

# John F. Kennedy Primary School

## The Buzz Newsletter



15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You can tell we are in the middle of the festive season at school as it has been so busy with performances, trips, parties, craft and singing. This is as well as completing work in lessons. I know that every adult is so proud of the continued commitment from all the pupils around school.

**Christmas Performances:** It has been wonderful to see so many families and friends join us during the week for the performances by the children – every single performance was full, with standing room only for many adults. I hope you will agree with me that the shows, either in the hall, or at the church, were amazing. Every single pupil gave 100% effort, whether it be with a speaking part, an acting part, or by joining in with the singing. I do have to admit that I was bursting with pride throughout every show – it is always one of my highlights of the school year and really put me in the festive spirit.

**Christmas Lunch:** On Thursday, most of our children enjoyed a traditional Christmas meal in the school hall, which had been cooked by our kitchen staff. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying their meal – we even introduced Brussel sprouts this year, which several pupils ate! Huge thanks must go to the kitchen staff, who prepared the meal all week alongside preparing and cooking the usual menu for the pupils.

**Special Visitor:** On Thursday, children in Early Years, Key Stage 1, year 3 and the Treehouse had a special visitor, who managed to squeeze his visit into John F Kennedy at such a busy time. The children were all so excited to meet this important person in his grotto. I know a few of the children have kept their gift to be opened at home on Christmas Day.

**Christmas Trips:** What a busy day we had today! At one point it must have looked like The Galleries bus station with all the coaches waiting outside the school. We have had pupils visiting Wharton Park (nursery) or Gibside (year 3) to complete a Christmas trail, year 1 had the chance to hold animals at Hall Hill Farm, yr6 were active when snow-tubing and skiing at Silksworth, as well as year 4 watching a traditional pantomime at The Gala Theatre, Durham. We also had ArtVentures in school, working with our reception children, who had a wonderful time being creative (and messy) when completing different activities. If you were one of the parents who volunteered to support on any of the trips, I thank you for giving up your time today.

Please keep a look out on our Facebook page for images of all the exciting trips and activities.

**JFK Superstars:** I was delighted to hear about 4 pupils from year 5 this week. Alfred, Evan, Henry and Lennox took part in the Washington Running Club Santa run on Sunday to raise money for Washington Mind. Well done boys – a great achievement.

**Attendance:** This week, our overall attendance is 93.01% and the class with the best attendance is The Treehouse with a fantastic 97.5%!

**PE Lessons:** There are no lessons next week due to the hall being used for parties and singing. However, year 4 will still be going swimming on Monday.

**Forest School:** There are no sessions in the forest next week due to trips, parties and singing.



**Singing Around the Tree:** As has become a tradition in school, we would like to invite family and friends into school on the final day of term to join us for some festive singing around the tree. Audience participation is expected, so make sure you all have your singing voices with you when you arrive. There will be limited seating available for those who find it difficult to stand for a longer period of time. Please use the table below to see what time your child will be singing. Please arrive via the small gate next to the school office.

Year Groups	Time
Yr 1 & 2	9.15am
Yr 3 & 4	10.00am
Yr 5&6	10.45am
Nursery and Reception	2.15pm



**Football News:** This week saw the conclusion of the Futsal league. Our final game of the Futsal season was against Usworth Colliery. This game was an end-to-end thriller which saw JFK take the lead 3 times! The deadlock was broken from a magnificent long range effort rifled home by Liam R. Usworth were quick to equalise moments later, despite the setback JFK kept their fighting spirit. A lovely finish from Lennox B put the team 2-1 up but once again Usworth were quick to level the scores.

In the final moments of the game, a lovely move which saw everyone touch the ball found Lennox B at the back post to secure a 3-2 win for the team. A fabulous effort from all involved on the night. This win saw JFK leapfrog a number of teams to secure a third-place finish in the Futsal league. Well done to everyone who has taken part.

**Festive Non-Uniform:** Children do not need to be in school uniform next Wednesday (the final day of the term). Instead, we would like them to come to school wearing casual clothes and something festive.

**WCFP:** During the festive break, the WCFP will be offering free packed lunches to all local school children. No referral is necessary; all they ask is that children must be accompanied by an adult. If you are interested in taking up this offer during the holidays, then lunches can be collected from Unit O (opposite Virgin Money), in The Galleries on Tues to Fri between 12-3pm, excluding Boxing Day.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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	The whole class
Reception	RSC/BG	Darcie-Mai G Chideziri C
	RAM	Klayton R Oscar B
One	1AP	The whole class
	1ES	The whole class
Two	2FM	Cole L Lewis P
	2IT	Lilly-Mae C Ethan M
Three	3MS	Poppy H Ava S
	3JW	Miles M Brooke M
Four	4AF	Elliott D Imogen W
	4BK	Ernest H Henry L
Five	5RN	Ernest S Evan Mc
	5DF	Amelia T Lucy W
Six	6PP	The whole class
	6LM	The whole class
The Treehouse	TSK	Arthur F
	TNP	Lily S

