



# King Athelstan Primary School Newsletter-October 2017



It has been a very busy half term with everyone working hard to "inspire excellence." We hope you all have a happy and relaxing half-term, and return refreshed and ready to work hard again. The second half of the Autumn term is always exciting as we start the run-up to Christmas and prepare special celebrations. Keep an eye on the list of dates for your diary. This is constantly updated, and is on the school website : <http://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/for-parents-and-carers/school-calendar/>.

## Staff News

At the end of the Autumn term we will be saying goodbye to Ellie Drake, our Lowry AM Nursery teacher. We congratulate Ellie on her exciting new role at Newland House School. We are currently recruiting to this position. As you are already aware, Miss Louise Turner is returning to Tauranga, New Zealand later this term. Her last day will be 17<sup>th</sup> November. We wish her every success in her move home. We are recruiting to the cover supply role which will be covered by existing staff until we appoint.

## Parent/Carer Meetings

These will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November from 4-7pm and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30-6.30pm. This is a meeting between parents/carers and class teachers to discuss your child's progress. It is essential that every parent/carers attends. Please go online and book an appointment at:  
<https://kingathelstan.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>  
Contact the school office if you need any assistance - they will be happy to check times for you.

## Messages from the School Office

- Children should only have draw-string bags for PE kit and swimming as large bags or rucksacks do not fit in lockers/on pegs. Thank you.
- Let the office know of any changes of address, email contact details etc on [admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org) or by phone on 020 8546 8210.
- If you would like to volunteer as a helper on a school trip, you will need a Barred List Check (formerly List99). Please ask at the office.
- Please note that children should have a school lunch booked via Parentpay, or bring in a packed lunch. The school office cannot take in any meals during the morning for lunchtime.
- Lost Property - please label all your children's items. Any named items 'lost' in school will be returned to the owner.

## Twitter

Check out the latest news and photos: @KingAthSchool.

## World Mental Health Day



It was World Mental Health Day on Tuesday 10th October, and we saw some amazing yellow accessories! We raised £200 for YoungMinds Children's Mental Health Charity, and had a very interesting assembly. A big thank you to all staff and children who took part.



## Congratulations!

Well done to Charlotte and Nathan in Year 6 who have been appointed as Head Girl and Head Boy for this year. They underwent a tough interview process with some strong competition to get the jobs. All of the children interviewed had worked hard to put forward their ideas. Well done also to our new prefects who are : Tianna, Muna, Audrey, Melissa, Noelene, Kelsie, Lena, Leone, Maurice, Ruben and Abdalla. In the spring term, another team of eleven Y6 children will take over the prefect roles: Grace, Elisha, Lily, Alejandra, Tegan, Leoni, Shaunnah, Oscar, Amber, Abdullah, and Callum. We wish them all well in their new roles.

## Y2 Trip to Painshill Park

Y2 had a great day out in Painshill Park. They tried pond-dipping and had a wildlife trail examining living things and their habitats. Here's what they found:



The children all behaved very well and listened carefully all day. They were a credit to the school.

## Y3 Den Building

Y3 went to Esher Common to try den building to link with their topic "The Dawn of Man".



There was great teamwork to create fantastic shelters! Everyone enjoyed it, despite the grey weather.

## Y6 PGL trip to Liddington

A reminder that the next instalment of £50 for the Y6 PGL trip in June is due on **Monday 6th November 2017**. Thank you.



