



8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The snow and ice may have vanished, but we are definitely into the first throws of Christmas at school this week. We have had our first Christmas trip, a music performance, our Christmas Fayre and also celebrated Christmas Jumper Day. This is on top of all the normal work across all classes.

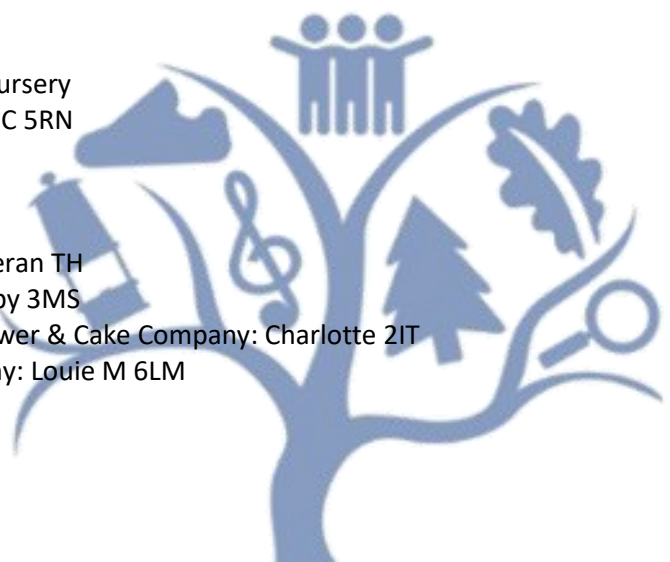
**Treehouse:** It has been a very busy week for our pupils in the Treehouse. On Tuesday, they went on their Christmas trip to West Boldon Lodge to complete a range of festive activities, as well as meeting Father Christmas. They all thoroughly enjoyed the morning. Some of our younger pupils have also been for a treat to Bee Bee's Coffee House in Concord, as part of their enriched curriculum. Huge thanks to the staff at the shop, who made the children feel very welcome and made sure they all had a great time. Also, this week, parents have been invited in to work with their children to take part in Christmas craft afternoons. I loved the items that were completed and I hope everyone who was able to attend enjoyed the afternoon.

**Christmas Fayre:** It was great that the school was so busy and full of festive cheer on Wednesday; it really made our Christmas season begin on a high. The enjoyment on faces as prizes were won, or when children emerged from Santa's Grotto, was lovely to see. I was also so impressed with our community stalls – the range of goods on offer for gifts or treats was another highlight, and it was so good to be able to support our local community. If you bought a raffle ticket, it was drawn yesterday at school by our year 6 council members – the video of this can be seen on the school Facebook page and all prize winners can be found below. Congratulations if you were one of our winners - all prizes can be collected from the school office. Mrs Mackintosh and Mrs Watson in the office have been very busy counting the money and I am so pleased to announce that the fayre raised an astonishing £1200 for the school. Thank you to everyone who came and supported this event.

The winner of the 'Guess the Elf' was Joseph B from 5DF, who correctly guessed the name Coco.

Winners of the Christmas raffle were:

- Christmas hamper: Henry A 5DF
- A small hamper and Magical Millie's voucher from Washington Millenium Centre: Maisie RAM
- Family pass to the Washington Wetland Centre: Kieran TH
- Vouchers for Mr Twister's Jump Centre: Holly R 6PP
- A sweet gift from Kitty's Candy Sweet Boutique: Oakley, Nursery
- A cut and blow dry from Polished Hair and Beauty: Lauren C 5RN
- Hair products from NiKell's Hair: Harry M 1ES
- A £20 voucher for Elmtree Farm: Holly R 6PP
- Vouchers for The Lounge Beauty: Emelia 4BK
- A one month free session pass for Toukon Martial Arts: Kieran TH
- A cupcake box from The Alt Flower & Cake Company: Poppy 3MS
- A Terry's Chocolate Orange character gift from The Alt Flower & Cake Company: Charlotte 2IT
- A Christmas treat box from The Alt Flower & Cake Company: Louie M 6LM
- A nail voucher from Just Juicy Nails: Matthew 5DF
- A voucher for May Hong Chinese: Olivia RAM
- X2 carvery meals at Sarah's @ North Biddick: Darcy G 5DF



