

# John F. Kennedy Primary School

## The Buzz Newsletter



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

A bumper edition of our Buzz newsletter today, with us not being able to send a copy out last week.

**Cycling:** Last week, it was the pupils from Miss Newsome's who had their opportunity of taking part in Bikeability level 1 and level 2 training. Well done to all year 5 pupils who have taken part in this scheme. I hope you continue to demonstrate your learning outside of school.

**Bike Safety:** Linking into Bikeability, if your child rides their bike to school unaccompanied, could we ask parents to remind their child to cycle safely to school using appropriate paths etc. We have received feedback from some parents who have noticed pupils cycling down the middle of the surrounding roads to school which can be very dangerous, especially during peak school times. Also, we actively encourage all pupils to wear safety helmets if riding to school on bikes or scooters.

**Treehouse Parent Craft:** On Monday and Tuesday afternoon, the children from Squirrel Class invited their parents into school to do some Easter crafts. They made a decoration, a card and a tasty biscuit. Everyone enjoyed it! There are further afternoons planned next week the remaining pupils and parents.



**Foundation of Light:** On Tuesday, we welcomed Mark from the Foundation of Light to work with pupils across yr2 – yr4 as part of our PSHE curriculum. Through a series of activities, they delivered messages about diversity, inclusion, equality and how they should treat people regardless of their background. It was lovely to see parents also take part in a workshop after school, while their children were being coached. They will be back next Tuesday to continue the work with our older pupils. There is still time to sign up for the year 5 and 6 workshop and training session on Tuesday evening, 3:30-4:15pm. Please see previous ParentPay message for details.

**Year 6 SATs Club:** Next week, SATs club will take place on Monday after school. This is due to the Foundation of Light workshops taking place on Tuesday.

**Attendance:** This week, our overall attendance is 90.51% and the class with the best attendance is 6PP with 97.50%!

**House Winners:** Our winning house for the term, Swan, enjoyed an Easter themed activity this afternoon. They completed a small hunt with an egg prize and decorated a small cake. Well, done Swan - I hope you enjoyed your treat!

**Reception Church Walk:** Next week, on Wednesday, our reception class are going on a walk to Holy Trinity Church in Washington Village as part of their RE topic this term. Please ensure your child brings a warm coat with them on this day.

**Year 1 Learning Assembly:** Also on Wednesday, parents/carers of our year 1 classes are invited to join them for their learning assembly of their recent topic "All Creatures Great and Small". The assembly will begin at 2:30pm and you will enter the hall via the small gate to the right hand side of the school office.

**Year 2 Haemophilia Awareness Day:** Year 2 will be celebrating Haemophilia Day on Wednesday 17th April. Children in year 2 are invited to come into school wearing the colour red and will be learning about what Haemophilia is.

**JFK Superstars:** Mia (Treehouse) has been a huge help to her mam, following a small procedure she'd had, demonstrating her caring nature. Mia's mam informed us that Mia has been helping around the house more and looking after mam – practising making cups of tea with help from dad, making her comfortable whilst resting and tidying up. This is very heart-warming to hear Mia, and I know your mam is very proud of you. Well done!

Maisie (year 3) recently competed in her first ever Judo tournament. Following a taster session, she took part in at school last year, Maisie fell in love with this sport and has been going ever since! She's is currently a white belt and took on two red belts contenders and beat them both to win her category! Fantastic Maisie – well done!



**Welcome:** We have another new member of staff who has joined our team recently – Mr Mackintosh, who will be working with and supporting pupils in year 6, including preparing them for their upcoming SATs.

**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 around 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>

**Easter Disco:** We will be holding an Easter disco for year groups 1-6 next week. If you still want to buy a ticket for your child, they can be purchased via the Payment Items section in ParentPay. Nursery and reception will take part in activities during the week. There will be time on Monday for KS1 pupils who are attending and on Wednesday for yr3-yr4 pupils who are attending to get changed before the disco. Clothing can be brought into school for this.

**Easter Raffle:** There is still time to enter our Easter hamper raffle. Tickets cost £1.00 and can be purchased through ParentPay. The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Good luck!

**Easter Egg Competition:** This year, pupils are invited to be creative and bring a decorated egg in from home on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March to be judged in our annual competition. There will be 3 prizes available for each year group. We will announce the winners during the day.

