

King Athelstan Primary School



Newsletter 27/05/16



Here we are - already half way through the Summer Term! We have finished Year 6 and Year 2 SATs and have completed tests for other KS2 classes to inform teacher assessment. We have had an E-Safety workshop; a mobile climbing wall; the building work has started and we have even had a snake in school from Zoo-Lab; all of which you can read more about below. We hope you have enjoyed this busy half term and we wish you all a relaxing break. Remember you can keep up to date with all the exciting learning taking place between newsletter updates, by following us on Twitter @KingAthSchool or checking the "latest news" tab on our website.

Key Dates:

**Please note the changed Rousseau cake sale date.*

May

Fri 27 th	Last day of half term (3.15pm finish)
Mon 30 th - Fri 3 rd	Half term break

JUNE

Mon 6 th	First day back
Thurs 9 th	Parent/Carer Forum (2.00pm) Governor Visit Day
Fri 10 th	International Day - International Dress (bring chocolate/sweets for Summer Fair)
Thurs 16 th	Michelangelo Class Assembly (8.55am)
Fri 17 th	Father's Day Celebrations Odd Socks Day (bring unwanted gifts for Summer Fair) Rousseau Cake Sale*
Thurs 23 rd	Picasso Class Assembly (8.55am)
Fri 24 th	Mufti Day (bring bottles for the bottle tombola at the Summer Fair)
Sat 25 th	Summer Fair

JULY

Mon 27 th - Fri 1 st	Bike-ability Y6
Fri 1 st - Mon 4 th	Y6 PGL School Journey
Tues 12 th	Y6 Performance (2.00pm)
Weds 13 th	Y6 Performance (7.00pm)
Thurs 14 th	Lowry Cake Sale
Fri 15 th	Sports Day
Weds 20 th	Y6 Leavers' Assembly (2.00pm)
Thurs 21 st	End of year and Prize Giving (9.00am) (2.30pm finish)



Lost Property

Please remember to collect any lost property or missing uniform from the front of the school by Monday 6th June.

Reminder

Just a reminder that we are a "nut free school." We have a number of pupils with serious nut allergies. Please do not send children to school with nuts/nut products in their lunch. Many thanks for your support in keeping King Athelstan Primary healthy and safe.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that we currently hold a Silver London Healthy Schools Award and are working towards our Gold. To help support us in this effort please ensure packed lunches are well balanced and promote healthy living. Please ensure there is no more than one "sweet" dessert and plenty of fruit and vegetables. Thank you for your support.



Building Work Update

The building work is now underway with the hoarding up and the cabins on site. Kier are getting ready for some significant work over the half term, including blocking up the large hall entrance. We were very sad to see the much loved trees cut down, however, it was necessary for the build to progress and a sacrifice we know will be worthwhile in the long run. The building plans include planting a number of trees to replace those lost. A big thank you to all parents/carers for your support with the new drop off and collection arrangements. We are aware that space is limited and thank everyone for their support during this time.

Breaking Sports News!

Our mixed tennis team won the Y3-Y4 Kingston School Sports Partnership Tennis Finals on Thursday 26th May! The team will be representing Kingston in the borough competitions after the half term. Well done!

Reception Writes to The Queen!

This term, Reception classes are learning about writing for a range of purposes. As a result, the children were excited to hear that it was Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday and chose to write a letter of congratulations. The letter will be sent off with a whole class trip to the post box and the children are very hopeful of a response. We will keep you updated on our royal correspondence!

Staffing Update

EYFS

Mrs Karen Barkha, our EYFS lead who has not been at school this academic year, will be taking Early Retirement from after half term. We will be saying goodbye to Karen in assembly this week. Many children have been taught by Karen, who has been at our school since 2011, teaching EYFS and Year 1. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her every happiness in the next exciting stage of her life.

Mrs Barbara Favretti will be beginning her maternity leave at the May half term. Covering her, as the nursery nurse in Cezanne class, will be Mrs Vida Stevens. Mrs Stevens has already been working in the school this term so is a known part of the staff team. Reception children are excited to work with Vida and we look forward to meeting the latest addition to Barbara's family soon.

KS2

Mrs Sarah Yates, who has taught both French to Key Stage 2 and Nursery, is relocating to Gloucester and will be finishing at the May half term. Thank you Mrs Yates for all your hard work across the school. Mrs Clare Williamson will be teaching French for the second half of the term.

