



Dear Families,

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to families joining us for the first time! We hope you have all had a lovely summer break. It has been great hearing the children talking to each other about their activities and adventures.



Thank you for ensuring your children returned to school in smart school uniform. If your child is not wearing the correct items, please expect a conversation with a member of staff who will support you in resolving any issues. Please ensure **EVERYTHING** is labelled with your child's name. We already have a number of brand-new jumpers/cardigans in lost property! In this very unpredictable weather, please ensure your child has a coat every day.

This year our four focus areas in the School Development Plan (SDP) are:

1. To plan the future financial sustainability of the school through a deficit recovery strategy in light of national funding challenges and the school's number on roll in EYFS due to local changes in population.
2. To raise standards in writing across the school.
3. To continue to develop inclusive provision, to better meet the school's changing and increasingly complex needs profile.
4. To further develop the whole-school approach to behaviour and relationships

We spoke to the children in assembly about making sure their writing each day is better than the day before. We will give you more details of our SDP in the coming weeks.

This week the first of our new to Nursery/Reception children have joined us, and they have settled really well. We are looking forward to more children joining us in EYFS next week, as well as a number of children joining across the school. As always, please welcome new families to the community in the usual ways.

Emily Newton
Headteacher

Behaviour Policy

We have recently reviewed our Behaviour Policy and have been talking to the children about it in their classes. Our 'Big 5' rules which all children learn are listed here (right). Over the next few weeks, we will be concentrating on them on at a time across the school to ensure everyone understands these rules and their responsibilities around them. We will also be issuing a Behaviour Newsletter to families soon which will detail the updates to the policy.

At King Athelstan Primary School we show **PRIDE** in our learning and behaviour through our school values:

- P** Perseverance
- R** Respect
- I** Imagination
- D** Diving Deeper
- E** Excellence

At King Athelstan Primary School:

- We are safe
- We are kind
- We listen to everyone
- We take care of our school
- We are here to learn

Our school values remain the same using the PRIDE acronym (left). Children are encouraged to show PRIDE values in their learning and behaviour every day.

Home Learning

Please read our Home Learning Policy here: [Home Learning Policy](#), which explains expectations for each subject and each year group. [Google Classroom](#) will be up and running next Wednesday.

Reading:

- Home readers: listen to your child read every day
- Read as much of your year group's [bucket list](#) as possible
- Practise phonics learnt in class in EYFS and KS1
- Read 'Pocket Rockets' sent home in Reception
- [Importance of daily reading](#)

Maths:

- Practise maths skills on TT Rockstars (KS2) and NumBots (EYFS and KS1)
- Practise your year groups KIRF here: [Autumn 1 KIRF](#)
- Learn and practise times tables as often as possible

Spelling:

- Learn new sounds in homework books/Google Classroom (KS1)
- Learn spellings sent on Google Classroom (KS2)

Thinkers Project:

- The Thinker's Project was created to encourage children to widen their thinking around their termly topic and to give them the opportunity to express their learning in different contexts
- It is an optional homework. You are encouraged to complete two pieces of Thinker's Project homework per term if possible

Reception: Weekly Expectations			
Subject	Suggested Time	Task	Format
Reading	20 mins - Daily	Read with: home reader	Write in reading record: date/title/page no.
		Read to: bedtime story	A book to enjoy and broaden vocabulary and story experience!
Maths	10 mins 3x a week	Numbots	Online - login needed.
Phonics	5 mins 3x a week	Pocket Rockets and tricky word book marks	Practise with an adult

KS1: Weekly Expectations			
Subject	Suggested Time	Task	Format
Reading	20 mins - Daily	Read with: home reader	Write in reading record: date/title/page no.
		Read to: bedtime story	A book to enjoy and broaden vocabulary and story experience!
Maths	10 mins 3x a week	Numbots (Y1)	Online - login needed.
		TT Rockstars (Y2)	
		KIRF number facts	See website
Spelling/Phonics	5 mins 3 x a week	Practise phonics/spellings	Y1 - phonics in homework books Y2 - spellings posted to Google Classroom

KS2: Weekly Expectations			
Subject	Suggested Time	Task	Format
Reading	30 mins - Daily	Read with: home reader	Write in reading record: date/title/page no.
		Read to: bedtime story	A book to enjoy and broaden vocabulary and story experience!
Maths	10 mins - Daily	TT Rockstars	Online - login needed
		KIRF number facts	See website
Spelling/Phonics	5 mins - Daily	Practise spellings	Posted to Google Classroom

Reading Records:

Reading is such an important part of life at King Athelstan. As part of our homework policy children must read every day at home to an adult from Reception to Year 6. Adults must then record what they have read in their reading records. As children get older they can write this themselves.



NB: We are currently waiting for the order of new reading records which should arrive next week, however please still read with your child every day during this time.

Butterfly Dreams

At King Athelstan, we want children to be aspirational and set themselves challenging ambitions. We call these our Butterfly Dreams and link them to the poem here. The children speak about their dreams for the future and what they would like to achieve this year. In PSHE, the children write down their dreams on butterfly cut outs which are displayed in their classrooms. Y6 have been busy cutting out this year's butterflies so that all children can write down their butterfly dreams next week. At the end of the school year, the children discuss and reflect on their Butterfly Dreams and celebrate their successes.



