

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



25th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that today is the last day of the half-term. It hardly seems like 2 minutes since we opened the gates at the start of September to welcome all the children in for a new year at John F Kennedy. It was lovely speaking to lots of you at both parent's evenings and at the scarecrow trail and hearing your positive comments about the school – your words are appreciated.

Parents' Evening: Thank you to everyone who was able to attend parent evening on either Monday or Wednesday - I hope you enjoyed looking through your child's books and hearing about their progress. Unfortunately, some classes appointments had to be postponed; these will be rearranged after the half-term holidays.

Scarecrow & Pumpkin Trail: Thank you to everyone who came to our first scarecrow and pumpkin trail - it was lovely to see so many families on the field to look at the wonderful creations made by the children. I was totally blown away with the standard of all the designs. I must thank all the staff for their support with this event (creating decorations, organising refreshments, making scarecrows), but in particular, Mrs Appleby, who organised the whole trail – her vision made the day a success. Discussions have already started to see how we can make it bigger and better next year. Please see our school Facebook page for photos of the trail.



Pumpkin Competition: Congratulations to Tommy S (RES), Harlow D (2JW), Rihannon F (3DF), Nora R (5RN) and Riley P (TH) whose pumpkins were chosen as the winning design for each key stage of the school. I hope they enjoy their tubs of sweets.

Halloween Raffle: Well done to Lauren C in 6LM who won the luxury Halloween hamper. Enjoy your spooky treats!

Young Leaders: On Tuesday afternoon, some of our year 5 children took part in Young Sports Leaders training at the Sunderland Tennis Centre. They took part in a range of activities which helped them to develop their leadership, teamwork and communication skills. They thought of qualities and skills that make an effective Young Leader, before putting these into practise. They listened and watched demonstrations carefully and followed instructions with confidence. We can't wait to see the children apply their new skills when helping the younger children in school during sports activities, break times and lunch times at school.



Reception and Nursery Stay & Play: It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at our reception and nursery stay and play sessions this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed having time to play with their grown-ups and make special memories in school. All the Halloween activities were a hit, and the children made some fantastic creations! Please check out our Facebook page to see the photos.

Attendance: This week our attendance is at 93.51%, and our running total since the start of the term is at 94.18%. The expectation of all schools is to have attendance of 96%+. Below are the attendances for each class.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Class | Nurs | RAM | RES | 1AP | 1MT | 2JW | 2MA | 3DF |
| Attendance | 95.24 | 86.50 | 84.50 | 86.92 | 93.60 | 95.38 | 96.15 | 94.81 |
| Class | 3GB | 4AF | 4BK | 5MA | 5RN | 6LM | 6PP | TH |
| Attendance | 98.33 | 89.23 | 96.67 | 96.67 | 96.31 | 94.81 | 96.43 | 93.75 |

House Points: Well done to Swan house who have the most points this week. Darwin house are currently leading the way overall after this first half term – let’s see who wins in the next half term to win the house prize.

JFK Superstar: Well done to Poppy H (4BK), who started kickboxing in the summer and has recently completed her 1st grading of the red & white belt. What a fantastic achievement Poppy!



Remembrance Display: Please send in clean, empty plastic bottles so all children can make a poppy for the Remembrance display we are creating.

Year 1 Parent Craft Afternoon: Next half term, year 1 will be learning about The Gunpowder Plot in history. On Monday 4th November (1AP) and Tuesday 5th November (1MT), we will be holding a Bonfire Night themed afternoon (starting at 1.30pm) where parents and carers can join their child to make crafts linked to this event. If you’re able to attend, and haven’t already, please complete the Forms survey that was sent out via ParentPay or speak to your child’s class teacher. We look forward to seeing you there!

Chair of Governors Message: Hello everyone, my name is Andrew Charlton and I’m the Chair of Governors here at JFK. I am now starting my 2nd full year in this position, and it really is an honour to have the role. There are many functions to my role including attending and chairing termly governing body meetings, review and agreeing school policies, monitoring SAT’s assessments and ensuring the school is functioning properly. I also deal with any parent queries and help to resolve those. My favourite part of the role however is coming into school for the wonderful events held including the Year 6 end of year performance - I even got invited in for breakfast following the completion of last year’s SAT’s! I also recently attending the Harvest Festival performance, and it was brilliant to hear the children singing some amazing songs.



Outside of school I’m involved in coaching my son’s football team at Washington FC and I would like to take this chance to wish the Washington FC’s Women the best of luck in the 1st Round of the FA Cup against Hull City. This is the furthest the Women have ever progressed in the competition, and it would be great if everyone could come along and show their support on the 3rd of November for the home game at the Northern Area next to Washington Hub.

If anyone would like to contact me to talk about the role or indeed anything to do with school, please reach out at my email address – andrew.charlton@jfkprimary.co.uk

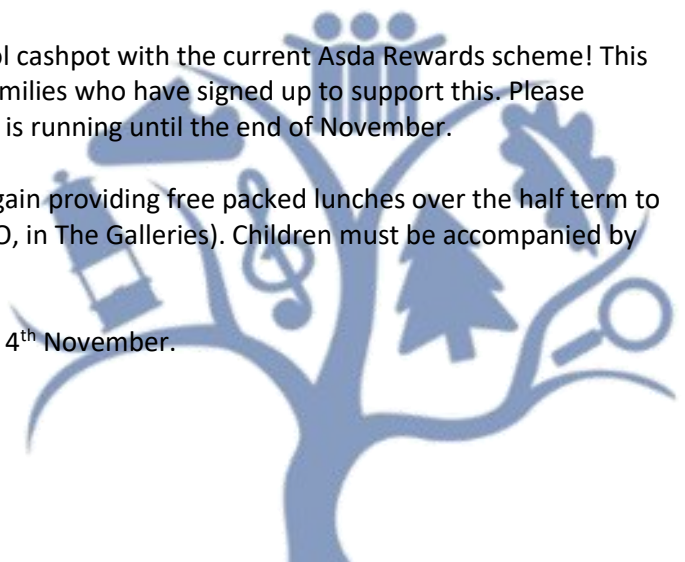
Asda Cashpot: We have an amazing £605 sitting in our school cashpot with the current Asda Rewards scheme! This is amazing, and we really appreciate all parents/carers and families who have signed up to support this. Please continue to encourage your family and friends as the scheme is running until the end of November.

