



## Autumn 2 Newsletter



## Headteacher's Message

Dear school family,

**Happy New Year!** I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break and enjoyed some well-deserved time with family and friends.

Looking back at Autumn 2, it was another busy and productive half-term where children fully settled into their new classroom environments and routines. One of the standout moments was our Remembrance Service and school display. It was a proud occasion for the whole school community as we came together to honour this important tradition. We received some wonderful feedback about how meaningful it was and how it helped our children understand the significance of remembrance. Thank you for your support—we plan to develop this further next year.

The term ended on a high with our Christmas enrichment programme. The school performances were truly spectacular and showcased the incredible talent of our children. Alongside this, we enjoyed a number of curriculum events, including themed Design and Technology projects. Many children discovered just how tricky sewing can be, but they persevered with resilience and created some beautiful Christmas puppets. Our final day was marked by the magical Carols on the Yard event—a perfect way to close the term.

As we move into the Spring Term, we have lots to look forward to, including a host of outdoor activities. We also have a new staffing structure in EYFS and KS1, welcoming new team members while saying a fond farewell to Mrs Stapleton and Mrs Phillips, who will be greatly missed. We wish them every success in the future.

I'm delighted to share that we have successfully secured £1,500 of additional funding from the Woodhall Foundation to enhance our outdoor provision for both the main school and EYFS. Please note that as these improvements take place, there may be some temporary disruption to certain areas of the school site.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are so proud of our school community and everything we are achieving together.

Warm wishes,

Mr Harvey



The **Speak Out Stay Safe programme** helps children understand that they always have a **right to feel safe**, and that they can speak to a safe adult or contact **Childline** if they ever need help or support. With the help of our friendly mascot **Buddy**, the programme covers important topics such as **bullying and abuse**—all explained in a child-friendly way without using scary words or adult language.

This initiative is a vital part of our commitment to ensuring every child knows how to stay safe and where to turn if they need help.

### **How to report safeguarding concerns**

Safeguarding children is the responsibility of all of us. If you have a concern about one of our children, please contact the **Designated Safeguarding: Mr Harvey** or contact the **Children's Hub on 01642 130080**

If a child is in immediate danger dial **999**

### **Useful Resources**

#### **NSPCC**

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

You can contact their Helpline by calling [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000) or emailing [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk)

#### **Childline**

[Childline | Free counselling service for kids and young people | Childline](#)

Call free on [0800 1111](tel:08001111)

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Mr Harvey

**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:** Mrs Hogg and Miss Harrison

You can also find useful information on the South Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership's website below. [South Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

## Attendance Matters



**Our attendance currently stands at 95.1 % , which is well above the national average of 93.6%**

We're thrilled to share that attendance has continued to rise this academic year! A huge well done to everyone for your efforts. The class attendance banks have started to fill up again with each class trying to raise as much money for an end of year treat.

We firmly believe that good attendance is crucial for children to attain well, make good progress, and reach their full potential. The vast majority of parents and carers bring their children to school regularly and on time, and I am grateful for your commitment to your child's education.

However, it is vital that all children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day. The Government's expectation is that all children should have an attendance figure of 95-97%, and we are committed to working with you to achieve this target.

Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and poor attendance. Children with regular attendance:

- make better progress, both socially and academically,
- find school routines and schoolwork easier to cope with,
- have an easier transition to secondary school, having developed positive habits in attending school every day.

I urge you to ensure that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day. Attendance is crucial for your child's success, and we are here to support you in achieving this goal.

If you feel you require further support with your child's attendance please speak to the school office.

## Healthy schools



### Delicious, Flexible, and Fun!

**Our recent USA-themed school dinner day was a fantastic success!** The children loved trying something new, and the fun, flavourful menu brought plenty of smiles. We're excited to share that **themed lunch days will now be a regular feature throughout the year**, adding even more variety and excitement to mealtimes. This half-term's theme will be **Chinese New Year**, which we're sure the children will enjoy.

We're also halfway through our **new menu and flexible approach to school dinners**, giving families more choice. Children can mix and match—enjoying school dinners on some days and bringing packed lunches on others. This flexibility means they can benefit from hot, nutritious meals while keeping options open.

If your child hasn't tried school dinners yet, now is the perfect time! With **exciting themed days, flexible choices, and delicious new meals**, there's never been a better reason to give them a go. We hope you're finding these changes beneficial and that the children are enjoying their lunches. As always, we'd love to hear your feedback—please share any thoughts or suggestions for future improvements with a member of the team.

👉 [Follow the link to view the new menu and book your child's meals today!](#)

***If your child doesn't usually have school dinners, you can still sign them up for the themed days and make your payment via the Arbor app. Plus, if you're receiving certain benefits, you might qualify for free school meals.***

***To find out if you qualify: [Click the link to apply and don't miss out!](#)***

### Water

In recent years, many schools across the UK have embraced a water-only policy to tackle the rising concerns around sugar consumption among children. This initiative aims not just to

reduce sugary drinks but also to boost hydration levels in children. A water-only school means that the main drink available to children is water, with milk provided in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and during lunchtime for all children on school dinners.

