

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



17th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Theatre Visit: This week, year 6 had the opportunity to watch Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat at the Sunderland Empire. The star of the show was Joe McElderry, who played the role of the pharaoh (in the style of Elvis). All the children had a great time, and I have been hearing some of the songs around the corridor for the rest of the week. Thanks must go to Mr Pearson and Mrs Mewes for organising the opportunity for the pupils.

Skateboarding: On Thursday and Friday this week, Key Stage Two children were treated to a terrific taster session, delivered by Team Rubicon. The children all thoroughly enjoyed experiencing a sport they were less familiar with, especially since they got the chance to test out the full range of equipment including helmets and safety pads. Each of the children listened to and followed the instructions intently and are precisely as possible, successfully showing off their new skills such as how to perform a perfect Ollie and how to step, push, turn and roll properly. By the end of the session, they felt enthusiastic and confident about a new sport!

National Story Telling Week: To celebrate National Story Telling Week, we would like to invite parents and carers to come into school each day to read a story to their child's class. The children won't know who is coming into school and it will be a mystery until the person enters the classroom at 2:45pm! If you are chosen as a mystery reader, please keep this a secret from your child to ensure the excitement and fun stays alive! The sessions will take place Monday 3rd February - Friday 7th February at 2:45pm. If you are available for any of these sessions and would like to come into school to read a story, please fill out the Form which was sent on the email today. School will be happy to provide a story for you to read, alternatively you can bring a book that you enjoy reading with your child.

Reading Breakfast Cafe: During National Story Telling week, we will also be holding a reading breakfast cafe from Monday 3rd February – Monday 10th February. The reading cafe will be open from 8:15am and parents/carers can bring children to school from that time to read stories and enjoy a delicious breakfast together. There will be a selection of breakfast items available to eat, free of charge. Please see the timetable below. If you have children in more than one year group, then please feel free to choose one session and bring all children. For parents/carers of Treehouse children, information will be coming soon regarding your session, via Parent Pay.

| Monday 3 rd Feb | Tuesday 4 th Feb | Wednesday 5 th Feb | Thursday 6 th Feb | Friday 7 th Feb | Monday 10 th Feb |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nursery and Reception | Year 1 – School Hall | Year 2 – School Hall | Year 3 – School Hall | Year 4 – School Hall | Year 5 & 6 School Hall |

Refreshments: If children are on packed lunch, they should bring in their own drink to enjoy at lunchtime (which can be a juice drink), however, if they don't bring one school are happy to provide them with water to drink. I'd also like to remind everyone children should only be bringing in water in their bottles for during the day.

Yard Equipment and Toys: Just a polite reminder that children should not play with the equipment from the yard on a morning when coming into school, or at collection time. This equipment is for the Treehouse children to use during their break times. We are also seeing an increase in children bringing little toys/teddies and fidgets from home and asking to take them out on breaks and lunchtimes. Children should not bring these items into school. If any children require a fidget for any reason, we can look to provide these – please discuss with their class teacher if required.

Attendance: This week our attendance is at 96.05%, and our running total since the start of the term is at 93.89%. Whilst our year-to-date figure is still significantly below the government attendance target of 96%+, I am pleased to see a movement in the right direction. The class with the highest attendance in key stage 1 was 1MT. Both 4BK & 5MA in key stage 2 achieved a fantastic 100%! These classes will be rewarded with an additional break time next week.

| Class | Nurs | RAM | RES | 1AP | 1MT | 2JW | 2MA | 3DF |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Attendance | 88.03 | 95.00 | 97.00 | 97.31 | 100 | 97.20 | 97.69 | 97.04 |
| Class | 3GB | 4AF | 4BK | 5MA | 5RN | 6LM | 6PP | TH |
| Attendance | 95.00 | 90.00 | 100 | 100 | 99.92 | 96.92 | 95.19 | 97.08 |

Parent View: Before Christmas, we asked all parents to complete a short survey around the school curriculum offer and aspects of the wider offer we provide. I must thank all parents who took the time to complete the survey and we appreciate all the feedback given, both positive and constructive. Based on the responses, I do want to share that from this term, reception pupils will have the opportunity to take part in after school clubs – please look out for the information on ParentPay regarding how to sign up. Also, for the remainder of the academic year, all year groups will be sharing their learning through an assembly, which family are invited to attend. Dates to follow.

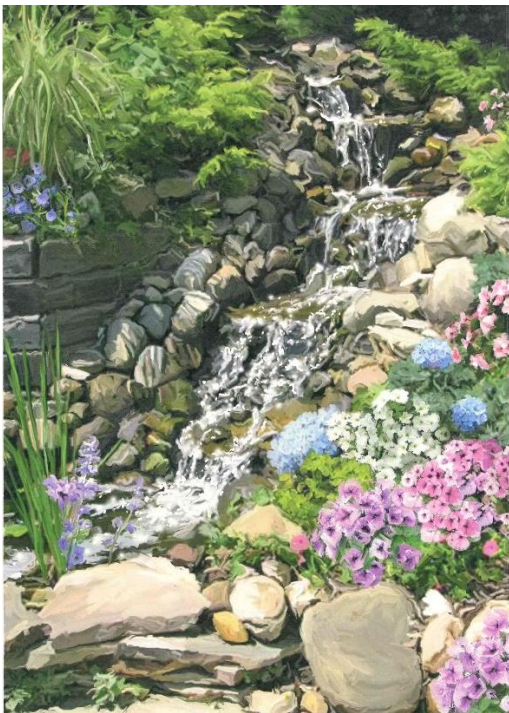
JFK Superstars: Well done to Aida S (RES) who achieved two awards last weekend for dancing. Her first award was for her achievement at Level 1 Freestyle, and her second award was for graduating in tap dance. Both are fantastic achievements Aida, well done!



House Points: The winning house, with the most points, this week is Swan.

INSET Day: Just a polite reminder that school is closed to pupils on Monday 27th January due to staff training.

A Thank You Message: Please see a message from Mr Downing



To THE STAFF, PARENTS
and Governors.

A Big Thank you from myself
and Elaine, for a wonderful
last day it certainly took me
by surprise once again thank
you for all of your support and
kindness, all of our best wishes
for the future

Joe & Elaine
Downing
XX



Have a lovely weekend!

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 | Lily B Noah H |
| | RAM | Harlow M Grayson A |
| Reception | RES | Lockie B Poppy N |
| | 1AP | Jerry C Ivy D |
| One | 1MT | Freda C Kane C |
| | 2MA | Alana R Belle T |
| Two | 2JW | Sylvia H-F Orla G |
| | 3DF | Poppy L Daniel W |
| Three | 3GB | Nancy H Jessica G |
| | 4AF | Jacob BM Sophia S |
| Four | 4BK | Charlie B Thea G |
| | 5RN | Mia W Thomas C |
| Five | 5MA | Shyla C Hayden S |
| | 6PP | Freddie L Darcy G |
| Six | 6LM | Ayda R The whole class for fantastic representation of our school at Sunderland Empire |
| | TLC | Mia J |
| Treehouse | TNP | Conroy K |

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: 20 th January | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Day | Morning | Afternoon |
| Monday | Year 4 (swimming) Year 1 | Year 3 |
| Tuesday | | Year 2 |
| Wednesday | | Year 4 |
| Thursday | Treehouse | Year 6 |
| 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: 20 th January | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Day | Morning | Afternoon |
| Monday | | Reception |
| Tuesday | Year 3 | |
| Wednesday | Treehouse | Nursery |
| Thursday | | Year 4 |
| Friday | Nursery | 1AP |

