

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



26th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what a warm week it has been! Hopefully, this is the start of a glorious summer!

Secondary Transition: Most of our year six cohort have enjoyed some transition days at their new secondary school this week. The feedback we have had is they were nervous but mostly excited to see their new environments, meet some of their teachers for next year and make some new friends. They all returned yesterday with a buzz and enjoyed sharing their experiences.

Also, year five visited Biddick Academy yesterday – a taster day with a Harry Potter theme! They had a fabulous day and took part in some lessons across the school: making potions in the science lab; creating their own dragons with a short story; making a wand in art and a rhythm and notation workshop in music, based on The Greatest Showman. Many certificates were given out during the day for creative ideas, knowledgeable answers and excellent attitudes. Biddick staff were very impressed with the behaviour and enthusiasm that the year five children showed, as were we.

Year 4's Trip to the Coast: Year 4 had a fantastic morning at Seaburn Beach today, where they put their creativity and their knowledge from last half term's Art and Design topic into action! Using the vibrant coastal styles of Emily Ward, Joanne Wishart, and Kate Van Suddese as inspiration, the children created their own expressive seaside artwork, capturing the colours of the coastline. It was a brilliant mix of sunshine, fun and imagination and everyone had a great time. Well done, Year 4!



Nissan Workshop: Today, year 6 were joined by a member of staff from Nissan for a workshop based on the history of Nissan – where they learned about why Nissan makes cars, some key historical facts. They also designed their own car and brought them to life with Lego! They also learned some Japanese words – why not test their knowledge and ask them which words they learned and what they mean.

Year One Local Walk: Unfortunately, year one's local walk to Washington Village this week was cancelled. It has been rearranged for **Monday 29th June**. The children will leave school at around **9.30am** and will return to school around **11.00am**. If the weather is as hot as this week, children will need to have sun cream applied before school and should also wear a sun hat and/or sunglasses. If it is cooler, please send children into school with a coat. Regardless of the weather, please also ensure your child has a water bottle as they will need to take these on the walk. We can't wait to show you some of our pictures from the walk! Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance: Our attendance for this week has been 91.45%. This brings our year-to-date figure to 94.28%, another slight drop from last week. We are seeing an increase in unauthorised absences lately and this has a massive impact on our overall attendance. The weather this week has been particularly warm, and I'd like to thank all the families who continued to attend school. When at school, I would like to assure you we keep all children as comfortable as possible – we increase fluid intake, limit time in the sun, look at alternative breaks etc and monitor temperatures closely within the building.

Class	NAM	RAO	RST	1ES	1MT	2MA	2MeA	3AF
Attendance	85.92%	92.80%	89.26%	87.50%	93%	91.85%	90%	90.77%
Class	3GB	4BK	4MS	5DF	5RN	6PP/LM	6VS	TH
Attendance	84%	91.29%	95%	91.38%	92.50%	91.15%	90.40%	96.25%

Washington Rotary Club: The other week, we were visited by Washington Rotary Club, to be presented was at the school to present a cheque after some of our staff and a governor took part in a sponsored swim during the autumn term. I am proud to announce that they raised an amazing £541 for the school. This will be used to support the wider opportunities within John F Kennedy. Huge thanks to all adults who gave up their time to raise funds for the school.



Colour Run: Please continue to bring in your sponsor money after the fantastic colour run last week. Remember, that all pupils who return their form and money, no matter how much, by 3rd July will be entered into a prize draw. I wonder if we can beat the last colour run total, which was around £8000.



Sports Days: Next week, we are starting our sports days for most year groups. Please see table below as a reminder for your child's event. Please note, once all parents/carers are on the field, our office staff will need to lock the gate for safeguarding. Therefore, parents/carers are unable to leave without speaking to a member of staff.

Year Group	Date	Time
Treehouse (Squirrel Class)	Monday 29 th June	1:30pm
Reception	Tuesday 30 th June	2:00pm
Year 1 & 2	Wednesday 1 st July	9:30am
Year 3 & 4	Wednesday 1 st July	2:00pm
Treehouse (Fox & Hedgehog Class)	Thursday 2 nd July	1:30pm
Year 5 & 6	Monday 6 th July	2:00pm

Summer HAF: The Together for Children 'Holiday, Activities and Food Programme' will be running sessions over the summer holidays. Please see the leaflet below for further information and scan the QR Code to go directly to the dedicated website.