**Job Opportunity:** Oak Learning Trust are currently advertising for a Facilities Maintenance Operative to work across all schools in the trust to support our existing facilities teams with maintenance and small projects. If you think you may be interested in this role, please use the following link to find out more information: <https://www.olt.org.uk/our-trust/current-vacancies/>

**Non-Uniform:** Next Thursday, pupils can wear suitable non-uniform for the day to celebrate the end of the spring term. There is no cost involved.

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	Max H Grayson B
Reception	RSC/BG	Jerry C Kayden B
	RAM	Alex S Electra P
One	1AP	Robbie H Belle T
	1ES	Mia M Sean W
Two	2FM	Cole L Irada E
	2IT	Max A Poppy L
Three	3MS	Carson S Ava S
	3JW	Theo L Imogen H
Four	4AF	Mohammed A Imogen W
	4BK	Riley A Hayden S
Five	5RN	Lilly- Rose M Ayda R
	5DF	Chloe W Grace Mc
Six	6PP	Leo C Lily L
	6LM	Amelia T Jayden S
The Treehouse	TSK TNP	Jack Lily A-M



# 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 25 <sup>th</sup> March		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 4 Swimming	Year 6
Tuesday	Treehouse	Year 2
Wednesday		
Thursday	Year 3	
Friday		

**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 25 <sup>th</sup> March		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	3MS	
Tuesday		4AF & 4BK
Wednesday	Treehouse	2FM & 2MA
Thursday	Year 6	
Friday		



# Football – w/c 11<sup>th</sup> March

**Girl's Football** - On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, the girls' team continued their league campaign with their eyes set on breaking into the top two. The first game of the day was against Holley Park. JFK dominated for majority of the game creating chance after chance, being denied by some good goalkeeping. Amelia T was able to open the scoring with a shot from outside of the box that found the bottom corner. The opposition showed great determination after conceding and in the final minutes of the game, they were able to equalise. The game finishing 1-1.

The second game saw the team take on Springwell. This was a dominating performance from the very first whistle. Midway through the first half, Ella-Mae R was able to put the defender under enough pressure to turn over the ball in their own box before rifling home the opener. A quick-fire double from Holly R and Amelia at the beginning of the second half quickly saw JFK take a 3-0 lead. Ella W went close and nearly made it four, her shot on goal hitting the post. Darcy G was constantly talking and organising the defenders well throughout. Good defending and reading of any potential danger from Lucy H and Mia R prevented any chances going Springwell's way, securing the win.

The third game of the night was against Rickleton. The team were full of confidence from the Springwell game and this showed from kick off. Within two minutes, a quick throw in from Holly R found Amelia T, who was able to turn and hammer the ball into the top corner. Ella Mae R was everywhere on the pitch and was causing a lot of problems for Rickleton, who were constantly under pressure when they had the ball. Late into the second half, Amelia T picked up the ball at the half way line and drove past three defenders before rocketing the ball into the top corner from outside of the box. With the game finishing 2-0, JFK ended the night with their unbeaten league campaign intact and moved up into second place. Well done to everyone who played.

**School Football Team** - On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, the school football team carried on their league campaign at Lambton. The first game of the day was against Springwell. This was a dominant performance from the team, with Springwell only producing one shot at goal in the entire game. Reuben H and Lennox b were brilliant at spotting and preventing any potential danger throughout the game. Lucas S led the line as striker and was brilliant at causing problems for the defenders, at one point even having three of them marking him everywhere he went. Sam M played a lovely cross into the box, finding Lucas S but his volley just went wide of the post. JFK continued to carve out chance after chance throughout, seeing efforts go just wide or being denied by the goalkeeper. The determination paid off as in the final minute of the game, Alfie A was able to drive with the ball and find Sam M in the box, who was able to make space for himself before slotting the ball past the keeper. The last-minute winner securing the victory for JFK.

The second game of the night was against league leaders, Lambton. This was a very tight contest and a good display of the standard of football in the Washington area. Both teams had chances early in the first half, Cole F was able to produce a magnificent save to deny Lambton of an opener. Lucas S once again was causing issues for the defenders and saw his long-range effort tipped over the bar by the Lambton goalkeeper. The opposition were able to break the deadlock just before half time, a lucky bounce of the ball on the muddy playing surface fell to their striker who was able to poke it into the corner of the goal. Despite conceding on the brink of half time, the team showed tremendous team spirit and went out in search of the equaliser. Early into the second half, JFK were denied a goal by a heroic save by Lambton's goalkeeper. As the team were pushing for a goal, Lambton were able to win the ball back and counter leading to a penalty, which put them 2-0 up. Even though they were unable to bring the score back, the team showed fantastic attitudes throughout and can hold their heads high.

