



Dear Families,

Members of our Governing Body joined us in school on Tuesday this week and spent the day, seeing learning and other aspects of the children's day. They chatted to the School Council and Junior Leadership Team, enjoyed lunchtime with the children and looked at the breadth of the curriculum by joining a wide range of lessons and a book look in the afternoon. Some also joined us for the Parent/Carer Forum. Thank you to those parents/carers who attended the Forum - the discussion is always really helpful. The meeting minutes will be circulated to all. Here are some of the Governors' comments:

Fabulous engagement in mosaic art lesson!

Strong classroom management throughout

Politeness, good manners and smiles of the children

Brilliant ideas about the library, pupil engagement, clubs, fundraising from the School Council - very articulate and passionate about improving the school

Kindness and mutual support between children, looking after each other

Great integration of different skills into one topic area

Thank you to those families who let us know that KOOSA Kids are not running on the last day of term. We were not specifically aware of this, however now understand that it was in the booking confirmation from KOOSA. It is KOOSA's policy when school closes early as their staff are contracted from 3pm. We apologise for any inconvenience. Unfortunately, we confirm that **KOOSA Kids will not be running on Friday 31st March**. Please email the school office if this will cause you a problem in the future.

Please remember that the **Clubs application Google form link will arrive in your inbox tomorrow, Saturday 25th March at 8.00am, and will close on Monday 27th March at 10.00am** so that you can request clubs for the summer term.

Ramadan Mubarak to those families who are observing the holy month of Ramadan. Please let us know if your child/ren are fasting during Ramadan so that we can support them in this.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Y5 Greek Day

On Monday, Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic Greek Day with excellent costumes and lots of engaging activities. We were thoroughly engrossed by the drama workshop, which focused on the first Olympic Games and had everyone acting and joining in! Greek food-tasting tantalized our taste buds and some of us even discovered a new food we liked! Everyone worked very diligently on our Greek wreath or 'Kotinos' making, with delicate, well-decorated leaves on our headbands.

The day ended with a fabulous Olympic championship outside, including javelin and discus throwing. A great day was had by all!



Van Gogh Y1 Class Assembly

Van Gogh Class hosted their assembly for their parents and carers and did a fantastic job. They explained all about the seasons and the weather and sang two beautiful songs, Somewhere Over the Rainbow and What a Wonderful World. The assembly is now on Google Classroom - please do not copy or share any of it onto social media sites/external platforms. Thank you.



Thinker's Project Exhibition

Next Tuesday, 28th March, we are having the Thinker's Project Exhibition from 3.20pm -3.50pm, and again from 5.30pm-6pm. Children should bring in their Thinker's Project homework to be displayed on Monday or Tuesday. We are hoping to have an exciting display of all the excellent homework projects from children in Years 1-6. Please come along and have a look at the exhibition after school in the hall.

Year 1 & 2 Music Workshop



On Thursday, Y1 and Y2 had a very exciting music workshop with 5 musicians who played and sang amazing songs and explained their musical instruments. The children were treated to an inspiring performance which also highlighted the importance of listening skills, sharing ideas between a group of people and working together towards a common goal. Thank you to Ms Hosseinian for arranging the event.

Science Week Experiments

This year's focus for Science Week was 'Connections', and we conducted two experiments. We chose to focus on the connections between caterpillars and

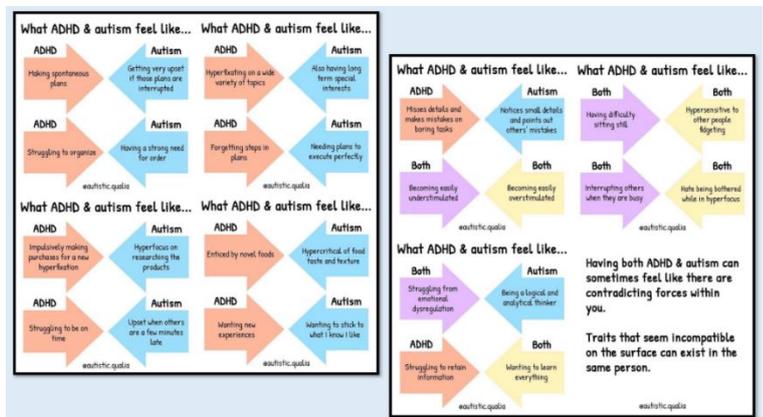


butterflies and how they grow and change. The children did this by observing their own batch of caterpillars and recording how they changed over time. The other activity the school undertook was bridge building. The children examined the connections between how stable the bridge structures were and how much weight their bridges could sustain. Y5 in this picture look very pleased with their bridge!



Inclusion Bitesize

Inclusion Bitesize this week revisits the similarities and differences between autism and ADHD. Over 6% of children at King Athelstan have a confirmed diagnosis of autism, ADHD or both, with many more awaiting assessment.



