



King Athelstan Weekly Digest

Issue 38 – Friday 21st July 2023

Dear Families,

Thank you so much for all the amazing support you have given to the school community this year. At a time when staffing capacity is incredibly stretched, and the demands of working in schools only increases, the support and kindness offered by the families at King Athelstan has meant more than ever. The staff team love working with your children and the whole King Athelstan family. You are amazing!



This year has been tough for many reasons, not least because of the reduced capacity in a number of our teams. However, there have been a huge number of successes and achievements in spite of this and for the children, school has run as normal with a mass of special experiences and trips and exciting learning opportunities. Your children will have brought home their books from their current year for English, Maths and Curriculum. Take a look at the first page of writing in September and compare it to their writing this week. They have made incredible progress and should feel very proud of themselves.

On behalf of all the staff, thank you for the many cards, messages and gifts that have arrived this week. We really appreciate your kindness.

We would like to wish you all a happy, safe and relaxing summer. We will see many of you in September but for those of you moving on to pastures new, we wish you every success in your next adventure. Please keep in touch. We love to hear how children are getting on. Remember, wherever you are in the world and however much time has passed, you will remain part of our King Athelstan family.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Junior Leadership Team

We are pleased to announce our new Junior Leadership Team for 2023-24! The Y5 children completed applications for the roles they wanted next year, made presentations to their classes, and went through a tough interview process before the successful applicants were informed. Prefects and other roles, such as House Captains and Eco Warriors, will be decided next term.

Co Chairs: Aletheia and Manon Vice Chairs: Jack and Eme Equalities and Diversity Lead: Violet

We look forward to working with them all next year. Thank you to the outgoing Junior Leadership Team for all their hard work over the last year. They have been great role models for the whole school.

Prizegiving 2023

We were very proud today to announce our prizewinners for 2023. They have all worked so hard - well done all!

Achievement in Foundation Stage	Lorenzo - Kusama
Achievement in KS1	Molly - Hockney
Reading in KS1	Frankie - Matisse
BLP - Year 4 focus on knowledge of self as a learner	Nicola - Wiley
Achievement in KS2	Clara - Riley
Academic progress from nursery/KS1 to Year 6	Yahya - Kahlo
Accelerated progress during the year	Freddie - Riley
Sports	Harry - Riley
Drama and Creative Arts	Raiyan - Kahlo
Outstanding Contribution to school community	David - Riley



Athletics Festival

Last week, Mr McLaughlin took 10 children from Reception and Year 1 to participate in the mini athletics festival at Corpus Christi Primary School. All of the children had a great morning, and represented the school really well. It was fantastic to see them develop their fundamental movement and athletic skills, and they each got a medal! Well done, we are so proud of them all: Theo, Emma, Sarah, Negar, Ruun, Teddy, Leyah, Oliver, Areeb and Olivia.



Y2 Hampton Court Trip

Y2 had a great trip to Hampton Court Palace, arriving by boat just like King Henry VIII did many years ago! They took part in an educational session and a tour of the Palace as part of their history topic about the Tudors. They even managed to try out a Tudor banquet (but without the food!) and practise their bowing and curtseying.



Year 6

Year 6 performed 'Star Wars - The Umpire Strikes Back' for their families in two amazing shows last week. There was fantastic singing and very impressive acting, along with great comic timing! Children saw the show in school and loved it. Year 6 had their Leavers' Assembly this week, enjoying afternoon tea with their families, whilst sharing special moments and songs from their time at King Athelstan. They have been wonderful role models to the rest of the school, and we wish them all well on the next part of their educational journeys.



Y4 Ukulele Concert



Year 4 hosted a fabulous ukulele concert for families last Friday, showcasing all they have learnt in their music lessons with Mr Thomas. They entertained everyone, playing 'Shotgun' by George Ezra, and 'Octopus' Garden' by the Beatles. Their singing was also wonderful. Year 3 were invited to

attend and are very excited about learning to play the ukulele next year. A recording of the concert has been put on Y4 Google Classroom for families to watch again.

Y3 Country Dancing



As you may be aware the children in Y3 were due to attend the Country Dancing Festival in early July. Sadly, this event was cancelled due to the heavy rain. However, earlier this week they had the opportunity to demonstrate their dancing skills to Y2! The children performed so well and it was evident that they had put lots of practice in to their dancing and coordination. They danced individually, with a partner and in small groups. A special mention to the whole Y3 staff team for all of their hard work in getting the children to such a high level.



King Athelstan Allotment

What is happening in the allotment? You may have noticed our allotment in the KS2 playground is looking rather bare. Do not fear though, there are exciting plans afoot for the space. We are lucky enough to have teamed up with the Hogsmill Community Garden and now have two keen gardeners, Pip and Brian, as well as Caitlin who is a parent from King Athelstan, helping us out on a regular basis. The beds had become depleted and the soil dry and unproductive so the team have cleared most of the beds and added compost with the help of the Year 2 children. They have also added seaweed! Over the summer we hope to sow some special 'green manure' plants which will grow within the beds over the colder autumn months and then be dug into the beds to replenish them ready for planting next spring. There are a number of plans to get the children out and interacting with the allotment in the next few months and we look forward to updating you in September.