**Year 4 Football Trials** – A big thank you to everyone who took part in the football trials for Year 4 last week. A staggering 37 pupils turned up and took part in the event, showcasing brilliant football abilities and determination to do well. Mr Smith had a very tough time having to narrow it down to 9 children.



# Football – w/c 18<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 4 Football:** On Monday night, the year 4 football team took part in the County competition at Rickleton. Their first game was against Biddick Primary. This was a fast-paced game with lots of action throughout the first half. Biddick were able to quickly take the lead before adding two more with minutes to go before half time. A long throw in to the box found Calvin S who was able to fire it past the keeper, the score being 3-1 going into half time. During the second half, Biddick were able to score another but were quickly pegged back through a goal by Jude C. In the final minute of the game, Biddick sealed the 5-2 victory.

The next game was an end-to-end thriller with 7 goals between the two teams as JFK took on Rickleton. Rickleton had the best of and took their chances in the first half, racing into half time with a 3-0 lead. Despite the score line, the year 4 team did not let it get to their heads. It was brilliant to see the determination and confidence from JFK build in the second half. A goal from Calvin S and two goals from Jude C, saw the score line level at 3-3 before Rickleton scored a winner in the dying moments.

The final game of the night was against George Washington. The opposition were able to work the ball well, creating a number of quality chances. They were able to open the scoring before half time and quickly added two more in the second half, securing the 3-0 victory. Unfortunately, the team were unable to qualify for the next round in the year 4 county competition, however, they showcased brilliant attitudes throughout and we look forward to competing in the year 4 trophy after Easter.

**Girls County:** On Tuesday, the girls' football team competed in the County competition along with other teams in Washington. The first game of the day was against St Bedes. JFK started strongly, having a number of opportunities to open the scoring. The deadlock was broken by Holly R, who was able to score directly from a corner. Strong defending from the team was enough to weather the storm in the second half, Darcy G producing a top class save in the final minutes to secure the 1-0 win.

The second game of the night was against Biddick Primary. Ella-Mae R caused issues early on with her fantastic pressing of the opposition making defenders uncomfortable when they had the ball. Biddick were able to open the scoring, hitting JFK on the counter attack and seeing a strike from distance find the bottom corner. JFK had a number of chances to equalise the scoreline however were denied by strong defending and some solid saves by the Biddick keeper, the game ending 0-1.

The third game of the night saw JFK take on Rickleton. This was a game where the opposition were clinical at taking their chances. Rickleton were able to take the lead through excellent passing finding someone with space in the box, who was able to place it into the bottom corner. JFK girls were able to have some chances, but Rickleton added their second and third goals in the final minutes of the game to secure the 3-0 win.

The final game of the night was against George Washington. George Washington took the lead early on with a good finish from just inside the box. JFK rallied and did not let their heads drop, growing with confidence as the game went on. From a throw in, JFK were able to win the ball back off the opposition and find Amelia T, who burst past two defenders and coolly slotted the ball past the goalkeeper. The game ended 1-1. Unfortunately, with only one team going through to the next stage, JFK did not gain enough points to qualify finishing third in the group.

**Girls Trophy:** On Thursday evening, the girls' team competed in the first round of the Girls Trophy. The first game of the evening was against Holley Park. This was an end to end game with both teams creating chance after chance. Ella-Mae R was able to open the scoring, pouncing on an error by the defender to give JFK the lead. Lucy H had an effort on goal that went just wide of the post. Another solid defensive performance at the back from Mia R, Amelia T and Ella W secured the 1-0 victory.

The second game was a tight 0-0 draw with Blackfell. Both teams had chances to take the lead, however, were denied on both ends by brilliant goalkeeping. Holly R saw her long range strike cannon off the post in the final moments.

The third game saw JFK take on the hosts, Rickleton. Darcy G was called into action on many occasions producing a number of fine saves throughout the game. Rickleton were able to add two quick goals in the final moments to take the win 2-0.

The final game on Thursday was a must win game against Usworth, to ensure qualification for the next round. JFK were fantastic during this game and dominated the ball the entire way through. Amelia T opened the scoring with a long-range effort finding the far corner of the goal. The lead was doubled moments later, Amelia T once again rocketing a long-range effort past the goalkeeper. The girls' secured the 2-0 win and with that secured their place in the Girls Trophy Final in May.

