

John F. Kennedy Primary School

The Buzz Newsletter



13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we have had the first full week in October! This week we have squeezed lots of extra activities into our timetables, which have all helped create our interesting curriculum.

Harvest Festival: On Monday, Holy Trinity Church was filled with singing and readings by our pupils during our annual Harvest Festival. The children were amazing; I was so proud of everyone. Can I thank anyone who was able to contribute to our harvest collection – the food has been delivered to Mickey's Place, a local food bank. Our donation will help support families in the area.

Science: On Tuesday, year 2 had an amazing visit from Katie and her giant African pet snail called Einstein. Just like actual scientists, they wore white lab coats and safety goggles to carry out exciting experiments. They looked at the life cycle of Einstein and compared it to their own. They also looked at why it is important to wash their hands, using soap and pepper to show what happens to germs. Afterwards, they created their own bath bombs, mixing chemicals and adding their favourite scent: bubble gum or pear drop.

Local Visit: Reception children have enjoyed exploring the local area this week as part of our Me, Myself and My Community topic. Children were eager to show their friends and teachers all the places that they visit outside of school. In their small groups, they talked about all the people and place in their community that help them outside of school. Children will look at the pictures we took on our walk to support their map work next week, which they are very excited about!

Nursery Wedding: During their Harvest topic, nursery have shown a keen interest in scarecrows. Next week they will be reading 'The Scarecrows Wedding' by Julia Donaldson. We would like to re-enact the story and celebrate our own wedding next Friday 20th October. Nursery children are welcome to come into school in party or occasion wear to celebrate the big day.

Open Day: Reminder to parents and carers that we are holding our nursery and reception open day tomorrow morning between 10am-12pm. We look forward to welcoming families who have children turning three this academic year or children who will be starting reception in September 2024. During the morning, there will be the opportunities to look around the provision and speak to staff. There will also be plenty of activities for children to try. We can't wait to show off our fabulous EYFS provision!

Teacher Led After School Clubs: Due to parents' evenings taking place next week, there will be no teacher led after school clubs. Clubs will resume after half term. This does not affect the paid for wrap around care.

Parents' Evening: Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming everyone into school to meet your child's teacher to discuss how they have settled into school. You will also have the opportunity to look through books and see the work they have produced so far. If you would still like to make an appointment, please contact the school office.

Attendance: This week, our attendance is 94.20%. The class with the best attendance this week is 2IT with 100%!

House Points: After counting all points awarded, this week's winning house is Darwin. Congratulations! I wonder which house will win for our final week of the half-term?

School Photographer: Just a reminder that Tempest photographers will be in school next week on Tuesday 17th October to take individual and sibling photographs for pupils in school. Please make sure your child is in uniform for this day. If your child has PE or Forest School on this day, they must bring those clothes in a bag to change into after their photo has been taken.

Flu Immunisations: The nasal flu immunisations for children in reception through to year 6 will take place Monday 30th October. Please complete this link to give permission for your child to receive the immunisation:

<https://nhsImms.azurewebsites.net/session/7f354362>

Halloween Disco: After half-term, the school will be holding a disco for pupils after school. Tickets will cost £1.50, which can be purchased via ParentPay, and this will include a bag of crisps and a drink. Fancy dress is optional. Details for the discos are as follows:



- Year 1 & 2: Mon 30th Oct 3.30pm – 4.15pm. Pupils can get changed at school and will go straight to the disco after school.
- Year 3 & 4: Mon 30th Oct 4.30pm – 5.15pm. Pupils will return to school ready for the disco.
- Year 5 & 6: Tues 31st Oct 3.30pm – 4.15pm. Pupils will be in costume and will go straight to the disco after school.

EYFS pupils will take part in activities during the school day on Tues 31st October.

Halloween Raffle: We have a spook-tacular hamper available to win next Friday, 20th October. Tickets are £1.00 and can be purchased via Payment Item section on ParentPay.



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. A jumper can also be worn. At this time of year, PE may still be held on the yard or field depending on the weather.

Week Commencing 16 th October		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Year 4 swimming Year 1	Year 6 Year 2
Tuesday	Treehouse	
Wednesday		Reception
Thursday	Year 3	Year 5 (5RN)
Friday	Treehouse swimming	Year 5 swimming (5DF) 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.

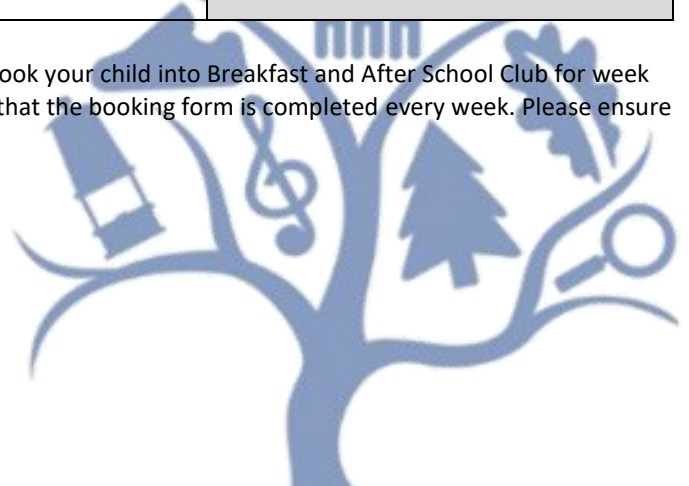
Week Commencing 16 th October		
Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Treehouse	
Tuesday		
Wednesday		4AF and 4BK
Thursday	2IT	
Friday	1ES	

