



2nd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Opera North: On Tuesday, our school hall was filled with singing as some year 5 pupils worked with visitors from Opera North to begin learning songs for Alice in Wonderland. Some of the songs were quite difficult, but as always, the pupils rose to the challenge and did well. Later this year, the children will have the opportunity to join other schools in the area on stage with Opera North to perform the musical to an audience. Details of this performance will be shared nearer the time.

Year 4: We always love it when Washington AFC visit the school to support with PE lessons. This week, they worked with year 4 in taster sessions, where they practised football skills using fast paced and fun games. By the end of the lesson, everyone had improved and developed their footwork, passing and special awareness. Well done, year 4, the coaches were very impressed with the effort and sporting attitude shown.

Reception: Today, we had a visitor from ASDA to work with our younger pupils as part of Big School Bird Watch. The children learned about the most common birds, and they went into the outside area to make a tally of all the different birds they could see. Interestingly, seagulls were the most spotted bird around our school! This work is part of a country wide survey to monitor the population levels of certain species of birds. Reception children have had a great afternoon taking part in the survey!

JFK Superstar: Last Friday evening, Sam M (year 6) had a fantastic night playing for the Washington Primary Schools District Football Team in a game against Chester-Le-Street. Sam was delighted to be the first goal scorer for the District Team this season, scoring the opening goal in a 3-2 victory. Sam was a fantastic representative for our school, showcasing an amazing attitude throughout the tough fixture. Well done Sam!

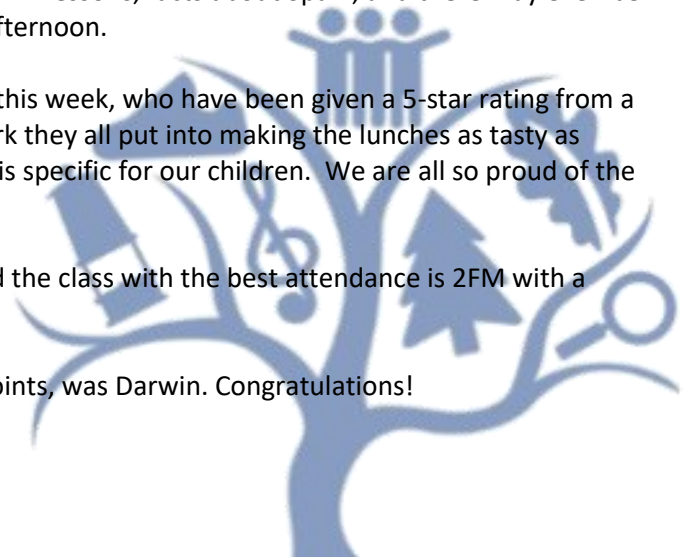
York Residential: Next week, our year 5 pupils will be taking part in their 3-day city residential break to York. This is always one of the highlights of the year, where the children will visit several attractions within the city, including York Dungeons, Yorvik, and The Chocolate Story. Please keep a look out for Facebook posts next week to see how they are getting on.

Year 2: Next Friday, parents and family members are invited to an assembly at 2.30pm. The theme for the assembly is Spain, where the pupils will be sharing their learning from MFL lessons, facts about Spain, and there may even be some traditional dancing. I hope you can join us during the afternoon.

Amazing Lunches: Huge congratulations to our kitchen staff this week, who have been given a 5-star rating from a recent inspection. This is a just reward for the amount of work they all put into making the lunches as tasty as possible, often going above and beyond to offer a menu that is specific for our children. We are all so proud of the team!

Attendance: This week, our overall attendance is 92.10% and the class with the best attendance is 2FM with a fantastic 98.57%!

House Points: The winning house this week, with the most points, was Darwin. Congratulations!



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 5 th February		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 1	
Tuesday	Treehouse PE	Year 2
Wednesday	RAM	RSC
Thursday	Year 3	Nursery
Friday		SDF Swimming Year 4

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 5 th February		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday		RSC
Tuesday		
Wednesday		2FM
Thursday	Nursery	RAM
Friday	1AP	

HAF Programme: The Holiday and Food Activity Camp are offering some sessions on 21st & 22nd February between 10am-2pm, such as swimming, sports & games. If you are interested and would like to enquire about your child's eligibility to attend, please call 0191 416 6642 to book or receive further information.

Children's Mental Health Week: This will take place next week from Monday 5th – Friday 11th February. In school, the children will be taking part in specific lessons following the theme 'My Voice Matters'. **My Voice Matters** is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. There are some brilliant tips and ideas on the webpage. Please follow the link and enjoy trying out some of the activities.

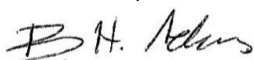
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

Chinese New Year: Just a polite reminder that our school kitchen team will be holding a "Year of the Dragon" promotional day on Thursday 8th February to celebrate Chinese New Year. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to try a school meal if they don't already have one. The cost of the meal will be £2.30 (unless your child is entitled to free school meals). If your child would like a meal on this day, please complete the form via this [link](#).

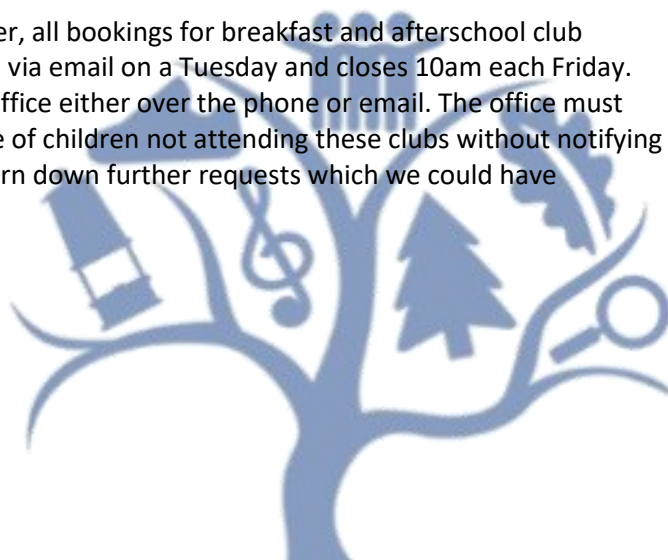
Breakfast & Afterschool Club Bookings: Just a polite reminder, all bookings for breakfast and afterschool club should be made through the booking link which is now issued via email on a Tuesday and closes 10am each Friday. Any bookings after this point must be made with the school office either over the phone or email. The office must also be notified of all cancellations. We are seeing an increase of children not attending these clubs without notifying us, and on days we have been fully booked we have had to turn down further requests which we could have facilitated.

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	Aida S Kayla C
Reception	RSC/BG	Isabella M Logan S
	RAM	Imogen B Aurelia B
One	1AP	Georgina H Alana R
	1ES	Orla G Leon TM
Two	2FM	Jessica G Harry F
	2IT	Sophia C Aiden M
Three	3MS	Finlay B Jackson M-B
	3JW	Lilith P Maisie C
Four	4AF	Dane L Calvin T
	4BK	Rosie C Ben G
Five	5RN	Lauren C Charlie F
	5DF	Henry A Mason C
Six	6PP	Amelia B Hannah L
	6LM	Henry C Ellie-Mai A
The Treehouse	TSK TNP	Emma W James C