Sports Day

We shared the result and some photos last week, but Mr McLaughlin would like to say a big thank you to all families for participating and cheering on all the children - it was such a lovely atmosphere. All the children displayed such a positive attitude and excellent sportsmanship. A special mention to the Junior Leadership Team who did an



amazing job in helping set up the activities, supporting the children in their Houses and then ensuring all the

House Colour	Place	Points
Red - (Dawson)	1 st	658
Green (Villiers)	2 nd	641
Blue (Hawks)	3 rd	613
Yellow (Cambridge)	4 th	590

activities went to plan. It was a highly contested Sports Day with only 17 points between first and second place. Well done to Red House (Dawson) who won the Sports Day shield, which will now be engraved for this year.

Y5 trip to Holly Lodge

On Tuesday the intrepid Year 5 team ventured to Richmond Park for a day of History and enjoying the outdoors. As part of their Victorian topic, the children got to dress up and join a Victorian class, learning about the three Rs and the rules and expectations of a Victorian teacher. Once they had paid their penny to be allowed to join the class, the teacher, Mrs Sawyer, took them through lessons on reading, handwriting, maths with imperial currency as well as playing a simple game called 5 stones. When not in the classroom, the children completed a wildlife search and played some Victorian style games out in the park. The children loved the day and some even wanted to stay in the Victorian school!



Y1 trip to Littlehampton

Year 1 went to Littlehampton on Monday, a wonderful end of year trip for them, linked to their learning about animals and the geography of the seaside. They enjoyed the sunny weather and, although it was windy, it didn't stop them from paddling in the sea, collecting rocks and shells and enjoying lollies! Thank you to all those who assisted in making the trip so worthwhile for all the children.



Uniform Reminders

A reminder that our uniform policy states the following regarding children wearing watches to school: "Children are permitted to wear discrete watches to school, provided these can be removed independently for PE. We encourage the use of analogue 'teaching' style watches to support children learning to tell the time. Simple digital watches are permitted, provided they do not make any sounds, however smart watches that connect to other devices or have interactive features (e.g. sending/receiving messages or calls) are not allowed in school."



If children bring a smart watch to school they will be asked to hand this in as per our mobile phone policy and will be asked not to wear it again. Smart watches present a safeguarding risk as well as a distraction and are not necessary in school. Thank you for your support with this.

Please ensure all items are named, including water bottles as children often have the same ones.

Thank you!

A huge thank you to all those who have helped the school over the last year. From those accompanying our vast array of trips, to volunteers who help children with reading every week. Many families have purchased items from our Wish List throughout the year which is so helpful and really enables us to enhance the children's experiences. The Rotary Club are great supporters of our school, and have recently donated a dictionary for every child in Y6 to help them with their onward journey. Our gardening volunteers have been doing amazing work in our allotment (see item), and we cannot forget our wonderful PAT dog, Merlin, who has visited us weekly this year with his human,

Caroline. Thank you all.



Dates for the Diary

SEPTEMBER 2023

Mon 4	INSET Day - Children not in school
Tue 5	INSET Day - Children not in school
Wed 6	Children in school for autumn term (Years 1-6)
Tue 25	Clubs commence. Details will be sent out from 8 th Sep

Pupil News

The Hogsmill Herald



Issue 4, July 2023. £1 recommended donation. All proceeds go to the KS1 Playground Fund.

You may have seen the latest edition of The Hogsmill Herald, written and edited by David in Y6 and his team. David recommends a donation of £1 with all proceeds going to the KS1 playground fund. He has managed to raise an **amazing £112.76** this year! You can also [donate here](#). David's brother Sam (in Y4 next year), along with

Violet (in Y6), will be taking over publishing of the Hogsmill Herald next year.

National Three Peaks Challenge Update

Well done to the Three Peaks staff team (Barbara Favretti, Ceris Heath, Kayleigh Lee, Darren McLaughlin and Roz Coelho) who completed this gruelling challenge in under 24hrs. So far, £9545 has been raised since fundraising for this amazing challenge began in 2022. There is still time to sponsor the team on this link: <https://www.givey.com/threepeakschallenge2023> Here are some photos of the adventure:



Community News

In this section of the Digest we include information received from other agencies. We are not promoting these items, but include them in good faith as they may be of interest to King Athelstan families.

National Book Tokens

This summer, National Book Tokens are offering five schools the chance to start rebuilding their libraries by inviting teachers, parents, carers and communities to nominate their school for our big prize draw. Each winning school will receive **£1,000 in National Book Tokens** and a year's free membership to the **School Library Association** - PLUS one overall winner will also get **£500 to help them create a fun and welcoming library space for all**. Nominate a school using the link [here](#), and if yours is one of the five winning entries, you'll also win a **£100 National Book Token to spend in your favourite bookshop!** Remember, the more entries received for your nominated school, the higher the chance they'll win - so don't forget to spread the word. Winners will be drawn at random after Monday 31st July and announced in September 2023. Check out the [full terms and conditions](#).



