Prasad
Tree House	Miss Cameron Mr Titmus	Mrs Punshon (HTLA) Mrs Barron Mrs Hope-Hindmarsh Mrs Curry
PPA	Mrs Murphy Miss Middlemiss Miss Gray Mr Mackintosh Mr Adams	
SEND		Mrs Ross




Summer Activities



Would you like to join our Theatre Club?

"Trinity Theatre Troupe"



If you would like to find out more, please come along on

Tuesday 29th July 2025 at 7pm

Holy Trinity Church
Washington Village
NE38 7LE

If you are unable to make this date and would like to be involved, please leave your name and contact details via the church office on 0191 418791 or Email

office.htcw@gmail.com

EDUCATION WORLD
www.education-world.co.uk

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR CHEAP)!
19th JULY TO 29th AUG 2025

ASDA Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend	LAS IGUANAS - via app Kids under 12 eat FREE with any main meal purchase
ASK ITALIAN - Via app 2 FREE Kids meals with 1 adult meal	MORRISONS Kids under 12 eat FREE all day, with a £5 spend
BALTIC Free cereal, fruit & drinks - no purchase required - 10-11am	PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm
BEEFEATER/BREWERS FAYRE 2 Kids under 16 eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast	PREMIER INN & TRAVEL LODGE 2 Kids eat FREE with 1 adult breakfast
BELLA ITALIA Kids eat FREE all day Thursday or for £1 with any adult main Sun to Wed, 4 to 6pm	TESCO Kids eat FREE at Tesco Cafes when an adult makes a purchase using a Tesco Clubcard
BURGER KING - via app from 28 th July Get 1 FREE King Jr.® Meal when an adult purchases an adult burger meal	TOBY CARVERY Kids eat for £1 Mon-Fri with 1 adult meal
HUNGRY HORSE Kids eat for £1 on Mondays	TWENTYTWO - via app Buy any individual sized Pizza (from £10.95) and get 1 FREE kids meal. 12-4pm Mon-Fri
IKEA Kids meals from 95p daily from 11am	YO! SUSHI Kids under 10 eat FREE when adult spend is £10+

info@education-world.co.uk
0191 440 9993
<https://education-world.co.uk/>

Kids go free, all day, every day with Tyne and Wear Metro: Tyne and Wear Metro continue to help make travel as affordable as possible for families with their Kids go free promise. Up to three children aged 11 and under can travel on Metro or the Shields Ferry for free, when accompanied by a fare-paying adult. We hope this offer will encourage families to explore new places and spend quality time together. For more information and inspiration for great days out please visit: [Kids go Free on Metro | nexus.org.uk](https://www.nexus.org.uk) Plus, between 19 July and 31 August up to three kids aged 11 and under travel free on the bus when accompanied by an adult with a valid ticket* **Terms and conditions apply.* Visit www.northeast-ca.gov.uk/bus