- A voucher for The Courtyard at Washington Arts Centre: Emelia 4BK
- X2 day passes for Beamish Museum: Mackenzie C
- A large pizza voucher for Domino's: Jackson MB 3MS
- A pamper pack: Holly R 6PP
- A picture frame from Made By Rexi With Love: Heidi S 5DF
- A candle and cracker kit from JJ Crafts: Rosie S RSC

**Musical Talent:** On Wednesday, it was lovely to hear the hall full of music, as some of our instrumentalists, along with year 5 singing, entertained family and friends with festive classics. I was so proud of everyone who performed, and just demonstrates what talented pupils we have at JFK. There will be other opportunities for all instrumentalists to perform later in the school year – please keep an eye out for future announcements.

**Pizzalicious:** As part of design and technology, year 5 created some amazing pizzas this week. They had a wide choice of ingredients to include on their design, including the controversial topping - pineapple. I got to sample one of them, and it tasted delicious! We have some budding chefs in year 5!

**House Points:** Today, our winning house team of the term, Franklin, came together in the hall as a reward for their effort across the weeks. They decorated a biscuit, had a delicious hot chocolate (complete with marshmallows and cream), and watched The Snowman and the Snowdog on the big screen. Congratulations Franklin! I wonder who will win the reward next term?

The winning house this week, with the most points, was Swan. Congratulations! This will be added to next terms total.

**Attendance:** This week, our overall attendance is 93.44% and the class with the best attendance is 6PP with a fantastic 96.67%!

**Christmas Performances:** Next week, the hall will be very busy between Monday-Wednesday, as there will be 6 shows being performed to family and friends. On Thursday, our older pupils (year 5 & 6) will be holding their annual Christmas service at Holy Trinity Church, where the Christmas story will be told through a mixture of narration and songs. If you have tickets for any of these performances, you are in for a treat. There will also be a raffle at each performance – if you'd like to take part please bring some money with you on the day!

**Christmas Lunch:** Next Thursday, the kitchen staff will be starting work earlier than normal to prepare a Christmas meal for pupils and staff. This is always a lovely experience in the hall, when everyone comes together to eat a delicious meal. On this day, we encourage children to wear a Christmas jumper to school. If your child does not normally have a school lunch, but would like one, please click on the following link to let us know – [xxx](#). Please DO NOT complete this form if your child normally stays for school lunch.

**Christmas Trips:** Thank you to all parents who have supported the Christmas trips so far. This is just a reminder that you can now log on to ParentPay to give permission and pay for your child's Christmas trip – if we do not have parental consent, then unfortunately your child will not be able to join in with their classes festive trip. Thank you to any parent who has volunteered to support on the trip; if they haven't already, class teachers will be contacting parents about this. If you have any questions, please ask your child's teacher or contact the school office.

Year Group	Venue	Date
Nursery	Wharton Park	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Reception	Art Ventures	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 1	Hall Hill Farm	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 2	Gibside	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 3	Gibside	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 4	Gala Theatre	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 5	Rainton Arena	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Year 6	Silksworth Ski Slope	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec

**PE Lessons:** As the hall is being used every day next week for Christmas events, there will be no PE lessons. Swimming sessions will still go ahead as normal for year 4 and year 5.

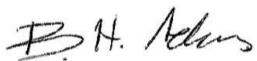
**Forest School:** Please send your child into school dressed appropriately for their session – long sleeves and trousers, wellies and a waterproof coat if possible. Forest School still takes place when raining, and we don't want children sitting in class with wet clothes, so it would be useful to provide spare clothing/shoes on the day.

Week Commencing		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday	2FM and 2IT	
Friday		

**HAF Programme:** Washington Leisure Centre are offering a FREE Holiday and Food Activity Camp in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the Christmas holidays. This is available to families entitled to means tested free school meals. They have 40 free spaces per day at Washington Leisure Centre. The children will get a free hot meal as well as sports activities including swimming. The programme will run between Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 10am–2pm for children aged 5–11 years. As well as sporting activities there will also be some arts and crafts activities. Please call Washington Leisure Centre on 01914166642 to book your child's place and for more information