Coffee Morning: Next Friday, 3rd July, we will be holding a S.E.N.D. coffee morning in our school hall. We will have various services joining us who will be able to offer advice and support, including: Sendiass, Daisy Chain, Healthy Heads, Citizens Advice Bureau, Carers Centre, Grace House and Choice Wellbeing. In addition to this Mrs Mewes, our school SENDCo, and Andre Sowerby, Early Help Worker, will be there for you to chat to

Early Years Open Days: If you or any of your friends have children due to start in Early Years in 2026 or 2027, we are holding two 'open day' sessions next week, which will provide an 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. The sessions will be held on Wednesday 2nd July at 3:45pm-5:00pm and Saturday 4th July at 9:30am-11:30am. Please spread the word!

WEAR HERE 4 THE HOLIDAYS

HAF Sunderland Summer

ELIGIBLE CHILDREN CAN BOOK 16 SESSIONS DURING SUMMER

- Free activities for 4-16 yrs (25 yrs with SEND) eligible for benefit related free school meals, in vulnerable or low income households affected by the cost of living
- Variety of activities including sports and culture
- creative arts and entertainment.
- Free healthy meals and nutritional education.

Scan the QR code to go straight to our programme on the EEQU website – see what's on to register and book

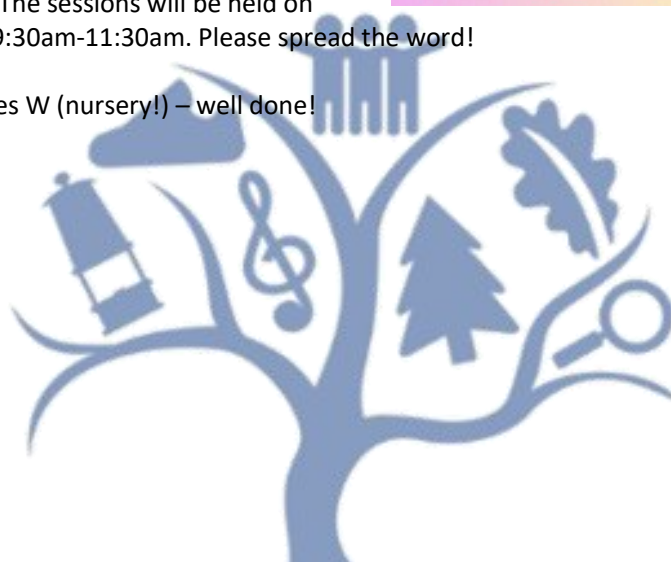
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Raffle Winner: The winner of our Father's Day hamper was James W (nursery!) – well done!

We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

B. H. Adams

Mr B. Adams
Headteacher



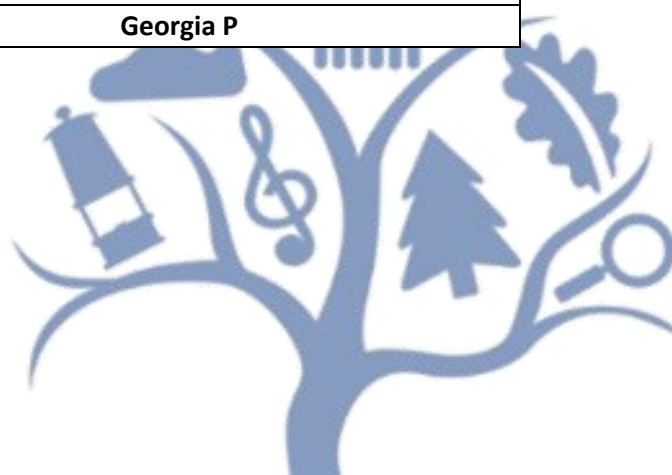


John F. Kennedy
Primary School

Stars of the Week



Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAM	Florence J Savannah S
Reception	RAO	Zachary M
	RST	Jessica F
One	1ES	Darcy S Leo C
	1MT	Harrison C Thomas S
Two	2MA	Logan S Tuba I
	2MeA	Harrison F Imogen B
Three	3GB	Jake A Sylvia HF
	3AF	Khadija D Poppy R
Four	4BK	Sophia C Flynn W
	4MS	Harry F Craig R
Five	5DF	The Whole Class!
	5RN	The Whole Class!
Six	6PP/LM	All Biddick Academy transition pupils! Well done for setting a fabulous impression.
	6VS	All Biddick Academy transition pupils! Well done for setting a fabulous impression.
Treehouse	THBM	Isla E
	THIT	Georgia 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: 29 th June		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		Year 3 THBM Sports Afternoon
Tuesday	Treehouse (THIT)	Year 1
Wednesday	KS1 Sports Day	Nursery Year 3 and 4 Sports Day
Thursday		Year 2 Year 5
Friday	Reception	Year 6 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: 29 th June		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		
Tuesday		Reception
Wednesday	Treehouse	
Thursday		
Friday		2MA