FUEL: Summer 2023 Holiday Activity and Food programme - bookings open!



Bookings are open for the Summer 2023 FUEL Holiday Activity and Food programme! FUEL provides free activities and food for children whose parents are eligible for benefits- related Free School Meals during the Easter, Summer and Winter school holidays. If your child is eligible, you should have a 17 digit FUEL

code. If you think your child may be eligible but you haven't got a code, email the FUEL team at: fuel@achievingforchildren.org.uk or ask at the school office.

If you have your code, you can book on to sessions

now: <https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/fuel-holiday-activities-and-food-programme>

There are also spaces available for the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (FUEL) with KOOSA Kids here on site at King Athelstan Primary. These spaces are for eligible children aged 4-13 who are in receipt of benefits related free school meals, as above. KOOSA also has general bookings available, too.



Free Swimming Passes at the Malden Centre

The Malden Centre in New Malden has contacted us about a fantastic initiative they are running over the summer holidays. They are offering a free-swimming membership to children in receipt of free school meals. Children will also receive a free pair of Zoggs goggles (subject to availability). Please see link here for more information: <https://www.placesleisure.org/offers/free-summer-swimming-pass/>



Rose Theatre Summer Schools

Our Summer Schools are returning for three weeks of fun packed theatre days for anyone in Years 3 - 6. We'd love to work with as many budding young performers as possible this summer. Our three day courses for 7-11 year olds are full of fun drama based activities, crafts, exercises and skills. Small groups will work with a Rose Youth Theatre director and assistant for the duration of the course and create a short piece of theatre to be shared with families on the final day. Sibling discounts & bursaries available. For more information, email summerschools@rosetheatre.org.

Behaviour Management Course for Primary School Children



ADHD Embrace will be running a Parenting Course in September aimed at parents of Primary School aged children. This course is subsidised for Richmond Borough parents by Richmond Voluntary Fund. Led by Noël Janis-

Norton, parenting author, speaker, and consultant, Director of 'Calmer, Easier, Happier Parenting', this course is specifically designed for parents of primary-age children with ADHD and related neuro-developmental issues. It will help parents understand the causes and contributing factors when a child is struggling with behaviour, learning or social skills. Noël will explain the benefits of a positive, firm and consistent approach to help parents with the 'Big Five' goals that parents of ADHD children often ask for advice about cooperation, confidence, motivation, self-reliance, and consideration. In each session, Noël will introduce and explain one or more practical and effective strategies, followed by time for Q&A.

Sessions will address the following:

Children with an extreme temperament: very sensitive, intense, impulsive, inflexible, and who often show a discrepancy between above-average cognitive ability and immature social or emotional development, rudeness, verbal and/or physical aggression, below-average receptive and/or expressive language, sibling rivalry and jealousy. Routines: mornings, mealtimes, homework, sibling relationships, peer relationships, screen time, independent play, homework, bedtimes. Parents/carers will be provided with templates, summary pages, and planning pages to support putting new strategies into practice in between the weekly sessions. Parents/carers will also be sent links to videos, podcasts, ebooks, and articles that give more information about the 'Calmer, Easier, Happier Parenting' principles. **Dates: Wednesday evenings** from 8:00 pm to 9.30 pm for six weeks: September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18. [Register Now](#)



Crash Course Swimming Lessons

Thirty-minute swimming lessons are available at Grand Avenue Primary School, KT5 9HU between 5pm and 6.30pm for the following weeks beginning: Monday 24th July, Monday 31st July, Monday 7th August, Monday 14th August The cost is £50.00 per swimmer, per week. Contact info@higginsaquatics.co.uk

DisAbility Sports Day

Fulham FC Foundation is pleased to share their DisAbility Sports Day, in partnership with Kingston Active4All, which will take place on **Wednesday 2nd August 2023** at the YMCA Hawker Centre, Kingston. Participants aged 5 years to adults with any form of disability or special education need, can book a place on the DisAbility Sports Day, which will enable them to access all the activities on offer during the day. Siblings and Families welcome!

Sports will include: Tennis, Cricket, Cycling, Soft Play, Dance Ability, Zumba, New Age Kurling, Boccia, Gym inductions, and of course Football (including Pan DisAbility, Frame Football, Blind and Partially Sighted Football, Down's Syndrome Football). Participants will have the chance to try new sports and/or continue with ones they know and love. A full timetable of the events will be emailed to all participants once booked, with the option to pre-book their space on particular activities. To book your space on the DisAbility Sports Day click the link: <https://bit.ly/42rDJyF> If you have any questions about any of the above please do not hesitate to get in touch, email disability@fulhamfc.com



Intergenerational Music Making Intergenerational Music Making is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to connect communities and generations through music. We have been given some funding to run two sessions for the Cambridge Road Estate community in the summer holidays which are to be held in August. Anyone is welcome to join us - please see the flyer here.

