



Dear Families,

In Tuesday's assembly this week we talked about the origins of Hallowe'en. I was really impressed with what the children remembered from the information we shared.

It was great to see so many families in for the SEND parent/carer evenings this week - thank you for your time and for working in close partnership with us to support your children.

Now the weather is cold and wet, please make sure your child has a named warm coat with them EVERY day. Please remember we cannot accommodate umbrellas in school - please take them back with you.

We have included some important information below regarding online safety as we are, again, dealing with increasing numbers of issues from children's use of phones outside of school, which spill into school because of the effect on children's wellbeing and interactions in school. Primary school children find it difficult to make judgements about what they post and also find it hard to think through the serious repercussions of their actions. Recent concerns range from unkind or bullying-type behaviour in messaging apps to posting things on public platforms and sharing personal details that could create significant safeguarding risk to individuals. We have also had concerns about children having hundreds of unknown 'followers' on social media platforms because their accounts are not private as well as children feeling frightened and intimidated in the middle of the night because they have phones in their bedrooms. Inappropriate and unkind messages are also often sent overnight when unsupervised.

Thank you for your support.

For those of you celebrating Guy Fawkes Night, have a safe time and a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton
Headteacher



Online Safety

In today's digital age, ensuring the safety of our children online has become a paramount concern. We want to take this opportunity to address the age restrictions and safety considerations on popular social media platforms like Snapchat, Instagram, and TikTok, as well as the importance of being vigilant about "stranger danger" and the dangers of unknown followers.

Snapchat, Instagram, and TikTok each have age restrictions in place for users. Snapchat and TikTok, for instance, require users to be at least 13 years old to create an account, while Instagram has a minimum age requirement of 14. These restrictions are in place for a reason, as they align with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) guidelines and aim to protect children from online risks.

It is crucial to emphasise the dangers of interacting with unknown individuals online. Teach your child about the concept of "stranger danger" in the digital world. Emphasise that they should not engage with, accept friend or follower requests from, or share personal information with people they don't know in real life. Discuss the potential risks and consequences of such interactions, e.g not having interactions they would not have in person. Additionally, please consider the following steps to ensure your child's online safety:

- **Open Communication:** Maintain an open and ongoing dialogue with your child about their online activities. Encourage them to talk to you if they ever encounter anything that makes them uncomfortable, especially interactions with unknown individuals.
- **Privacy Settings:** Set appropriate privacy settings on their accounts to limit who can see their content.
- **Supervision:** Supervise their online activities and have them use the platforms in a communal area.
- **Cyberbullying Awareness:** Discuss the issue of cyberbullying with your child and educate them on how to handle such situations, including blocking or reporting users.
- **Time Management:** Encourage healthy screen time habits and balance between online and offline activities.
- **Model Behaviour:** Be a positive role model by demonstrating responsible and respectful online behaviour and screen time habits.
- **Check your child's device daily** and ensure they do not have it overnight.



By working together, we can help children navigate the online world safely and responsibly while being vigilant about the dangers of unknown followers. If you have any concerns or need further information on online safety, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are here to support you and your child in promoting a safe online environment. Thank you.

Nursery Space available for 2 year old

If you have or know of a child that turned 2 on or before 31st August 2023 and eligible for 2 year funding we would love to hear from you. We have one space in Nursery for a 2 year old, available now. For more information and to apply please visit Miss Faye Turner in the school office or email admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org

Job Vacancy

We would love to find a caring person to work part-time, helping our children in the mornings at our breakfast club. Please see full details on eteach here: <https://clientportal.eteach.com/admin#/JobDetail/1380528>

Children in Need

Children in Need is back and we will once again be supporting this wonderful charity. On **Friday 17th November, children may wear spotty accessories with their usual school uniform** in return for a donation on ParentPay. Thank you.



Remembrance Day



You may already have seen our Junior Leadership Team members selling poppies in the playground after school. The **red poppy is a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future**. The children will be doing this every day until after Remembrance Day on 11th November. Any donations will be forwarded to the Royal British Legion, whose charity supports serving and ex-serving men and women, and their families.

Conflict and War information

Some information from Unicef has been circulated to support schools and parents/carers in talking to children about conflict and war. This may be helpful in terms of supporting children who may come to you concerned or asking questions having heard or seen news that has worried them. It could be applied to lots of things children might be worried about, too. Please see the link here:



https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war?utm_source=Unicef_UK&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=email_rrsa_campaign%20name

Early Years

As mentioned in the "Day in the life presentations" to Nursery and Reception families, we ask for a voluntary donation of £5 to go towards creating some amazing opportunities and experiences for the children in EYFS, including play dough making, cooking ingredients, food tasting, planting and growing and experiments. This appears as an item in your ParentPay account. If you do not have your login in details for ParentPay, or are having trouble logging in, please contact to the office team. Thank you for your ongoing support.