Exceptional Leave

Children should only be absent from school if they are unwell, have an official appointment (for example medical, external educational exams or visits, immigration appointments) or in exceptional circumstance (for example, religious observation.) Please try to arrange appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.

Family days and holidays must to be taken during the school holiday closure. If a child's absence is not for exceptional reasons, the absence will be marked as unauthorised. If a child's attendance falls below 90% (considered Persistently Absent) a referral may be made to the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer. If a child is absent immediately before or after the school holidays, medical evidence may be requested to authorise the absence. To request absence for exceptional reasons, families **must** complete an [Application for Leave in Exceptional Circumstances form](#), in advance of the requested dates of absence. For questions please contact Natali O'Farrell our Welfare & Attendance Officer at admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org

Wish List

Thank you so much to those who continue to buy items from our List, all purchases 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>**



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Childcare Vouchers

If you plan to use Childcare Vouchers or Tax-free Childcare (TFC) payments to pay for Breakfast Club sessions next term (Summer Term 2023), **please ensure you arrange for their transfer by Monday 27th March** so that they can be processed before the end of this term. Any vouchers or payments received during the Easter break will not be processed until school reopens. Thank you.

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Abdirahin	O'Keeffe Y1 - Gary & Ali
Hockney Y2 - Asia & Jake	Matisse Y2 - Eloise
Da Vinci Y3 - Poppy-Rose	Cassatt - Rumaisa
Mehretu Y4 - Adi	Wiley Y4 - Elaie
Dali Y5 - Manon	Warhol Y5 - Alan
Riley Y6 - Hamdan & Freddie	Kahlo Y6 - Rehan
KS1 PE - Shiloh in O'Keeffe Y1	

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Izzy	Dunia	Zak H	Max	Joshua & Evan	Hakki
Annie	Roxani	Beth	Dorothy	Ollie	Jake

Extreme Reading Competition Winners:

Y6 - Issy Y4 - Max B Y2 - Lorelai
Y5 - Grace Y3 - Max P Y1 - Stephen

House Points

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



Villiers



Dawson



Cambridge



Hawks

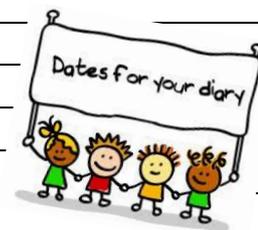
Dates for the Diary

MARCH 2023

27-31	No before or after school clubs this week
27- 31	Y5 Bikeability - details sent to participating families
Mon 27	Y6 French Fashion Show - Y6 can wear their own clothes
Mon 27	Y3 trip to Chessington
Tue 28	Y6 trip to Kew Gardens - please consent and pay on ParentPay
Tue 28	Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics - details sent to participating families
Tue 28	Thinker's Project Exhibitions 3.20-3.50pm and again at 5.30-6pm
Wed 29	Matisse Class Assembly 9am - Families welcome
Thur 30	PCSA AGM - Spring Grove pub from 8pm

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Fri 31	PCSA Easter Cake Competition and sale from 2.10pm
Fri 31	Break up one hour early for Easter holidays. No KOOSA Kids.
APRIL 2023	
Mon 17	Children return to school
Thur 20	Violet's Book Swap - see item below. Letter to follow next week
Thur 20	Parents/Carers/Staff Games Night - see PCSA email for details
Sat 22	London Mini Marathon
Wed 26	Y4 Thames Young Mariners Trip - please consent and pay on ParentPay
MAY 2023	
Mon 1	Spring Bank Holiday - school closed
Wed 3	Y1 O'Keeffe Class Assembly 9am - Families welcome
Mon 8	King's Coronation Bank Holiday - School closed
Tue 9	Start of Y6 SATs
Wed 17	Y4 Mehretu Class Assembly 9am - Families welcome
Mon 22	Y6 Bikeability - details to follow
Wed 24	Reception Nelson Class Assembly 9am - Families welcome
Mon 29	Half-Term week



Pupil News

We are really impressed by the children's thoughtfulness and commitment to help others with their independent fundraising ideas and plans. Here are just two of their wonderful ideas:



Sponsored Cycle Ride for the Big Outdoors Project - Good luck to Hugh and Rosa on their 25k sponsored cycle on March 26th! They are 'Riding for a better playground!' Their fundraising page is: <https://www.givey.com/25kbikeride> They have already raised £367.05 in advance!

Violet's Share a Story Day - Violet in Dali Class has come up with a plan to raise awareness and money for the situation in Ukraine via the charity <https://voices.org.ua/en>. On Thursday 20th April children will bring in to school (with families' permission) as many books as they wish to donate to a huge book swap. All books should be in good condition. Y5 volunteers will set the books out in the hall, organised by age from 2-11 years. At given time slots, the children in each class will have time to view and choose a book for free. Families can make a donation for this if they wish. After school, children may buy as many books as they like, which can be paid for by donating cash on the day. All donations go to the Voices of Children charity.