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,



Mr B Adams  
Head of School



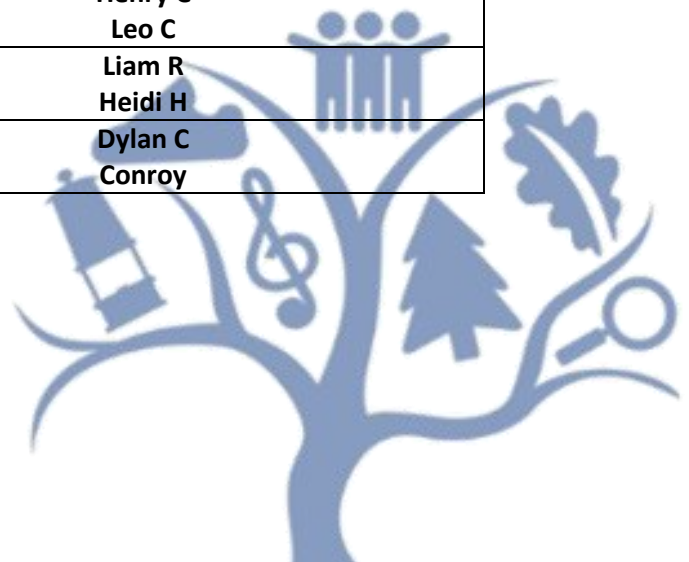


**John F. Kennedy**  
Primary School



# Stars of the Week

Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAO	Reggie J
Reception	RSC/BG	Rosie S Noah D
	RAM	Quinn B Hannah H
One	1AP	Rory S Georgina H
	1ES	Esmae-Louise M Leon TM
Two	2FM	Can Y Harper G
	2IT	Travis H Rhiannon F
Three	3MS	Poppy H Lily-Rose M
	3JW	Joe E Oliver R
Four	4AF	Jude C Lucy R
	4BK	Tommy C Cora P
Five	5RN	Harley F Thea C
	5DF	Elliot S Heidi S
Six	6PP	Henry C Leo C
	6LM	Liam R Heidi H
The Treehouse	TSK	Dylan C
	TNP	Conroy



# Football News

This week has been a busy one for members of the school football team, along with Mr Smith, who has led both teams during Thursday and Friday.

**Futsal:** On Thursday evening, they took part in their second week of futsal fixtures. The first game of the night was against Holley Park. This was a dominating performance with the team creating chance after chance. An own goal saw us take the lead, however, Holley Park quickly equalised. The team didn't let their heads drop though and two goals in quick succession from Sam M and Reuben H brought home the 3-1 victory.

The second game of the evening was against George Washington. This was a very end to end game with both teams coming close to breaking the deadlock. An amazing counter attack that started with us defending in our own corner and within three passes, split the defence and saw Reuben H score what would be the winning goal. Henry A was on fire in goal, making a number of top quality saves to keep us in the lead in the dying minutes.

The final futsal game was against Our Lady Queen of Peace. This was another close fought contest with not much separating the sides. The only goal of the game was taken by James P who pounced on the best chance of the match to give us the 1-0 win. The team showed a defensive masterclass after taking the lead and comfortably dealt with everything that was thrown at them.

**Utilita Cup:** On Friday morning, the entire school football team went to compete in the EFL Kids Utilita Cup. This was an event full of the top primary school talent in Sunderland with a high standard shown throughout. The team were split into two teams and competed in groups.

JFK Blue had a fantastic group stage - drawing 0-0 with Barnes; beating Broom Cottages 3-0; winning 3-0 against St Mary's Magdalens B; 0-0 end to end clash with Northern Saints A and a comfortable 1-0 win against Hylton Castle. An undefeated group stage and a sensational time for Cole F, who did not concede in any game. Unfortunately, they did not progress on following goal difference, finishing second in their group. Despite not qualifying for the quarter finals, they should all hold their heads up high for a brilliant event!

JFK Yellow had a brilliant start, edging a close game 1-0 against Bernard Gilpin. They lost their second game against St Mary Magdalens A 1-6. They showed an amazing attitude to bounce back, first with a 1-1 draw with Plains Farm before taking a victory in a 4-3 thriller against Easington Lane. For a team full of year 5's to show a high standard of football against older children and to come third in a very tricky group should fill them all with confidence.

We are very proud of both teams who took part in the competition for the high standard of football on display, determination throughout and for impeccable team spirit in both groups. We also had very positive feedback from Sunderland staff on how well the squad represented our school. Well done everyone!