Schools play a vital role in educating children about nutrition and making healthier choices. They serve as a crucial setting for school-based interventions, ensuring that all children, regardless of their background, receive the same messages about health and wellbeing. By promoting water as the primary drink, schools are fostering healthier habits that can last a lifetime, helping children to make informed choices about what they consume.

**Please support school and the children by only providing water in the children's water bottles.**



 **Christmas Fayre & Gift Room Success!** 

Our **Christmas Fayre** was an incredible event and a huge success! Thanks to your amazing support, we raised a whopping **£633** from all the stalls and games. Every penny goes straight back to the children, helping us provide memorable experiences and opportunities.

The **Christmas Gift Room** was as popular as ever, with our fantastic volunteers wrapping over **400 presents** for the children to take home. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

We're delighted to share that some of the money raised has already been put to great use—covering **all transport costs for the Panto trip** and contributing towards the gorgeous new **Year 6 leavers' hoodies** that our pupils are proudly wearing.

### ♥ Looking Ahead

We're excited to announce that this term we will be hosting a **Valentine's Disco on February 18th**—a fun-filled event for the children to enjoy.

**How to get involved:** If you'd like to help out, please speak to a member of the team or contact the school office. Your support makes these events possible!

Thank you for your continued support in making these events so special for our school community.

### Family support



**We would like to share the following information on behalf of The Teesside Charity.**

At The Teesside Charity, we're committed to helping families who are experiencing financial hardship. We understand that sometimes even the basics—like food, heating, school uniforms, or essential household items—can be out of reach.

That's why we offer a range of practical support, from e-shopping and fuel vouchers to beds, white goods, carpets, and school uniforms. These services are designed to ease immediate pressures and help families regain a sense of stability and dignity.

To ensure no child is left without the essentials for learning, comfort or wellbeing, **The Teesside Charity** can accept direct referrals from schools to our Hardship Fund .

## **What help is available?**

Upon receipt of a referral from, we can issue **e-vouchers** or **arrange direct supply** for:

### **Type of Support**

#### **Examples / Notes**

#### **Supermarket shopping vouchers**

Flexible, major retailers

#### **Fuel vouchers**

Pre-payment gas & electricity cards, or direct debit/pay monthly

#### **School-uniform assistance (secondary)**

School trousers and Shirts

Shoes

Logoed Blazer

#### **Bed support**

Single beds or bunk beds including the mattress, along with a voucher for bedding

#### **Carpets**

Room(s) where children currently have no flooring

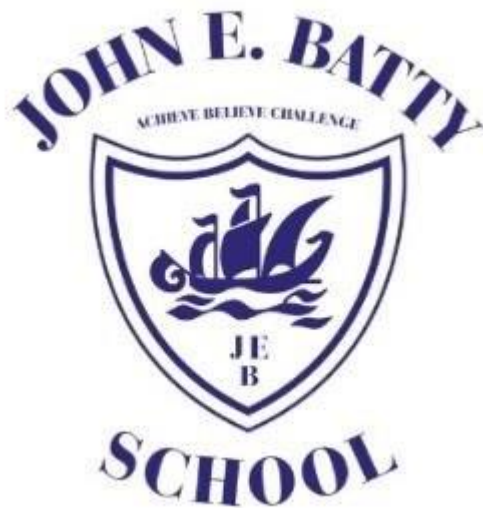
#### **White goods**

Cookers, fridges, freezers, washing machines plus a voucher to help.

**If you are in need of any financial support or have any questions regarding the offer from The Teesside Charity, please speak to a member of the school team or Mr Harvey directly.**

**Together we can make sure no child is held back by hardship.**

## The Ship



### **The Ship Update: Creativity and Wraparound Care Changes**

The children in **The Ship** have enjoyed a wonderful range of Christmas activities over the last half term, as well as taking part in this year's "**Imaginations Running Wild**" theme by creating their own monsters. I'm delighted to announce that some of our children's creations were chosen to appear in a brand-new book—meaning they are now officially **published authors!** What an amazing achievement. A huge well done to Mrs Cubitt for organising and running this fantastic initiative.

### **Looking Ahead: Changes to Wraparound Provision**

We're excited to share some updates to our **Breakfast and After School Club** provision, including revised hours and fees to better support families:

#### **Breakfast Club**

- **Opening Hours:** 07:30 until the start of the school day
- **Fee:** £5.00 per child (07:30 – 08:45), including a healthy breakfast

#### **After School Club**

- **Opening Hours:** End of school day until 18:00
- **Sessions and Fees:** Session 1: 15:15 – 16:15 — £4.50  
Session 2: 16:15 – 17:15 — £4.50  
Session 3: 17:15 – 18:00 — £3.50

**Whole wraparound care:** 07:30 – 18:00 — £15.00

All children attending will receive a healthy snack.