PCSA News

As it was such a success last year, Reception families will be running an **Easter cake competition for and cake sale on the last day of term - 31st March**. The competition is open to the whole school. To enter, children should either make a small cake or 6 cupcakes with an Easter theme to donate to our cake

sale, and there will be some great prizes up for grabs! If you're a Reception parent and can help collect or sell cakes on the day, please let us know:

kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com.

**KING ATHELSTAN PCSA
EASTER CAKE
COMPETITION**

FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 2023

TO ENTER PLEASE MAKE A
6" CAKE OR 6 CUPCAKES WITH
AN EASTER THEME TO DONATE
TO OUR CAKE SALE
Make sure your cake is nut free and tasty!

First Prize: Family cinema tickets
Plus Runners Up Prizes

Bring your entry (clearly labelled with
name and class) to morning drop off on
Friday 31st March and the winners will be
announced at the cake sale after school

All cakes will be sold to raise money for
the Big Outdoors Project

Games and social night

PCSA

King Athelstan parents, carers and staff are warmly invited to a social night of pub games from 7.45pm on **Thursday 20 April 2023** at The Black Horse in Kingston

This is a social event being organised by parents from Year 6 on behalf of the PCSA. All parents, carers and staff are welcome, particularly if your family is new to the school or you have never been to a school social event before. Pubs and games are not everyone's favourite things, so please note that the games are not compulsory, and a range of non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks, and a full food menu, will be available to order at the bar. Please feel welcome to come along to meet and chat.

Y6 families on behalf of the PCSA are holding a **games and social night on Thursday 20th April** - see flyer (left). It promises to be lots of fun!

The PCSA is also holding its **Annual General Meeting and get-together at the Spring Grove pub, Bloomfield Road on Thursday 30th March at 8pm**. Come along for a drink and to find out more about supporting fundraising for the school - we need your help and ideas!



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.

Forest School Easter Bunny Money Hunt - Come and take part in a fun family activity for all ages and abilities at Forest Schooling UK and help the Easter Bunny find his Bunny Money. Take part in an Easter treasure trail and see if you can complete the clues to receive your share of the Bunny Money from a grateful Easter Bunny. Saturday 25th March, Forest Schooling UK at [Three Bridges Path, KT1](#)

£3 per child on the day, £5 for two children. Pay on the day, cards accepted. Open for all children and families 10am -2pm



Forest School Easter Holiday Club 4,5 & 6th April - Open to ALL primary aged children from Year 1-6. Come enjoy the magic in the outdoors, make new friends, create amazing memories with our Easter Club, with plenty of seasonal activities for all primary school aged children, from arts and crafts to real-size tool use and fire-making. Book here: www.forestschooling.co.uk
Forest Schooling UK, Forest School of the Year 2020 - Woodlands Awards



There are plans to build a new **Church of England Secondary School** on an undeveloped section of the Kingsmeadow site on Jack Goodchild Way off Cambridge Road. The project team has been working closely with the DfE, Diocese of Southwark and officers at Kingston Council in preparation of the plans which will meet the Government's latest energy efficiency and net zero carbon standards. There will be a public exhibition on the plans on **Wednesday 29th March 2023, 5.30-8.30pm at St John's New Malden Church Hall, Kingston Road, KT3 3RX**. The exhibition will be run as a drop-in session with members of the project team available to answer questions and the opportunity for members of the public to share their views of the plans. There is a project website kingstoncofesecondaryplans.co.uk where people can register to be kept informed. The website will be updated with the full exhibition material and a feedback form on 29th March.



Express CIC Fundraiser: An Evening with Dean Beadle Autistic Identity: How I Made Sense Of Who I Am: 25 years on from discovering he is autistic, Dean reflects on how he has built a sense of identity and made sense of who he is. He looks at common myths and misconceptions around autism, and uses current research to dispel them. He then goes on to look at how to empower autistic people, how to reduce anxiety and promote autistic wellbeing. In this humorous and thought-provoking evening, there will also be opportunities to ask questions and, in the second half, Dean will perform songs that have sound-tracked his experiences, accompanied by John Pead on keys. Tickets from £15.



**Express CIC Presents
An Evening with Dean Beadle**

11th May, 19:30pm – 22:30pm
The cornerHouse, 116 Douglas Rd,
Surbiton KT6 7SB

Express CIC Fundraiser:
An evening with renowned autistic speaker Dean Beadle.

Dean will take us through growing up autistic, diagnosis and the people and music that supported him along the way. Dean always provides a fun and lively event with his warm and engaging personality.