

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Nursery Easter Parade: On Monday, it was lovely to see the 'eggcellent' turnout for the nursery Easter parade. The standard of the Easter bonnet designs was amazing – the fashion walk wouldn't have looked out of place on the catwalks of Paris or Milan! Thank you to all parents who were able to attend the event in the provision, and we hope you all enjoyed the variety of activities with your children. Thanks must go to the nursery staff for organising the day. Please have a look at the post on our school Facebook page to see photos of the event.

Treehouse Parent Craft: Over the last 2 weeks, parents have been invited to work with their children with an afternoon of Easter crafts. This week the children from Hedgehog Class and Fox Class enjoyed making Easter cards, decorations and Easter biscuits. A lovely afternoon was had by all.



Foundation of Light: On Tuesday, Mark from the Foundation of Light came into school again to work with pupils in year 5 and year 6. The workshops were very well received by the older pupils and this work has formed part of our PSHE curriculum in school round tolerance and equality. I have been pleased with the uptake from parents who also attended a workshop after school, also by Mark, so he could convey the message the pupils have been receiving. Thank you if you attended one of these sessions, and I hope you found them of some use.

Reception Church Walk: On Wednesday afternoon, Reception children enjoyed a visit to Holy Trinity church in Washington village. The children were a credit to the school - walking to and from the church showing exceptional listening, making sensible choices and following all instructions. The purpose of the visit was to support the children in gaining a better understanding of how and why Easter is celebrated within the church. The children impressed the wardens of the church with their knowledge and vocabulary.



Year 1 Learning Assembly: On Thursday, the year 1 pupils enthralled family and friends with an assembly entitled 'All Creatures Great and Small'. This was based around their work from across the term when looking at animals. The audience were treated to an excellent version of 'Handa's Surprise' – complete with drama; animal dances from Carnival of the Animals; showcasing their hand puppet designs; and a quiz show using clues to decide what animal was being described. The children were all amazing – they spoke clearly and sang with enthusiasm. Thank you to any adult who was able to attend to share in their learning.

Attendance: This week, our overall attendance is 91.32% and the classes with the best attendance are 1AP and 4BK both with 98.15%. Our attendance for the Spring term is 92.08%.

We are continuing to look at ways to improve attendance in school, and today we have had a raffle for families around attendance. Pupils have been entered into draws based on their overall percentage attendance this term. Sophia H-H (year 4) won the draw for 100% attendance, winning a prize of Mr Twisters vouchers, Ada G (year 3) won the 96%+ attendance draw with a prize of tickets to the Millennium Centre East event, and Mason R (year 1) won the draw for improved attendance of more than 5%, winning a prize of soft play vouchers for Millies Magical Garden. We will have another set of prizes to win at the end of the summer term. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank these local businesses for donating these fantastic family prizes.

JFK Superstars: As always, I love to share any amazing achievements that our children have managed during the week. Edward in Reception was very excited to bring in his trophy from football this week. He got this fantastic trophy for being player of the session at Washington FC. Edward has grown so much confidence since starting these sessions and we are all very proud of you, well done!



Frankie in Reception is another JFK superstar for her fantastic dance achievement. She danced on the stage at the Sunderland Empire and received a trophy for the Level 1 1st Award King's Coronation Award. We are very proud of you Frankie, well done!

Joshua R (year 3) won 'Player of the Match' whilst playing for his team Washington United at the weekend, showcasing some outstanding saves as goalkeeper. Well done Joshua!



Ernest in year 5 has also been sharing his dancing success. At his recent grading, out of 500 marks available, he only dropped 14, which is amazing! The examiner was very impressed. Well done Ernest, we are so proud of you!

Easter Disco: The hall has been filled with music and laughter after school, as our staff fundraising team organised discos for pupils from yr1 – yr6. I was very impressed with many of the moves – future Strictly Come Dancing professionals!

Easter Raffle: Congratulations to Daniel M (Treehouse) for winning our luxury Easter hamper! I hope you enjoy this with your family over the holidays.

Easter Egg Competition: Huge thanks to anyone who took part in the egg decorating competition. It was very difficult to judge just 3 prize winners as everyone was so good. Congratulations to all our winners. Please look out for posts on our Facebook page to announce the winners and their designs.

