



# King Athelstan Primary School Newsletter 1 – October 2020



We hope you have all settled into the new, unusual term with all the different arrangements that have been put in place. The children have been wonderful and adapted to the new measures quickly. They are busy learning in classes and enjoying playtimes with their year group bubbles. Please continue to arrive at school at the time allotted for your children's classes, and adhere to the one-way system to ensure social distancing. If you are driving, please park in legitimate parking spaces and not on yellow lines, school zig zags or across private driveways. Please note that any photographing or filming of children arriving or leaving the school premises is not permitted. Children are not allowed to film in school using smart watches or other devices—please ensure that they are not able to do this. Please remember to wear your face covering on the school site. Thank you.

## Key Dates for 2020-21

Fri 9 Oct	World Mental Health Day
Tue 20 Oct	R-Y6 Nasal Flu Immunisations
19-22 Oct	Klee & Little Klee Parent/Carer Consultations (Nursery only)
19-23 Oct	R—Year 6 Mini Marathon
26-30 Oct	Half term
Fri 13 Nov	Children in Need
16-20 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Mon 16 Nov	Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-6.30pm NOT Da Vinci Y3
Tue 17 Nov	Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-6.30pm Da Vinci Y3 ONLY
Wed 18 Nov	Parent/Carer Consultations 4-7pm
Tue 24 Nov	School Photographs
Fri 18 Dec	School breaks up at 2.30pm for Christmas
Mon 4 Jan 21	INSET Day
Tue 5 Jan 21	Children return to school

## Meet the Senior Leadership Team:



Miss Emily Newton  
Headteacher



Mrs Lucy Mastrocola  
Deputy Head



Ms Alice Govan  
Assistant Head  
Inclusion



Mrs Naomi Ahearn  
Assistant Head  
Learning & Teaching

## Assistance

Please click on this link for a directory giving advice and contact details for domestic abuse, foodbanks, housing and wellbeing services in the local area:

<https://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/assets/Uploads/downloads/Directory-of-DA-and-Local-Services-22.4.20.pdf>

Alternatively, contact the Inclusion Team who will happily offer support and advice on a wide range of matters.

## Year 6 2020

It was a very different last day at primary school for those Y6 children who were attending in bubbles in July! On their last day they had a picnic outside with ice cream. They each received a goodie bag, as well as their Y6 purple leavers' hoodies, a yearbook and a CD full of memorable photos. Staff on site clapped them out along a VIP pathway complete with bunting. They are all now settled into their new school in Year 7 and we wish them every success.



## Breakfast & After School Clubs

There are still some spaces available in both Breakfast Club and the YMCA After School Club. Please see the information here for full details:

[www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/for-parents-and-carers/breakfast-after-school-and-holiday-clubs/](http://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/for-parents-and-carers/breakfast-after-school-and-holiday-clubs/)

## The Virtual Approach

We have had to adapt many of our procedures and have found virtual solutions:

**School Tours**—We run regular Zoom sessions with a virtual school tour hosted by Miss Newton for any prospective parents or carers wishing to view the school.

**Assembly** - we have pre-recorded school assemblies which children watch in classrooms. We also have a virtual Achievement Assembly every week, and certificates are handed out in class.

**Parent/Carer Consultations** (week beginning 19th October for Nursery, and the week beginning 16th November for Reception to Year 6)—these will be conducted online by video calls with teachers. Details have already gone out to Nursery, and will follow soon for the rest of the school with information on how to book and access the calls.

## Contact

The school office is closed to parents/carers. All visitors are booked in advance. Telephone: 020 8546 8210  
General enquiries/prospective parents and carers wanting to book an online tour: [admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org)  
To notify of a change of arrangements for a child: [messages@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:messages@kingathelstan.rbksch.org)

## WilsonJones

WilsonJones, our in-house caterers, have published their latest menu. We are still only able to offer packed-lunch style meals, which can be booked on ParentPay up until half-term. However, the menu is now much more exciting, and can be viewed on the school website here: <https://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/about-the-school/school-meals/>



WilsonJones have worked hard to choose packaging and presentation that takes environmental issues into consideration. The dessert pots they use are made from recycled plastic, and are recyclable. Metal spoons for yogurt are washed instead of using plastic ones. Single-use water bottles are no longer supplied, and cartons of fruit juice are only issued occasionally. Please ensure that you book meals in advance for your child if they are not bringing a packed lunch from home.

## World Mental Health Day

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, children were invited to **wear a brightly coloured top** (to represent the keyworker appreciation rainbow) along with their usual school uniform (or PE uniform if it is their PE day). This year we have decided to raise funds for the NHS (Kingston Hospital, Mental Health) as a thank you from the King Athelstan family. If you are able to, please donate via the World Mental Health Day item in your ParentPay account. We are not able to accept cash donations. Check out the Attitude of Gratitude Family Challenge which has been emailed to all parents/carers.



