



# King Athelstan Primary School

## Newsletter

### June 26<sup>th</sup> 2015

Here we are already, approaching the end of the Summer Term! The children are enjoying their learning in the warmer weather and have attended a number of exciting trips and visits to enrich their learning. Please take some time to read through the recounts of our trips so far this term and make a note of the upcoming key dates and events as we head towards to the Summer holiday.

#### Key Dates

27<sup>th</sup> June - Summer Fair (11am- 3pm)

1<sup>st</sup> July - Year 1 Seaside Trip

2<sup>nd</sup> July - Cezanne Cake Sale

3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 3 Country Dance

3<sup>rd</sup> July - EYFS Scooterthon 3.15-4.15pm

3<sup>rd</sup> July - Y6 Thriller Live trip

9<sup>th</sup> July - Lowry Cake Sale

14<sup>th</sup> July- Y6 Performance 2pm

15<sup>th</sup> July- Y6 Performance 7pm

17<sup>th</sup> July - Sports Day and Family Picnic

20<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Leavers' Assembly

21<sup>st</sup> July - Prize giving assembly

*(NB. You will be notified nearer the time if your child will be receiving a prize)*

**21<sup>st</sup> July - Last Day of Term (2.30pm finish)**



#### Nature Collection Day

On June 24<sup>th</sup> children from King Athelstan enjoyed a visit from Susanna Ramsey's "Nature Collection" company. Susanna brought in a range of animal bones, feathers and other items of natural wonder for the children to learn about. She delivered an excellent session and then allowed the children to handle the various artefacts, as well as participate in a group workshop. The workshops were tailored to the children's in-class learning: Year 1 - learning more about mini beats; Year 4 - food chains; Year 5 - local wildlife. It was a very educational visit and all the children across the school enjoyed the interactive experience.

#### Come and Play Days

Want to learn a musical instrument? Come along to a Kingston Music Service "Stay and Play Day" and try out as many instruments as you like! Sessions run from 2-5pm every Saturday at Kingston Quaker Centre. It is free admission and suitable for all ages. Sign up for lessons on the day and receive a 10% discount on your ongoing classes.

#### Exciting News

Zoe Wright, Year 3 Teacher, is expecting her first baby. Congratulations Mrs Wright! The baby is due in December so Mrs Wright will be with us for the majority of the Autumn Term.

#### Year 4 British Museum Trip

Year 4 children visited the British Museum on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June as part of their summer topic on Peru; focussing on the Aztecs and the Incas.

The children had the opportunity to view North American artefacts. The indigenous peoples of North America have maintained their cultural identity since ancient times and they were able to view both historic artefacts and the contemporary art of the native inhabitants of Canada and the United States.

They were also able to visit the Mexican displays showing artefacts from about 2000 BC. The displays included stunning objects, including a highly-prized turquoise mosaic. The children really enjoyed the trip and it has added a lot to their knowledge of early civilisations in Peru.

#### Please note

"Persistent Absence" (PA) will reduce from 15% to 10% from September 2015. The DfE has noted the successful work undertaken by schools and academies to improve overall attendance rates and reduce the numbers of PA pupils and now wants to improve on this further. As a result for the academic year 2014 to 2015, the DfE will publish PA rates at both 15% and 10%. This means children whose attendance falls below 90% will be classed as PA and this may result in Educational Welfare involvement as well as greater involvement of the school.

#### Tiffin Exams - Current Year 5

Registration for Tiffin Entrance Tests (Stage One) for entry to Year 7, September 2016 must be completed by **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July.**

Before you register for the test please make sure you have read and understood Tiffin School Admission Policy.

The admission policy and documents to register for the exams can be found by following this link:

<http://www.tiffinschool.co.uk/admissions/>

### Year 5 Hollylodge Trip

On 10<sup>th</sup> June the Year 5 classes had a great day, full of hands-on learning at "Hollylodge" in Richmond Park. The children went pond dipping and found loads of interesting creatures - dragonflies, nymphs, tadpoles and many more. The nature walk gave the children a chance to follow a trail to find out more about mini-beasts and other local wildlife - carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They looked at the 'bug hotel' where mice and voles also live. The class also attended a Victorian classroom where the children took part in a re-enactment of a Victorian lesson. They dressed up in Victorian clothes and experienced what life was like for children in school in 1862.

### Year 6 "Kids Out" Trip

On June 10<sup>th</sup> Year 6 spent a wonderful day at Chessington World of Adventures as a part of their annual "Kids Out" day; organised by the local Rotary Club. It was a day of fun and celebration for all their hard work during SATs. It was also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rotary, so as well as enjoying the rides, the children were able to participate in the balloon releasing ceremony. Overall it was a fantastic and refreshing day out for Year 6.



### Rota Kids

Another huge thank you to the Rota Kids and the parents and carers for their efforts and generosity in collecting for the Nepal Earthquake fund. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our 'collection snake' in the KS1 playground earlier this term. We also received an additional donation from United Grand Lodge of England. Here is a picture of the Rota kids with their big cheque to the British Red Cross for £575.54!



### Class Trip Letters

From now on **most** class trip letters will be downloadable from the school website. If letters are misplaced please look up information on the website, you can even print yourself a new copy. If you do not have access to a computer and need information urgently please ask the school office.

### International Day

Another big thank you goes out to all the parents, carers and volunteers who contributed towards our wonderful International Day on June 5<sup>th</sup>. The day was filled with an array of multicultural activities from Scottish dancing to Japanese Origami. The children enjoyed the many activities and were able to take some momentos home such as the Batik prints. The afterschool market place looked excellent with flags and food on display from all over the globe. The homemade food was delicious and saw everyone trying something new. Overall it was an excellent day celebrating the many cultures of the King Athelstan Community!

### Office Hours

Please note that the school office hours are 8.15-4.45pm Monday- Friday. Please conduct all matters requiring school office assistance within these hours.

### Ramadan

If your child is fasting for Ramadan please make the office staff aware so they can support your child during the day.

### Summer Music Afternoon

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July King Athelstan will be hosting a summer afternoon of music. This is to display the hard work and practice the children have put into learning their various instruments this year. Parents and Carers are welcome to come and watch the performance and support the children as they share their new musical skills. We are hoping for a sunny day so we can hold the concert in the playground, but a letter will be sent out nearer the date confirming the time and location of this wonderful event! We hope to see you there.



### Lend Me Your Literacy

In English, we have had really positive results with writing when the children have produced work that has been seen by the wider community. To maintain this momentum, and continue writing for a purpose, we would like to publish writing on a website designed for schools called 'Lend Me Your Literacy.' The children would then be able to see their work online and view comments (all positive and managed by the company) that people would leave for them. The website is completely secure, and only the child's first name accompanies the examples shared. We are looking forward to using this new resource and cannot wait to read some of the positive feedback from schools all across the world. If you do not want your child's work to be published on this website please speak to their class teacher before Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

### A friendly reminder

Please remember the children are due back at school at 8.45am on Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup> for the first day of the Autumn Term.