

# King Athelstan Primary School

## Newsletter

Date 11/02/16

Thank you for all your support this half term. It's been very busy! Particular highlights have been our sporting achievements and Science Day. Please take time to make a note of all the exciting events coming up in the second half of the Spring Term. Have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing you back on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 8.45am.

### Key Dates:

4 <sup>th</sup> March	Mother's Day Celebrations (Timings TBC)
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/Carer Meetings
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/Carer Meetings
10 <sup>th</sup> March: 8.55am	Matisse Class Assembly
11 <sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am	Hollyfield Presentation for Y6 parents/carers
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Matisse Cake Sale
18 <sup>th</sup> March: 8.55am	Magritte Class Assembly
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Sports Relief
24 <sup>th</sup> March	(PCSA funded) Performance from "Image Musical Theatre"
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term 2.30pm
28 <sup>th</sup> March - 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter break
11 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET DAY
12 <sup>th</sup> April	First day back
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Picasso Cake Sale
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Class Photos
21 <sup>st</sup> April: 8.55am	Dali Class Assembly
28 <sup>th</sup> April: 8.55am	Hockney Class Assembly
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	BANK HOLIDAY
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Monet Cake Sale
5 <sup>th</sup> May: 8.55am	Monet Class Assembly
9 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs Week
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Cezanne Cake Sale
27 <sup>th</sup> May: 3.15pm	Last day of half term
30 <sup>th</sup> May - 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half term break
6 <sup>th</sup> June	First day back

### Goodbye and Good Luck

Mr Brendon Richards, Year 3 Dali Teacher, will be leaving us at the February half term. Mr Richards has worked at King Athelstan for 5½ years and led Computing. We wish Mr Richards all the best in the next stage of his career and thank him for his contribution to our school. Mrs Bennett and Mrs Pye will be taking the class after half term.

### Welcome!

Kayleigh Lee, Cezanne Class teacher, had a baby girl on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3.30pm. We are looking forward to meeting baby Isabella in the near future. Congratulations Kayleigh!



### Science Day

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February we had a school-wide Science Day. The day was full of exciting science focused lessons that were linked to each year group topics for the term.

Year 1 investigated which materials float and tried to work out the best material to make a boat for their dinosaur to cross the river.

Year 2 built a waterproof house after fair testing which materials were best at keeping out rain.

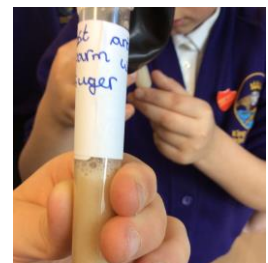
Year 3 went on a treasure hunt for plants and were investigating the school gardens in search of new and exciting flowers.

Year 4 investigated pitch and echo by making their own instruments and testing how the sound could be controlled.

Year 5 had the exciting task of designing and making a balloon rocket before testing which one could go the highest.

Finally, Year 6 learnt about micro-organisms such as yeast and even made their own bread!

We also had a visit from The Science Museum who delivered presentations on materials, matter and the use of blood in the body. The presentations were exciting and engaging and a great way to finish Science Day.



### Don't Forget!

We are constantly endeavouring to improve the range of books we have on offer for the children in our class book corners. If you would like to help us, please put the books in a labelled plastic bag and pass them to school via your child's class teacher. We have already had some great donations of classic books.



You recently received a letter about the **Assessment Workshop** (Y1 -Y6) taking place at 9am or 7.30pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March.

Don't forget to book your place online at: <https://kingathelstan.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>. Crèche spaces for the morning session are limited but can be booked through the office.

### Rota Kids Bottle Top Collection

Rota Kids are currently looking at ways we can recycle within our community. In light of this, they are holding a **plastic** bottle top collection day. The bottle tops will be collected on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February and sent to Portsmouth where they are melted down and made into children's toys. If you have any bottle tops please bring them in and there will be a collection point at the front of school.



### Reminder

If your child is off sick with a vomiting/diarrhea bug it is important that they remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness/diarrhea. This will stop the spread of the bug throughout the class/school.

### Sports

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January King Athelstan hosted a friendly netball match against St Joseph's. We played two ten minute games with King Athelstan winning both 3-0! Both schools displayed excellent play and sportsmanship. The King Athelstan team also came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the borough wide tournament. Well done! A particular thanks to our netball coaches Ceris and Kerri for their hard work.

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February King Athelstan hosted a gym practice session with children from Kings Oak and St Joseph's attending. The session was great preparation in lead up to the borough gym competition that took place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February where we displayed some excellent sportsmanship.

### In loving memory of Aaron Trotman

We were very sorry to hear of the sad death of former pupil Aaron Trotman on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in a car accident. Aaron attended King Athelstan from September 2001 to July 2008. His brother Thomas and Charles are at our school now.

Aaron was an extremely happy, charming and hardworking pupil, always willing to help others. He represented the school at many events and had a constant smile on his face. We were very proud to see Aaron be successful in his chosen career in the Royal Logistics Corps.

The staff at King Athelstan will be donating money to "Help the Heroes" in Aaron's memory. If you would like to contribute please put this in a clearly marked envelope and hand to the office.

Our thoughts are with Mrs Trotman, Charles and Thomas at this very sad time.

Private Aaron Trotman will be remembered with great fondness.



### Unauthorised Absence

Amendments to the 2006 school attendance regulations mean that Headteachers are no longer able to grant any requests for absence unless there are exceptional circumstances. This means that if leave is requested and there are no exceptional circumstances the absence will be recorded as "unauthorised".

Examples of unauthorised absences are:

- Family Holidays/travel abroad for business
- Special treats for Birthdays
- Children who arrive at school after registers close at 9:30 (one session will be recorded as unauthorised)

If a child is "persistently absent" (has an attendance level below 90%) then illness may be recorded as unauthorised unless medical evidence is provided. We would talk to parents/carers individually about this. We want to work with you to ensure your children are happy and attend school every day. Therefore, our first approach is always to talk together about anything affecting attendance and to offer help and support to families.