Flamenco Dance Workshop: On Tuesday 23rd April, as part of our celebrations for Spanish Language Day, the children will take part in a flamenco dance workshop ran by a qualified dance instructor. We are asking for a £1 voluntary donation per child via ParentPay. The link will be sent out in the first week back after the Easter holidays. Gracias!

Easter HAF: The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme - named 'Wear Here 4' in Sunderland - is a Department for Education funded programme, which provides fun, enriching activities and tasty, nutritious meals during school holidays. The programme provides school aged children with an opportunity to get involved in a range of activities centred on sports, culture, arts and learning. With more clubs and an ever-growing range of activities and provision. There is something for everyone. From sports to dance, weightlifting and there is even a spot of science. If you would be interested in your child taking part in the Easter HAF programme, please use the following link, which will take you to all the events on offer, from which you can book a place. <https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/HAF>

WCFP: The Washington Community Food Project will be offering free packed lunches to all local school children during the holidays. Children must be accompanied by an adult when collecting. These will be available Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri* between 12pm-3pm from Unit O (opposite Virgin Money, in The Galleries). *Excluding Good Friday

Come and Sing: Do you love to sing? Would you like to sing more? Are you shy about singing but would like to try? If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes', then come and join Sunderland Youth Choir for three fun workshops at Art Centre Washington! You will get to meet our vocal leaders, make some new friends, learn some new songs and have loads of fun! At the end of the workshops, you will even get to perform for your friends and family! What's not to love about that?

Tuesday 2 April 1 – 3pm

Thursday 4 April 1 – 3pm

Tuesday 9th April 10am – 3pm (lunch provided)

For children aged 8 – 10 years. Free – Priority is given to children from the Washington East ward.

For more information and to express interest, visit: <https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/creative-you-junior-come-and-sing/>

Have a lovely Easter holiday.

We look forward to opening the school again on Monday 15th April for the summer term.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. H. Adams'.

Mr B Adams
Head of School



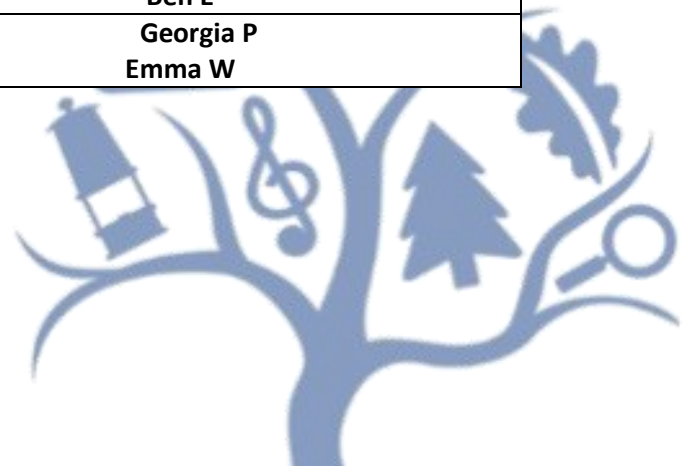


John F. Kennedy
Primary School



Stars of the week

Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAO	Sia G Toby R
	RSC/MO	Rosie S Logan S
Reception	RAM	Penny R Harrison F
	1AP	The Whole Class
One	1ES	The Whole Class
	2FM	Thomas A Craig R
Two	2MA	Edith R Louie H
	3MS	Sofia S Jessica B
Three	3JW	Brooke M Willow B
	4AF	Jack B Evie O
Four	4BK	Alfie Y Rosie C
	5RN	Mia R Elsa A
Five	5DF	Adam W Matthew T
	6PP	The Whole Class
Six	6LM	Harrison A Ben E
	TSK TNP	Georgia P Emma W
The Treehouse		



Timetables

PE Lessons: Children can wear their PE kit to school on the day. This should be a plain white t-shirt, black jogging bottoms/leggings and trainers. At this time of year, PE is generally in the hall however depending on the weather we may still have opportunities to go on the yard or field so please ensure your child has a jumper or jacket with them.

Week Commencing 15 th April		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 1 Year 4 Swimming	
Tuesday		Year 2
Wednesday		
Thursday	Year 3	5DF
Friday		Year 4 5RN Swimming

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 15 th April		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	3JW	
Tuesday		Year 4
Wednesday		2FM
Thursday		
Friday	1ES	

