



Dear Families,

Well, winter has certainly arrived this week! **Please make sure your children ALWAYS have their school sweatshirts/cardigans AND a warm coat as they go outside to play in all weathers.**

This week's assemblies have included learning about the Christmas story, this important Christian festival, and also Human Rights Day which is tomorrow, 10th December. We explored human rights through the beautiful book 'My Little Book of Big Freedoms' by Chris Riddell.

We are looking forward to seeing parents and carers at the Christmas assemblies next week for Nursery-Y2 classes. Please see a reminder of the times later in the Digest. Please remember we can only accommodate up to 3 people (including pre-school siblings) per child to assembly, and only 2 adults (no younger siblings please) in Nursery.

Have a lovely weekend and keep warm!

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Staff Changes

As you know at the end of this term two teachers, Mrs Louise Ross, Y6 Riley Class, and Mrs Mary Pye, Y1 O'Keefe Class, are leaving King Athelstan. Mrs Anna Waters, Nursery Nurse in Kusama Class, is also leaving us to spend more time with her family, and we are currently recruiting to fill the position for the rest of the year. We would like to wish them all our very best wishes and good luck in their new adventures.

PCSA

The PCSA would like to say thanks to everyone who came along to the Winter Fair on Saturday and made it such a lively and fun-filled afternoon. The choir performed beautifully, festive crafts were made, games were played, trees were sold and sleigh-loads of gifts, bottles and chocolates were won in the Raffle and Silent Auction. We hope you and your children enjoyed it as much as we did. A BIG thank you to all those parents, carers, governors and staff who made the event possible, too. Without your time, none of this would have been possible and we wouldn't have raised a whopping **£4,397!** All proceeds go straight back into the PCSA pot to buy school supplies and books, subsidise school trips, purchase extras for the classrooms and to support the Big Outdoors Project (for playground refurbishment).

Christmas cards and tags featuring your child's design will be delivered to school by next **Friday (16th)** at the latest and will be put in book bags. Thanks for your support and Merry Christmas from the PCSA!



Extra Curricular Clubs - January 2023

Clubs are currently being allocated, following the receipt of all the Google forms. You will see a new item in your ParentPay account next week if your child has been allocated to a club. **Please note, the club is only confirmed once you have made the full payment which is due by 4:00pm on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.** Families of Pupil Premium children will receive an email to inform them which clubs they have been allocated as no payment is required. **Clubs will start in the week beginning Monday 16th January (or 1st February for Skipping).** All afternoon clubs finish at 4.10pm, and pick up will be from the KS1 playground.



Vacancies at King Athelstan

KOOSA Kids are currently recruiting for staff to work in the new after school provision, and school is recruiting for a midday meals supervisor. Recruitment is very challenging at the moment, so please help us by sharing links with all your contacts on Twitter etc. so that the word can be spread to anyone who may be interested. Thank you. <https://www.koosakids.co.uk/vacancies/details?id=11110>

<https://www.eteach.com/job/school-meals-supervisory-assistant-1291368>

Thinker's Project Exhibition

The Thinker's Project Exhibition yesterday showcased some wonderful work across the school. Well done to those who exhibited. We will run an exhibition again at the end of the spring term and hope to make it even bigger and better!



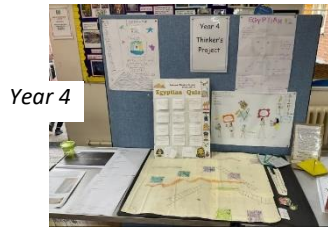
hope to make it even bigger and better!



Year 5



Year 2



Year 4



Year 6

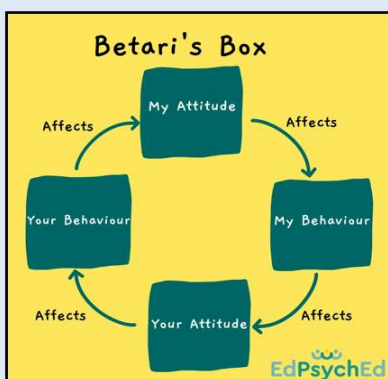
Messages from the Office

- Please note that **children must not be left outside the school gates unaccompanied at any times in the mornings**, even if they are with older siblings. Year 5 and 6 children may not collect or walk home alone with younger siblings, and this applies to bringing them in the mornings, too. Please ensure your child is with an adult until the gates open.
- Next week there are Christmas assemblies/events for Nursery - Y2:

Hockney Class (Y2)	Monday 12th December - 9am
Matisse Class (Y2)	Monday 12th December - 2.30pm
O'Keeffe Class (Y1)	Tuesday 13th December - 9am
Van Gogh Class (Y1)	Tuesday 13th December - 2.30pm
Kusama Class (Reception)	Wednesday 14th December - 9am
Nelson Class (Reception)	Wednesday 14th December - 2.30pm
Christmas with AM Nursery (Stay & Play sessions)	Thursday 15th December - 11-11.30am
Christmas with PM Nursery (Stay & Play sessions)	Thursday 15th December - 3-3.30pm

- Next Friday is the last day of term and children may wear a Christmas jumper or accessories. It is also Christmas lunch day - book on ParentPay in the normal way. **School will finish one hour earlier on Friday 16th December**, as detailed in our letter of 21.11.22.