Breakfast and After School Club: Please use the following link to book your child into Breakfast and After School Club for week commencing 16th October – [B & ASC Booking Form](#). It is important that the booking form is completed every week. Please ensure you advise staff of any dietary requirements your child may have.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mr B Adams
Head of School





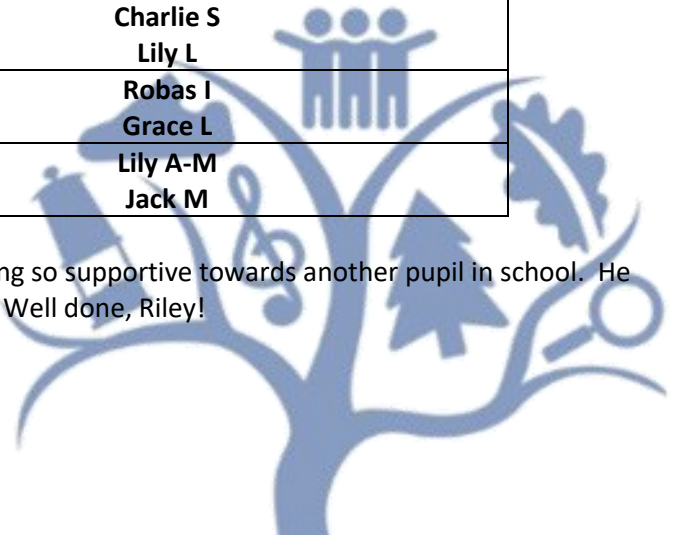
John F. Kennedy
Primary School



Stars of the Week

Year Group	Class	Star of the Week
Nursery	NAO	Grayson B Hallie W
Reception	RSC/MA	Chloe H Rebecca S
	RAM	Keith R Lilli Rae R
One	1AP	Elliot H Ayesha B
	1ES	Albie B Joshua R
Two	2FM	Lia-May B Sorch G
	2IT	Jack B Charlotte T
Three	3MS	Poppy H Isla Y
	3JW	Lara A-M Joel M
Four	4AF	Jude C Ted C
	4BK	Demi-L B Ben G
Five	5RN	Mia R Aaron B
	5DF	Henry A Husna I
Six	6PP	Charlie S Lily L
	6LM	Robas I Grace L
The Treehouse	TSK	Lily A-M
	TNP	Jack M

Head of School Award: Huge congratulations to Riley L for being so supportive towards another pupil in school. He was so kind and considerate, which are great qualities to have. Well done, Riley!



Family Support & Activities

October Free Lunches For Kids: This half term, the Washington Community Food Project will be offering their “spookily good” packed lunches for free to all local nursery, primary and secondary school-aged children.

No referral is necessary. All lunches can be collected (by an adult) from their outlet in Unit O in The Galleries (opposite Virgin Money). Collection times will be Tuesday to Friday between 12pm-3pm.

Washington Mind: Please see below various activities being held by Washington Mind over the coming month



Football News

Girl's Football: On Tuesday, the girls' football team took part in their second week of fixtures at Biddick Primary. The first game of the night was against Wessington. This game was full of high energy and terrific play from both teams. Midway into the first half, Wessington broke the deadlock slotting the ball into the bottom corner. Despite conceding, the girls showed brilliant team spirit and desire to win, dominating the rest of the first half and having most of the chances in the second. An equaliser came from a long-range effort by Amelia T, which flew into the top corner. A number of good saves from the opposition keeper kept the game level, finishing 1-1.

The second game of the night was against the hosts, Biddick. JFK were dominant in this game and kept the ball in the oppositions half throughout, carving out many chances. Early in the second half, a corner from Lily W found Amelia T in the middle of the box, who was able to put JFK in the lead. A brilliant display from the defence of Ella W and Mia R, kept Biddick as far away from our goal as possible. The game stayed 1-0 with JFK taking the points.

The final game was a friendly against Holley Park. The goals started early in the game, Amelia T dribbling past three defenders before a lovely finish into the far corner. Lily W was able to pounce on a defender's mistake to double the lead shortly after. The third saw a lovely run by Lily W, beating her defender on the wing before crossing it in for Amelia's second of the game. Holly R played a big part in creating chances, being an effective link between defence and attack with many passes through the defensive lines. Amelia T rounded off her hat trick in the final minutes of the game, with a lovely finish past the Holley Park goalkeeper. Darcy G produced some lovely saves throughout the game to keep the clean sheet, ending with a JFK 4-0 win.

A brilliant night of football that sees the girls maintain their unbeaten start to the season. Well done to everyone who played!

School Football Team: On Thursday, the school team continued their campaign with fixtures against Usworth Colliery and OLQP. First up was a close fought encounter with OL. A good standard of football was displayed by both teams, with impressive movement and determination. While both sides created chances, Cole F looked resolute in goal, commanding his box effectively with Amelia T in front of him clearing anything that game her way which ultimately meant the game ended in a 0-0 draw.

Our second game was against a strong Usworth team. We continued to show our improvements in team work but were unable to find the opener with some great defending stopping a strong Alfie A run just as he was about to shoot. At the beginning of the second half, we got the goal we deserved with Lennox B scoring a great goal, chasing down a long ball, knocking it around the keeper before composing himself to slot it into the corner. Unfortunately, as the game was nearing the end, a lucky deflection meant the ball fell to a Colliery player in our box and he equalised. The game ending 1-1. The team continue to go unbeaten with one more week of fixtures before the winter break.