## Key Dates for the year

<b>October</b>	
Tues 31	A Day in the Life of a Reception Child 9.15am
<b>November</b>	
Wed 1 Nov	A Day in the Life of a Nursery Child 9.15am
Wed 1 Nov	Y4 trip to British Museum
Thur 2 Nov	Y3 Height/weight checks
Fri 3 Nov	Y3 trip to Kingston Museum - <b>Postponed</b>
Fri 3 Nov	Van Gogh cake sale after school
Mon 6 Nov	Parent/Carer evening 4-7pm
Tues 7 Nov	Y1 Hearing Tests (Summer born children)
Tues 7 Nov	Y5&6 Cross-Country competition
Wed 8 Nov	Y1 trip to Kingston Market
Wed 8 Nov	Parent/Carer evening 3.30-6.30pm
Mon 13 Nov	Y3 trip to Natural History Museum
Thurs 16 Nov	Parent/Carer Forum 2pm
Fri 17 Nov	Gainsborough cake sale after school
Fri 17 Nov	Y5 trip to the cinema
Mon 20 Nov	Y5 to be visited by Vikings
Mon 20 Nov	Y3 trip to the cinema
Tues 21 Nov	Y6 trip to the cinema
Wed 22 Nov	Y5 visited by Kingston Museum
Thur 23 Nov	Da Vinci class assembly 9am
Thur 23 Nov	Y2 trip to the cinema
<b>December</b>	
Sat 2 Dec	Christmas Fair 11am start
Thur 7 Dec	Dali class assembly 9am
Mon 11 Dec	Lowry am Christmas singing 11.15am -11.30am
Mon 11 Dec	Lowry pm Christmas singing 3.00pm -3.20pm
Tues 12 Dec	Y2 Christmas Production 2pm
Wed 13 Dec	Y1 Christmas Production 2pm
Thur 14 Dec	Reception Christmas Production 2pm
Tue 19 Dec	Thinkers' Project Exhibition (3.15-4.15 & 6-7pm)
Thur 21 Dec	School breaks up for Christmas at 2.30pm
<b>January</b>	
Wed 3 Jan	Inset Day
Thur 4 Jan	School starts
Fri 12 Jan	Kandinsky cake sale after school

## Reading Bucket List

Here is our current request for books. Please hand in any book donations/Birthday Books to your class teacher. Thank you!

**Year 1** - Naughty Nina by Juliet Mickelburgh

**Year 2** - Voices in the Park by Anthony Brown

**Year 3** - The True Story of the Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka

**Year 4** - How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

**Year 5** - War Monkey by Claire Funge

**Year 6** - James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

## Reading Buddies

Year 2 really enjoy reading with their Year 6 buddies in the lovely new reading space.



## Year 4 Strings Lessons

After half-term the Y4 Wider Opportunities Strings lessons will take place on **Tuesday** mornings instead of Friday afternoons. Please remember to bring in your violins and violas on **Tuesdays** after half-term.



## Year 1 Trips to the Library

Both Year 1 classes went to Kingston Children's library last week. Their behaviour was great and they enjoyed looking at all the books. Kingston Library is on Fairfield Rd and is free to join. It is open every day except Sundays and Wednesdays.

## Why read every day with your child?

- There is good evidence that parents reading with their children for as little as 10 minutes a day can make a big difference. (For all primary-aged children.)
- Research shows that children who are read to on a regular basis before they start school are most likely to succeed. "It's a key predictor in terms of educational success." (Pie Corbett)
- A little bit of reading every day appears to be better than less frequent, longer periods: pupils who read on a daily basis, even for a few minutes, may experience more growth in reading ability than students who read for longer once or twice a week.
- Reading is the key to unlocking every child's full potential and opens up a world of possibilities. A good education is of course about much more than just reading. But being able to read well is the foundation on which so much else depends: *children first 'learn to read' and then they 'read to learn'*.
- By the age of five, children from families who do not "talk a lot" or "read a lot" are on average 15 months behind children from families who do "talk a lot" and "read a lot." This gap increases as children get older.
- Research shows how, if a child does not learn to read well when young, they can turn away from education as they get older, get poor qualifications and struggle in the world of work.
- Being told stories boosts language and, by feeding the child's imagination, develops abstract thought.
- There is a difference in reading performance equivalent to just over a year's schooling between young people who never read for enjoyment and those who read for up to 30 minutes per day.
- Children who read books **often** at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly.
- Children cannot improve their reading and also their writing **just** in their limited time in school each day.

## Sports Events

A group of swimmers went to the Y5-Y6 Kingston School



Sports Partnership Swimming Gala at the Malden Centre. The boys mixed team reached the final, and several swimmers came third in their races.



Here is our proud Year 2 team which took part in a 5 a side football competition at Goals last month.

Our Year 4 Girls' Football team took part in a football festival. They did really well, won two games, drew one and lost one.

Years 5 and 6 took part in a Tag Rugby Competition. They narrowly missed a win to take them through, but won their final game 4-2. Well done everyone.