Inclusion Bitesize



The festive period is so much fun for children but all the change in routine and anticipation can lead to an increase in unexpected behaviours (and more frazzled than usual adults!). This week's Inclusion Bitesize is a reminder of the reciprocal relationship between our own and our children's attitudes and behaviours and that when children are particularly challenging us, this is when they need us the most. Keep going - you are all doing a great job! 😊

Amazon Wish List



Thank you so much to those who continue to purchase items on our Wish List. This week, we have received pencil sharpeners, fiddle tools and more whiteboard pens! All items purchased are very much appreciated. **There is no obligation to buy anything, but if you would like to make a purchase the link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>**

National Autistic Society

The National Autistic Society has produced some resources to assist families of children with Autism over the Christmas period. We think these may be useful to all families to help any child with sensory needs or those who may be feeling overwhelmed by the Christmas preparations.



[Christmas Tips for Parents/Carers](#)

[Christmas Tips for Grandparents](#)

Y5 and Y6 Ice Skating

Well done to all of the children in Y5 and Y6 who attended the Hampton Court Ice Skating trip, they all really enjoyed the experience. The staff were impressed with all of the children, they behaved well and had a positive attitude towards learning a new skill. We are very proud of every child for their efforts. Thanks to all of the staff and adult helpers who attended, it is greatly appreciated.



Achievement Assembly

Well done to the following children who received their certificate of excellence this week:



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Souhila

O'Keeffe Y1 - Leyah

Hockney Y2 - Alex

Matisse Y2 - AJ

Da Vinci Y3 - Elliot W

Cassatt - Jaazib

Mehretu Y4 - Arran

Wiley Y4 - Ava

Dali Y5 - Tamuka & Isla-Rose

Warhol Y5 - Lucas

Riley - Tristan & Lillie-Mae

Kahlo - Oli & Andrew

KS1 PE -Teddy in O'Keeffe Class Y1

KS2 PE - Ella in Cassatt Class Y3

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Ali	Ruby	Azra	Meryem K	Aletheia	Zehra
Oscar	TJ		Julia	Eddie	Nicole

House Points

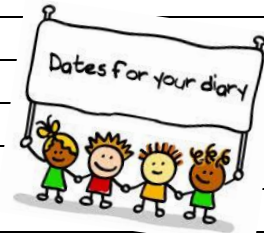
This week's winners are **Blue House (Hawks)**, followed by Red (Dawson), Green (Villiers), and Yellow (Cambridge). Well done all!



Dates for the Diary

DECEMBER

Mon 12	Hockney Y2 Christmas Assembly 9am
Mon 12	Matisse Y2 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Tues 13	O'Keeffe Y1 Christmas Assembly 9am
Tues 13	Van Gogh Y1 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 14	Reception Kusama Christmas Assembly 9am
Wed 14	Reception Nelson Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Thur 15	Nursery AM Christmas Singing & Crafts 11am
Thur 15	Nursery PM Christmas Singing & Crafts 3pm
Fri 16	Break up one hour earlier (emergency childcare will also end one hour earlier)



JANUARY 2023

Tues 3	INSET Day - children not in school
Wed 4	Back to school
Fri 13	Y5 first swimming lesson - Malden Centre
Mon 16	Extra curricular clubs start this week (except skipping)
Wed 25	Dali Class Assembly 9am
Mon 30	Y6 Junior Citizen trip

King Athelstan Gallery



Remember to follow us on Twitter @KingAthSchool



Community Notices

There is a [FREE family Christmas Trail](#) organised by Kingston First (the town centre's Business Improvement District). The trail will run from **Thursday 15 December to Friday 23 December** and will be open to all local families. There are 8 letters to discover on posters in shop windows, with a festive word to unscramble at the end. Each child can then claim their prize at the last stop! Kingston First are also the organisers of the wider Christmas experience in the town centre, which this year includes all of the Christmas lights and decorations, Christmas Market, Alpine Village & curling lanes and the Candy Cane Forest - details on the [website](#) here.



At the beginning of the term the Kingston School Health team introduced the HENRY programmes and services they provide in Kingston. They would now like to introduce their termly newsletters for parents/carers [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the HENRY service, please don't hesitate to contact them on: henry@yourhealthcare.org.

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence