



Dear Families,

In assembly this week we looked at some of the traditions around Chinese New Year. Some of the children who had celebrated shared their own experiences. We enjoyed hearing about symbolic food that was shared and the "lucky money" that children received.



You will be aware from our ongoing communications that our own school funding situation is unsustainable. We have already cut significant staff posts and face continuing to do this in order to balance the budget moving forwards. SEN is underfunded nationally and there is a shortfall of between £2k and £8.5k on each EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan). The unfunded pay rises this financial year have cost the school £108k. In December the gas bill was £5.5k. Our limited reserves will get us through this financial year and next, but then they will have run out.

Please be assured that the team at King Athelstan remain committed to providing the very best education we can with the resources available, however, we continue to be transparent with you all - our staffing structure is spread thinner and thinner and there is very little left to 'cut'. Without significant change at a national level, we cannot continue to operate the service that we do now.

As you know, **all classes will be closed on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February** due to the NEU (National Education Union) strike action. I appreciate that this action may cause many of you inconvenience however, teachers only take industrial action as a last resort. The NEU is concerned about the ongoing funding issues in schools and the future of education for our children. It is campaigning for a **fully-funded** and above inflation pay rise for their members, as well as realistic funding for schools so that they can give all children the best education whilst protecting the teaching profession.

Please note, children coming to Breakfast Club, after school clubs or KOOSA Kids on Wednesday do not need to wear school uniform.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

**Emily Newton, Headteacher**

### Book Looks & Parent/Carer Consultations

Yesterday we sent all families a letter with full details of how to book the Book Looks and Consultations: **Book Looks - Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 3.20-3.50pm**. Families are invited to see their child's books in their classroom. Please complete the Google form [here](#) to book a date so that teachers know whose books to leave out.

**Parent/Carer Consultations - online appointments with teachers will be available on Tue 21<sup>st</sup> February and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. Appointments are available for Little Klee on the afternoon of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

**SEND Parent/Carer Consultations - in-person meetings with teachers will be available on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February**. A letter will be sent soon with details of how and when to book for these.



### Year 5 Maths Challenge

On Thursday evening, Mrs Williamson took a team of 4 confident Y5 mathematicians to compete against other primary schools in the borough in The Hollyfield School's Primary Maths Challenge. They had to solve challenging mathematical problems and work as a team. They came 5<sup>th</sup>! Well done to Ollie, Burhan, Isabella and Yasmin!



## Messages

- If you have any spare 3-4 years and 5-6 years clothing which could be donated to school, Nursery would be very grateful. Spare clothes which would be welcome are: socks, trousers, leggings/tracksuit bottoms, tights, t-shirts, underwear. If any children have borrowed any spare clothes, please return them. Thank you.
- **Please encourage children to practise tying their shoelaces!** Several children have tripped over their own loose laces. There are velcro alternatives if your child cannot tie up their own shoes/trainers yet.

## Inclusion Bitesize

Nervous System Response		
Fight	Flight	Collapsed/ Shut Down
<b>What We See</b>	<b>What We See</b>	<b>What We See</b>
Yelling	Fidgeting	Absent
Blaming	Avoiding	Hiding
Hitting	Unfocused	Isolated
Throwing	Procrastinating	Zoned out
Aggressive	Running away	Unresponsive
Demanding		Day-dreaming
		Not completing work
<b>What is Underneath</b>	<b>What is Underneath</b>	<b>What is Underneath</b>
Shock	Buzzing	Numb
Worried	Restless	Void
Fear	Preoccupied	Confused
Alarmed	Over-doing	Disgust
Anxious	Over-stimulated	Hypertense
Gasping		Angry
Pressured		Exhausted
Frightened		Overwhelmed
Feeling unloved		Lost/Missing
		Feeling numb

This week's Inclusion Bitesize is one which has been shared with staff previously. It follows on nicely from last week's look at the PACE approach and illustrates what the much talked about fight/flight/freeze response may look like in children and the feelings that may be behind the behaviours. Next week there will be some more methods for calming a child's brain when they are in this state.

## Year 5 Dali Class Assembly

Dali Class hosted an excellent assembly for their families, showcasing all their work on the Great Invaders and Ancient Greece, including a great chariot race! Well done Dali. The assembly has been recorded and is on Google Classroom for families to watch again at home.

## 'Noah's Pudding' Workshop

Miss Meggitt arranged this innovative workshop for Y5 and Y6. It presents a diverse society as being the ideal because it makes us stronger when we work alongside one another. A story-teller told the metaphorical story of 'Noah's Pudding' to represent all parts of society and beliefs (the 'mixing together' of all ingredients) and the other speakers shared their own interpretations and how they work together to promote diversity and inclusivity in society. The aim is to bring communities within the school together and to begin conversations with pupils. The children also enjoyed eating the pudding at the end! The group included representations from the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths.



## House Points

This week **Blue House (Hawks)** won the House Points competition. Yellow House (Cambridge) came second, Green House (Villiers) third and Red House (Dawson) fourth. Thank you to the Y6 House Captains for diligently collating all the House Points information.



Villiers



Dawson



Cambridge



Hawks



## Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Jensen	O'Keefe Y1 - Aya
Hockney Y2 - Otilie	Matisse Y2 - Ethan
Da Vinci Y3 - Eliza	Cassatt - Azra
Mehretu Y4 - Amber	Wiley Y4 - Alisa
Dali Y5 - Bella	Warhol Y5 - Ollie & Burhan
Riley - Hakki & David	Kahlo - Raiyan

Equalities and Diversity Champion - Violet in Dali Class Y5

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Alice	Dunia	Inci	Poppy & Teddy	Yasmin	Jessica
Oscar	Pedro	Fatima	Karlis	Alan	Mariam

## Pupil News

This week, **Roanna in Dali Class** shared her wonderful acrostic poem which she wrote at home (right) about the pupils of King Athelstan. Well done, Roanna: a Headteacher's award well-deserved.

**Manon in Dali Class** spent the Christmas holidays performing in the Epsom Playhouse pantomime, Dick Whittington. Manon loved every minute of it and was really pleased to have had this experience. Here she is in one of her many costumes!



### Roanna's Poem:

**K**ind  
**I**maginative  
**N**ascent  
**G**enius  
**A**ce  
**T**alented  
**H**ard working  
**E**ager  
**L**oving  
**S**ensible  
**T**houghtful  
**A**ctive  
**N**ice

We love hearing about children's achievements outside of school. Please do let us know and we will try to share them in this section of the Digest.



## Dates for the Diary

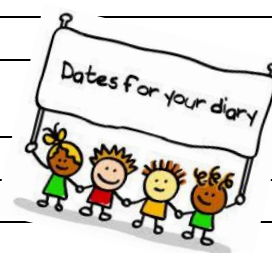
Please note, term and INSET dates for 2023-34 are now on the website

### JANUARY 2023

Mon 30	Y6 Junior Citizen trip
Tue 31	Y4 online presentation for families - Multiplication Tables Check 5pm

### FEBRUARY 2023

Wed 1	School closed due to industrial action
Wed 1	Da Vinci Class Assembly 9am- Moved to Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> February 9am
Mon 6	Book Looks Reception-Y6 3.20-3.50pm
Wed 8	Da Vinci Class Assembly 9am- Moved from Weds 1st February 9am
Wed 8	Book Looks Reception to Y6 3.20-3.50pm
Thur 9	Y3 Cassatt Class Library Trip
Mon 13- Fri 17	<b>Half-term</b>
Tue 21	Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-6.30pm online
Thurs 23	Nursery Classes visiting Kingston Library
Thurs 23	Parent/Carer Consultations 4-7pm online
Mon 27	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings (in person)



### MARCH 2023

Wed 1	Cassatt Class Assembly 9am
Wed 1	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings (in person)
Wed 8	Wiley Class Assembly 9am
Wed 22	Van Gogh Class Assembly 9am
27- 31	Y5 Bikeability
Wed 29	Matisse Class Assembly 9am
Fri 31	Break up one hour early for Easter holidays

## Cost of Living Advice

This half term, the Mayor of London's cost of living bus will be parked in the Hook Centre car park on 16 February from 10am - 4pm for Kingston residents to drop-in. The bus will serve as an in-person advice centre and offer debt, money and welfare advice, as well as other forms of cost of living support available across Kingston. Expert advisors from Debt Free Advice <https://debtfreeadvice.com/bus> will be on-hand to give free and confidential advice on debt, benefits and other money worries. For more information please visit the Mayor of London's website <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-justice/help-cost-living/find-support-your-local-council-and-advice-centre> For general cost of living support, visit [www.kingston.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport)



## Cambridge Road Estate Regeneration

The Cambridge Road Estate Regeneration project in Kingston has now started works on the Tadlow House block opposite the Community Centre, Piper Hall. In February, the path directly outside Piper Hall will be closed. Many families use this footpath to travel to school and should be aware that a diversion may add an extra 5 mins to the journey. The project planners have put together a map here to show which routes will be available.