If a child attends a school enrichment club before wraparound care, payment will begin from **Session 2**.

We're delighted to see that the number of children attending the club continues to grow steadily. However, this does mean that places are becoming limited. To avoid disappointment, we kindly ask parents and carers to book in advance to secure a space. If you're interested, don't hesitate to book through Arbour or contact the school office for more information.

## PE

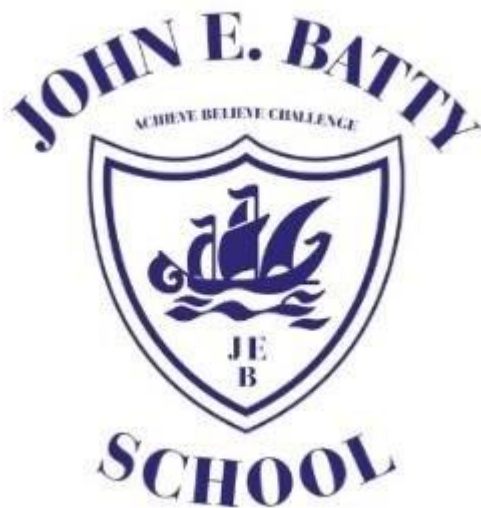


We kindly request that your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit on the following days:

- Monday - Reception
- Tuesday - Year 1 to Year 6 for the next 6 weeks due to cricket coaching
- Wednesday - Year 3 and Year 4

- Thursday - Year 5 and Year 6
- Friday - PE kit for all classes due to the introduction of beach schools

## Easy Fundraising



Join Us in Transforming Our School's Outdoor Learning Environment!

We are thrilled to announce an exciting fundraising initiative aimed at enhancing our school's outdoor learning environment! Our energetic team is committed to raising vital funds that will have a profound impact on the wellbeing and development of our students. With the money raised, we plan to add to the resurfacing of the school playground, ensuring a safe and vibrant space for our children to play and explore. Additionally, we will be installing a fantastic climbing wall, which will provide countless opportunities for physical challenges and teamwork!

But that's not all – we will be purchasing new outdoor equipment and games that are specifically designed to develop essential fine and gross motor skills. Through engaging activities, our students will also enhance their communication and critical thinking abilities. Outdoor learning is crucial for a well-rounded education, and we believe that a stimulating outdoor environment is key to fostering creativity, collaboration, and confidence in our students.

Your generous donations will play a significant role in making this vision a reality. Every contribution, no matter how small, brings us one step closer to creating a wonderful outdoor space where our pupils can play, learn, and grow together.

Join us on this exciting journey to improve our school's outdoor facilities! Let's create a dynamic environment that inspires our children and encourages their love for learning. Together, we can make a lasting difference!

Thank you for your support!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/john-emmerson-batty-primary-school>

## Rock Steady



### Rock and pop band lessons with Rocksteady

Did you know, we partner with Rocksteady Music School to deliver fun and inclusive rock and pop band lessons, right here at JEB!

These weekly music lessons take place in school and are led by professional musicians who make learning music fun. It's the perfect way for children to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time – all at school!

Rocksteady lessons are also shown to amplify confidence, wellbeing and social skills. Here's what else you need to know:

- There's no experience necessary and all instruments for lessons are provided.

- Watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing just how far they have come.
- Children learn up to 300 instrument, band, and performance skills, whilst playing songs they love.
- Children can achieve an Ofqual-regulated Music qualification, accredited by Trinity College London, without having to take a single exam.
- You'll receive regular progress updates, including photos and videos.

There's a money-back guarantee for the first month and you can cancel at any time. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis.

Sign your child up for band lessons online at [rocksteadymusicschool.com/parents](http://rocksteadymusicschool.com/parents)

If you have any questions about Rocksteady, call 0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate) or email [info@rocksteadymusicschool.com](mailto:info@rocksteadymusicschool.com).

## Key Dates



- 5th January - PD day - school closed
- 6th January - School opens
- 12th January - Reception balance bike training
- 28th January - KS1 Fundamental skills festival
- 4th February - Year 3 multi-sports glow in the dark festival
- 18th February - Valentines disco
- 20th February - School closes for half term
- 2nd March - School opens

- 2nd March - KS2 swimming block begins
- 4th March - UKS2 Netball festival
- 16th March - KS1 swimming block begins
- **20th March - Nursery closed for staff training**
- 24th March - UKS2 Basketball
- **25th and 25th March - Parental consultations**
- 1st April - Easter fayre
- 3rd April - school closes for half term
- 20th April - School opens
- 4th May - School closed for bank holiday
- **11th May SATs weeks**
- 22nd May - school closes for half term
- 1st June - School opens and Bikeability begins for Y5
- 17th June - Summer disco
- **1st - 3rd July - Year 6 Robinwood**
- 1st July - Summer fayre
- **10th July - Sports day**
- 17th July - School closes for the summer break

Contact Us



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