## Designated Safeguarding Leads

The school is committed to all aspects of Safeguarding. We have 3 Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) who lead on all aspects of safeguarding in school. This includes day to day support on site helping children and families in accessing help through a range of services including Family Support and other Children's Services. Please get in touch with us if you feel your child/ren and family would benefit from wider services or if you have safeguarding concerns regarding any child.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Emily Newton, Alice Govan and Denise Ramkissoon. We also have a Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding - Kathy Collins.

### Useful Contacts:

If you would like to talk directly to professionals in Children's Services, or refer yourself for access to additional services you can contact Kingston's Single Point of Access (SPA) on 020 8547 5008.

## Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)



Ms Alice Govan  
Assistant Head  
Inclusion



Miss Emily Newton  
Headteacher



Ms Denise Ramkissoon  
Social Emotional  
Mental Health  
(SEMH)

## New Baby

We are delighted to share the news from Nadja Semec, Nursery Teacher, that baby Maxwell arrived on 1st October, weighing 3.6kg. Both are doing well and enjoying lots of cuddles.



## Kingston Libraries

Libraries within Kingston are now open but have had to make changes to how they operate. Visitors are asked to wear a face covering and use hand sanitiser. Visitor numbers are controlled and browsing time is limited to 25 minutes. All visitors will need to submit a name and contact details for Track and Trace purposes as this is a requirement under government guidelines. For your safety all returned stock will be quarantined in a separate area for 72 hours before being returned to the shelves. The current library opening times are:



**Surbiton and New Malden Libraries:** Monday—Friday 10-4pm, but closed Wednesdays.

**Hook and Chessington Library:** Tuesday—Friday 10-4pm  
**Kingston Library** is currently closed for redevelopment.

## Y6 School Residential Update

The Department for Education is currently advising against residential trips for children under 18 organised by schools. We will continue to monitor and update you if the government guidance changes. We are currently holding a provisional booking with PGL for 11-14 June 2021 for the current Y6.

## Portrait of King Athelstan

A parent recently let us know that a portrait of Saxon King Athelstan, who was crowned in Kingston in 925AD, has been erected in All Saints Church in Kingston. The church already has many pieces of beautiful stained glass dating from the 15th/16th centuries. They are hoping that, with enough fundraising, King Athelstan will be the first of seven new panels to go up in the church. Do have a look if you are passing.

Right: a portrait of King Athelstan in Exeter Cathedral



## Amazon Wish List

Back by popular demand is our Amazon Wish List! For anyone who wishes to make a donation we have set up a list of items that you can purchase and they will be sent

directly to school. The list contains lots of reading books for our Book Corners at the moment, and is updated regularly. If you do make a purchase, please attach a note so we know who it is from and can thank you properly!



## KS2 Playground

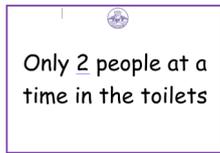
The children have probably told you about our amazing new eco-friendly KS2 playground, which was completed during lockdown. We still have some planting to do in the spring, and the pond and growing area are yet to be developed. The artificial grass is porous and conforms to SuDS regulations (sustainable drainage system). Any rainwater goes directly back underground. It has an expected life of 20 years, allowing a huge number of children the benefit of being able to enjoy the surface all year round. We chose natural timber for the play equipment to reduce plastic use. It is long-lasting, untreated, sustainably sourced FSC-certified timber. We kept all excavated material on site to reduce landfill and unnecessary road transport. Hardcore was re-used under the new MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and the rest has been used in the mounds. The re-use of the old tarmac in the mounds and MUGA also reduced the need for primary aggregates. The soft surfacing is also SuDS compliant and is made from recycled truck tyres.



## Our School



School looks a little different this term, both inside and out. We have lots of signs to remind everyone about 2m social distancing. Our corridors have arrows to help us all remember to keep to our one-way systems, and even the toilets have restrictions. Everyone is hand-washing thoroughly and regularly.



In **EYFS** the classroom environment looks almost the same as normal, however, behind the scenes is a rigorous routine of additional cleaning of resources, quarantining of items and new systems of organisation. We have a big focus on natural materials in EYFS, with lots of wood and hessian.

**Reception and Year 1** eat lunch in the large and small hall respectively.



In **Year 1** the classroom is set up for the transition between EYFS and KS1.

(right), but from **Year 2** onwards, all the desks face the front and each child has a pouch on the back of their chair for their resource packs. The children are really enjoying this way of learning. Lunch is eaten in class at desks before going outside to play. As you can imagine, we have a high focus on basic skills after such a long gap in learning, however, the children continue to have wider curriculum learning, particularly through our subject specialists.



## Wiltshire Room—Inclusion

The Wiltshire Room and the Inclusion staff continue to host daily Nurture Groups for Years 1 and 2, and are also able to respond to the needs of individuals throughout the school day. As with other shared spaces, there are strict routines of cleaning between sessions.