JLT and Y6 Prefects

Having announced our Eco Warriors and School Council for this academic year, our Junior Leadership Team and Y6 Prefects have also been appointed. These children have been given specific roles around the school, including helping in classrooms, the school office, or specialist areas such as the Library. Their assistance is invaluable across the year, and they are role models for younger children.

Christmas Card Competition

We are pleased to announce the winner of our school Christmas card competition - it is Kate from Kahlo Class Y6. Her lovely design will feature on the official school Christmas card which Miss Newton sends out on behalf of the school. Well done, Kate! There were many other fantastic designs, and runners-up prizes have been given to children across the school. It is a lovely way to start the run-up to Christmas festivities.



Dates for the Diary

NOVEMBER

Monday 6	Y5 Junior Roadwatch cancelled
Thursday 9	Y5/Y6 Sportshall Athletics - invited children only
Friday 17	Y3 trip to Gunnersbury Park - children to wear smart school uniform
Friday 17	Children in Need - wear spotty accessories for a donation on ParentPay
Wednesday 22	Warhol Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 23	Y3 Stone Age Day
Thursday 23	Parent/Carer Forum 9am
Tuesday 28	Y5 trip to Science Museum
Wednesday 29	Riley Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 30	Y2 trip to Bushy Park - please consent/pay/volunteer on ParentPay

DECEMBER

Monday 4	Y4 MTC online presentation - link to follow
Tuesday 5	Y4 trip to the British Museum
Saturday 9	PCSA Festive Fair 12-3pm
Wednesday 13	Mehretu Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 21	Break up one hour earlier for Christmas holidays

JANUARY 2024

Monday 8	INSET Day - children not in school
Tuesday 9	Children return for spring term

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Zoe

O'Keeffe Y1 - Sefa

Matisse Y2 - Amina

Hockney Y2 - Souhila

Cassatt Y3 - Murat

Da Vinci Y3 - Aaliyaah

Mehretu Y4 - Yahya

Wiley Y4 - Poppie

Dali Y5 - Lenny

Warhol Y5 - Teddy

Riley Y6 - Kaif

Kahlo Y6 - Kate

KS1 PE - Theo in O'Keeffe Y1

KS2 PE - Harry in Dali Y5

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Ben	Sarah	Inaya	Anastasiia	Karlis	Brwas
George	Oscar & Daisy	Murat	Ziyad	Kayla	Tia-Louise

House Points

This week's winners are **Green (Villiers)** on 31. In joint second are Yellow (Cambridge) and Red (Dawson) on 29 each. Blue House (Hawks) are on 21. Well done all!



Reminders

- **BBC 500 Words Competition** - story writing competition for children aged 5-11. Submit entries to: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/>
- **Nursery Places for January 2024** - please visit: <https://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/about-the-school/admissions/> or contact Miss Faye Turner in the School Office for details
- We do not have any nuts in school as several children and adults have severe allergies. Remember not to pack any nuts or nut products in your child's lunchbox.
- **The deadline to order the Christmas cards so that they are delivered free of charge to the school is Midnight on Monday 6th November.**

Thank You



We would like to say a big thank you to the generous sponsorship from Sainsbury's which we have used to buy new equipment for gardening and thanks also for the bulb donation from Bloomin' Marvellous Landscapes in Long Ditton. This will all help when we are working in the school allotment spaces at the back of the KS2 playground, and also when we start our new Gardening Club.

PCSA News

The PCSA can be contacted on: kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com. Check out the PCSA noticeboard at the front of the school as you walk through to drop off or collect children. It has a list of all the upcoming events as well as fundraising 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:

Kingston Voluntary Action is a local group which can signpost low income families to all sorts of helpful organisations. The link below is to their Community Food Provision leaflet with information about community fridges, pantries, lunches, and also sources of advocacy and advice, all of which are free. <https://kva.org.uk/a/33249660-50072961>



Winter Coat Giveaway - Kingston Town Children's Centre are offering families the opportunity to reuse and recycle children's winter coats. All items must be in good, usable and clean condition. If you have any coats to donate, please take them to the Children's Centre next to school (the light blue building). It is open from 9am to 4pm from Monday to Friday, and 9am to 12pm on Thursdays. The Children's Centre will issue dates when families can then go along and collect any items they need, all free.



Fairfield Litter Pick - on **Saturday 11 November from 2-3pm** is the next litter pick at the Fairfield. The 'sustainable September' clean-up went really well, with 35 fantastic litter heroes of all ages removing 8 bags of rubbish (2 of recycling) plus 1 trolley and even a Lime Bike battery from Fairfield Recreation Ground and the Children's Playground! As always, we'll have 20 litter pickers to lend out on 11th November, plus sweet treats for everyone who takes part, so please share the event details with your neighbours, school friends or any other groups so we can make the park as lovely as possible. Thank you as always for your help.