Office

Mrs Anna Cheshire has been doing an excellent job covering Naomi Bain's role as the School Administrator on a temporary basis. From Monday 6th June Mrs Joy Chapple will be taking over this role for at least the next 6 months. A big thank you to Mrs Cheshire for all her hard work in covering this busy role and welcome to Mrs Chapple. Please do introduce yourself when you see her.

Site

Mr Dariusz Kiesler began work on Monday May 9th as our new Premises Manager. Mr Kiesler will shadow our current Premises Manager, Mr Will Mitchell, for 4 weeks before fully taking over the role alongside our Site Assistant Mr John Davies on Monday 6th June.

Mobile Climbing Wall

This month Years 2 - 6 had the exciting opportunity of having a go on a Mobile Climbing Wall. The wall was 8 metres in height with many children reaching the top! The children had a fantastic day and were able to reflect on what the climbing experience had taught them about courage and perseverance.



Rota Kids

On Wednesday 27th April, the Rota Kids attended a "thank you" ceremony at the Mayor's parlour. The Mayor wanted to thank the Rota Kids, amongst others, for their hard work fundraising for the "Grand Walk" which raised money and awareness for the Dementia Appeal, the Mayor's chosen charity. The Rota Kids displayed exemplary behaviour and represented King Athelstan with pride at this prestigious event. Well done Rota Kids!

"Hackathon" Project

King Athelstan's first "Hackathon" took place on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th April. The children in Year 5 took part in a two day computing workshop in partnership with NotOnTheHighStreet.com where they were introduced to the world of programming and coding. The children had the opportunity to learn coding language "Python" and created a game where they had to guess whether a coin would land heads or tails. Year 5, helped by 6 software developers, wrote their code in an online editor and were thrilled by their creations. Some children even gained a high score of 1,000 correct guesses - they had learnt to edit the games code to their advantage!

On the second day of the Hackathon, the children wrote code using their knowledge of loops, variables and functions to create a "Fruit Punch" game. The Raspberry Pi (a mini computer) would say the name of a fruit (recorded by the children) and the player would have to touch the right fruit in an ever decreasing amount of time. The Hackathon culminated in a live link up with Not OnTheHighStreet.com with over 15 members of the company listening to the children's presentation. This was an unforgettable experience for the children, many of whom now wish to consider a future in coding.

Thank you to Mrs Coltman for organising this event.



Crossing Safety

We now have "Zebrite" high visibility lights on the school zebra crossing. This is a big step forward in keeping our school crossing even safer and has taken the hard work and dedication of parents and carers writing to the council over the past two years.

These lights can now be seen from the top of Villiers Road to alert drivers there is a crossing there. Thank you to the parents and carers who helped get these lights and to the school community for their efforts in keeping our children safe.



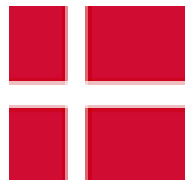
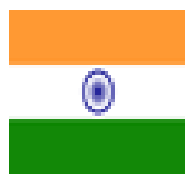
Zoo-Lab Visit

On Tuesday 10th May Year 1 had an exciting visit from Zoo-Lab. As part of their Summer term topic "All Creatures Great and Small," Year 1 were given the opportunity to learn about and handle some exciting creatures. Zoo-Lab ranger, Chloe, brought in a variety of creatures from insects to a corn snake (see below). A popular creature was the giant African land snail and the infamous tarantula caused a stir!



Nurture Note

Alice Slade, Family Support Worker, is available every Wednesday to discuss topics such as housing, benefits, challenging behaviour and routines. If you would like to book a space to see her, please ask at the office to arrange this.



International Day!

We need your support!

Can you demonstrate or teach any arts, crafts, music, dance or cooking from your culture? Then we need you!



We are holding our next International Day on Friday 10th June. The aim is to celebrate the diversity of our school community. We have a wide range of languages and cultures represented within the school and we would like to share their richness on this special day.

Additional Information:

- We are looking for volunteers who could showcase aspects of their culture during the day.
- It will be a multi-day and children are encouraged to wear clothes from their country or choose outfits from a country of their choice. Pupils can bring in flags and artefacts from their countries of choice.
- We will be having an "International Market" where foods from around the world will be on sale in the Key Stage 2 playground from 3.00pm. We still need volunteers to make food for the day. There is a small budget available to support this.
- We are unable to serve any hot dishes or dishes containing pork or nuts at the market.

Please contact Mr Porter through the following e-mail admin@kingathestan.rbksch.org, via the letter return slip or call into the office and register your interest.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

King Athelstan Primary School