

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter

Friday 10th October 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

After the storms at the end of last week, it has been lovely to see some blue sky for the pupils to enjoy.

Washington Grange Care Home: On Wednesday morning, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Watson took a small group of year 5 pupils to visit the residents at Washington Grange in Barmston. The residents were delighted to see the children – and had games ready and waiting for them to play. Both residents and staff complimented the children for their manners, engagement and competitiveness when playing! I have been told they were a fantastic representation of J.F.K. – it makes me really proud to hear this. We will be looking to arrange more visits and activities with the residents throughout the year.

Reception Special Visitor: On Wednesday, reception received a special visit from a police officer. They planned a range of questions to ask her, completed a special mission and participated in training on how use special equipment. The children were very excited to try on police uniform. The officer was super impressed with the children's behaviour and police skills and will look out for the children in future recruitment!



Music Outreach: This year, we have been selected to take part in the Durham Cathedral Outreach Programme, which involves 30 year 5 pupils working with the Chorister School at Durham to learn a selection of songs which follow the theme of autumn and winter. On Thursday, they had their first session together and the singing was lovely – I was so proud. Over the remainder of the term, they will continue to learn the songs before performing in Durham Cathedral. I can't wait to hear the final performance.

P.E./Forest School: Just to remind parents that no jewellery should be worn for PE or Forest School. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, could you please take them out before they come to school.

Attendance: Our attendance this week is 94.99%, which is lower than last week. Our year to date has dropped slightly to 95.32%, which is just below the government target of 96%. We have two weeks left of this half term and I would love to see us pull our YTD above 96%. The class with the highest attendance in Key Stage one was 2MeA with a fantastic 100%, and in Key Stage Two was 5DF.

Can I also remind all parents/carers, all absences should be reported directly to the school office. We do ask that messages are not relayed to staff on the doors each morning. Our phones line open at 8:30am, prior to this time voicemails can be left which the office staff will pick up. Alternatively, you can email the school mailbox: info@jfkprimary.co.uk

Class	NAM	RAO	RST	1ES	1MT	2MA	2MeA	3AF
Attendance	98.01	96.15	98.15	92.00	96.84	93.08	100	89.23
Class	3GB	4BK	4MS	5DF	5RN	6PP/LM	6VS	TH
Attendance	94.78	93.10	96.67	98.57	91.79	90.40	95.60	97.20

House Points: The winner with the most points this week is Swan.

Harvest Festival: Many children from school will be taking part in our annual Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity Church next Thursday. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate parents and carers at this event due to the number of children who will be attending. We are asking for any donations of tins, packets, and non-perishable foods, which families can make, to be handed into school by Wednesday 15th October – a box will be available on the yard from Monday to place any donations into. This will then be taken to the Washington Food Bank for families in need of support.

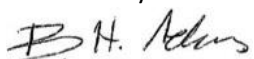
EYFS Open Day: If you or any of your friends have children due to start in Early Years, we are holding our annual open morning on Saturday 18th October between 10.00am – 12.00pm. During the morning, there will be the opportunity to look around the provision with your child and try out some of the activities; members of staff will also be available to discuss the provision.

Girls Football Team: On Tuesday, the girls football team played their first three fixtures of the season. For a number of the girls, this was their first time playing competitive football and they certainly didn't disappoint! Our first game, against a strong St Bede's side, saw us lose our opening game. Despite this, the girls rallied and demonstrated fantastic resilience during our second game – a local derby - against George Washington. A single goal from JFK's Brooke M saw JFK take the win. During our final game against Holley Park, the girls dominated for the majority of the game. Unfortunately, two goals from a very good opposition player, led to a narrow defeat. All 8 players were a total credit to JFK – their attitude and work-rate throughout was fantastic. Well done girls!

School Football Team: On Thursday, the school football team carried on their league campaign with home games against Our Lady and Usworth Colliery. The first game of the day saw JFK take on Our Lady. JFK started the better of the two sides, Jacob L opening the scoring with a free kick from the half-way line sailing past the goalkeeper. Moments later, the lead was doubled with Calvin S finding the back of the net with his half volley. Our Lady showed brilliant determination and their efforts paid off – being able to level the score 2-2 with two goals just before half time. Our Lady continued with this momentum and found themselves 3-2 early in the second half. In the final minutes of the game, Dain L sent in a corner and found the head of Jacob L who put it past the keeper to complete the 3-3 goal fest. The second game saw another free kick from Jacob L find the top corner as JFK took the lead in a very tight fixture. Usworth battled back, breaking through the defensive lines to find an equaliser. Daniel C was fantastic up front, constantly pressing the opposition defence and his hard work nearly paid off – winning the ball high up and forcing the goalkeeper to make a good save. The game ended 1-1 meaning two more draws for the team as they continue to pick up points in the league. Well done to everyone who took part!

JFK Superstar: Joshua R (5DF) took part in a talent show where he sang Sweet Caroline. He came runner up!

Have a lovely weekend.



Mr B. Adams
Headteacher



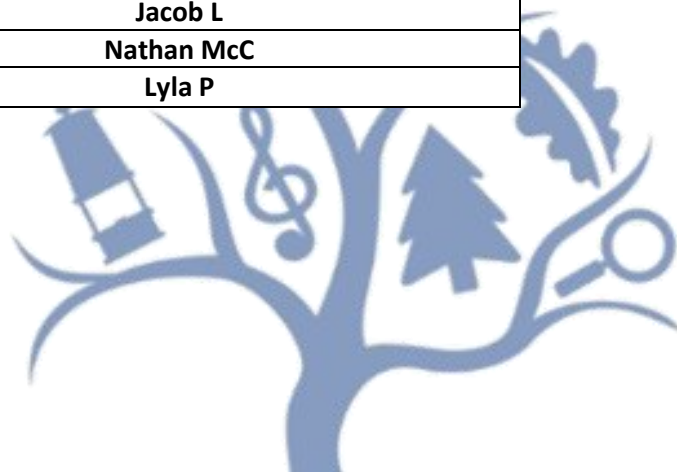


John F. Kennedy
Primary School

Stars of the Week



Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAM	Florence J Hassan D
Reception	RAO	Wyatt C Martha R
	RST	Ollie D Bonny G
One	1ES	Halle B Max M
	1MT	James B Thomas S
Two	2MA	Isabella M Jerry C
	2MeA	Quinn B Kyra-Mae N-D
Three	3GB	Lennox B Joshua R
	3AF	Ayesha B Poppy R
Four	4BK	Louie H Jack B
	4MS	Henry P Grace L
Five	5DF	Rosie M Joshua R
	5RN	Willow B Lara M A
Six	6PP/LM	Alice L Mohammed A
	6VS	Tymon B Jacob L
Treehouse	THLC	Nathan McC
	THIT	Lyla P



Timetables

P.E. Lessons: Just to remind that the P.E. kit should be a plain white t-shirt (not a football shirt), black shorts or black jogging bottoms/ leggings and trainers. A jumper can also be worn.

Week Commencing: 13 th October		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 1 Year 4 Swimming	Year 3
Tuesday	Treehouse	
Wednesday	Reception	Year 4
Thursday		Year 2
Friday	Treehouse (Y4 & Y5 pupils) – Swimming	5RN– P.E. 5DF – Swimming Year 6

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: 13 th October		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		Reception
Tuesday	3GB	
Wednesday	Treehouse	
Thursday		
Friday		2MeA