Butterfly Dreams

I am a caterpillar with butterfly dreams.

I dream of growing up and having butterfly wings.

I fly higher than high and capture the blue in the sky.

I would show everyone just how high I could fly.



Eco Warriors

Every year we have one Eco Warrior in each class from Years 1-6. Reporting to Mrs Williamson, Mehretu class teacher and Eco Warriors Lead, the Eco Warriors will examine some of the significant environmental issues facing our world today, such as air pollution, deforestation, the threat of plastic consumption and global warming.

The Eco Warriors will meet regularly to:

- implement the King Athelstan Eco Code
- develop an action plan for areas we feel we can tackle
- share ideas with their classes, the school and the wider community



Mrs Williamson will lead an assembly next week to explain all to the children, and we will then issue application forms for any child who is interested in applying to be a Warrior.

PE Days

Children wear their PE uniform to school on the days when their class has PE and also on days when they attend a sports club. It is therefore important that they take as much pride in this as their school uniform. The PE days for each class are listed below. Reception Classes will start PE after half-term - parents/carers will be notified nearer the time. PE uniform consists of:

- Purple sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black shorts/jogging bottoms/sports leggings (not fashion leggings)
- Black plimsolls or trainers
- Plain black/grey/white socks

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception Kusama					
Reception Nelson					
Year 1 O'Keefe			✓	✓	
Year 1 Van Gogh		✓	✓		
Year 2 Hockney			✓		✓
Year 2 Matisse	✓				✓
Year 3 Cassatt	✓	✓			
Year 3 Da Vinci	✓			✓	
Year 4 Mehretu				✓	✓
Year 4 Wiley			✓	✓	
Year 5 Dali			✓	✓	
Year 5 Warhol		✓			✓
Year 6 Kahlo	✓			✓	
Year 6 Riley		✓			✓

Amazon Wish List

We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List which was started after families wanted to contribute items to school. There is no obligation to buy anything, but any purchases are very much appreciated. The list is updated regularly with various items to enhance school life. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz> . Thank you.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2024

Monday 9	Meet the Teacher Y6
Tuesday 10	Meet the Teacher Y5
Wednesday 11	Meet the Teacher Y4
Thursday 12	Meet the Teacher Y3
Friday 13	Meet the Teacher Y2
Friday 13	Forest School Starts - invited children only
Monday 16	Meet the Teacher Y1

OCTOBER 2024

Wednesday 2	Harvest Festival
Wednesday 2	A Day in the Life of Reception online 4pm
Thursday 3	Individual & sibling school photos
Thursday 3	A Day in the Life of Nursery AM 11.30am in person (15 mins approx.)
Thursday 3	A Day in the Life of Nursery PM 3.30pm in person (15 mins approx.)
Friday 4	INSET DAY - children not in school
Wednesday 10	World Mental Health Day
Friday 18	Parent/Carer Book Looks 3.20pm
Tuesday 22	Whole school nasal flu immunisations
Tuesday 22	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 3.30-6.30pm in person
Thursday 24	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 4-6.30pm online
Friday 25	Cake Sale Y6 3.15pm & PCSA Halloween Maps sale
Mon 28- Fri 1 Nov	Half Term

NOVEMBER 2024

Tuesday 5	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 3.30-5.30pm in person
Thursday 7	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 3.30-5.30pm in person
Friday 15	Children in Need - wear spotty accessories
Saturday 23	PCSA Family Rave at St John's
Friday 29	Cake Sale Y5 3.15pm

DECEMBER 2024

Monday 9	Y2 Christmas Assemblies
Saturday 7	Festive Fair 12-3pm
Tuesday 10	Reception Christmas Assemblies
Wednesday 11	Y1 Christmas Assemblies
Thursday 12	Nursery Christmas Singing
Friday 20	Break up for Christmas one hour early

Achievement Assembly

Today's achievers will be notified in next week's Digest.

PCSA

The PCSA (Parent Carer Staff Association) brings together parents, carers and staff to support the school and to raise money.

If you need to get labels for clothing/personal belongings, the PCSA has partnered with **Stikins Name Labels** so the school will receive 30% commission on all label orders when you quote the fundraising number **11019** at www.stikins.co.uk

The PCSA has also signed up for ASDAs 'Cashpot for Schools'. Every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app before 30th November 2024, they can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of their spend. Every time a customer chooses King Athelstan, Asda will also donate £1 to the school's Cashpot. [Find out more here.](#)



Community Messages

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 Adult Education - As part of Kingston Council, Kingston Adult Education provides a diverse range of courses to people aged 19 or over. A lot of courses take place in school hours and are term time only. Furthermore, a number of the courses are government funded, therefore free or offered at reduced rates to eligible learners. See the latest prospectus for a full listing of available courses: bit.ly/KAE-2425prospectus

- **Spaces still available** on courses starting in coming weeks in English, maths, digital skills, childcare, vocational, wellbeing, arts & crafts, language, history and creative writing
- **Job Search Programme** providing practical advice to people wanting to return to work after a break or looking to change careers
- **FREE** and discounted courses offered

To enrol, click on the relevant link in the prospectus or contact directly on 020 8547 6700 or at adult.education@kingston.gov.uk