WCFP: The Washington Community Food Project are once again providing free packed lunches over the half term to school-age children. Collection is from the usual outlet (Unit O, in The Galleries). Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Have a lovely half term – we’ll see everyone back on Monday 4th November.

B. H. Adams

Mr B. Adams - Head of School



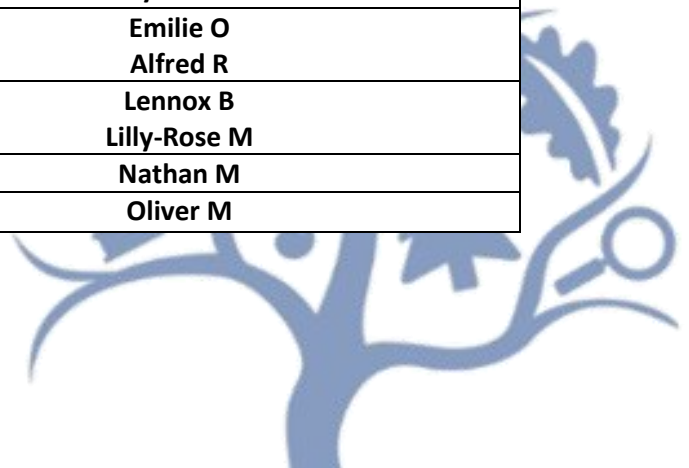


John F. Kennedy
Primary School

Stars of the Week



| Year Group | Class | Star of the Week |
|------------|-------|----------------------------|
| Nursery | NAO | Jude C Oliver D |
| | RAM | Darcy S Dougie H |
| Reception | RES | Halle B Harrison M |
| | 1AP | Kyran C Isabella M |
| One | 1MT | Elsie C Emilia F-L |
| | 2MA | Khadija D Ayesha B |
| Two | 2JW | Emily C Leon T-M |
| | 3DF | Charlotte T Poppy L |
| Three | 3GB | Harry B Neve W |
| | 4AF | Theo L Joseph W |
| Four | 4BK | Esme-Rose S Lily-Rose M |
| | 5RN | Flynn M Calvin T |
| Five | 5MA | Bonnie P Tymon B |
| | 6PP | Emilie O Alfred R |
| Six | 6LM | Lennox B Lilly-Rose M |
| | TLC | Nathan M |
| Treehouse | TNP | Oliver M |



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 is generally on the yard or field depending on the weather

| Week Commencing: 4 th November | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Day | Morning | Afternoon |
| Monday | Year 4 (swimming) Year 1 | Year 3 |
| Tuesday | | Year 2 |
| Wednesday | Reception | Year 4 |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | 5MA – Swimming 5RN – PE |

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 additional 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: 4 th November | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|
| Day | Morning | Afternoon |
| Monday | | |
| Tuesday | | Reception |
| Wednesday | | |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | Year 6 Forest School Day | |



Sports News

Girls Football: On Tuesday, the girls' football team continued their league campaign with games against Biddick and Holley Park.

The first game of the night was against Biddick. Starting well, the team had a couple of chances to take the lead with Ella Mae R and Lucy H linking up well in the early stages of the game. Darcy G was in fine form and made save after save to deny the opposition. Ella W, Grace N and Mia R all played well in defence, preventing Biddick from taking the lead before half time. In the final minute of the game, Biddick were able to find the winner with a well-placed finish into the bottom corner. The game finishing 1-0.

The second game of the night was against Holley Park. This was a very good game of football between the schools, with good displays of team work and positive attitudes throughout. On the stroke of half time, Holley Park were able to take the lead with a brilliant finish. Despite conceding before half time, JFK were determined to get back into the game and made several chances to find an equaliser. Although they were on top for the majority of the second half, JFK were unable to even the score, the game ending 1-0 to Holley Park.

School Football Team: On Thursday, the school team travelled to Rickleton in their fourth week of fixtures in the league.

The first game of the night saw the team take on George Washington. This was a game that was dominated by JFK from the very first whistle. Richard B was causing a lot of havoc up top and found himself opening the scoring with a well-placed finish at the near post. Joseph B, Jenson T and Adam W were brilliant at the back for JFK and allowed the George Washington strikers no time at all on the ball. Straight after the half time break, Lennox B was able to dribble his way past two defenders before firing past the keeper to make it 2-0. Moments later, Lennox B doubled his lead and secured the 3-0 victory for JFK.

The second game of the night was against the hosts, Rickleton. JFK started well and were able to quickly break through the defensive lines of Rickleton, with the team threatening the opposition goal early on. Lucas S out muscled his defender to find himself with some space outside of the box before his effort sailed past the keeper and into the Rickleton goal. The hosts were able to equalise just before half time with a lucky deflection off the post seeing a 1-1 score at half time. Midway into the second half, Rickleton were able to pounce on a ball in the box from a corner to take the lead. This would turn out to be the eventual winner, with the game finishing 2-1 to Rickleton.

Well done to everyone who played this week!

