



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 18 - Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Families,

We were so excited this morning to arrive at school to find the heras fencing being installed in the KS1 playground. Work on phase one of the Big Outdoors Project starts there on Monday. Thank you for your co-operation with the collection arrangements. Please note, no one is permitted to enter the school site via the car park gates. If you do enter the school this way, you will be asked to leave and walk round to the pedestrian gate.

We hope the children are being inspired to spread kindness in all aspects of their lives, following our theme in assembly. Staff are also joining in. Yesterday, some of the staff team arrived to find little crocheted characters on our desks - left anonymously by a kind colleague!

Please note, the INSET dates for next year are now published on the school website and in the dates section, below, and also note the change to this summer term's INSET day to Friday 5th July 2024.

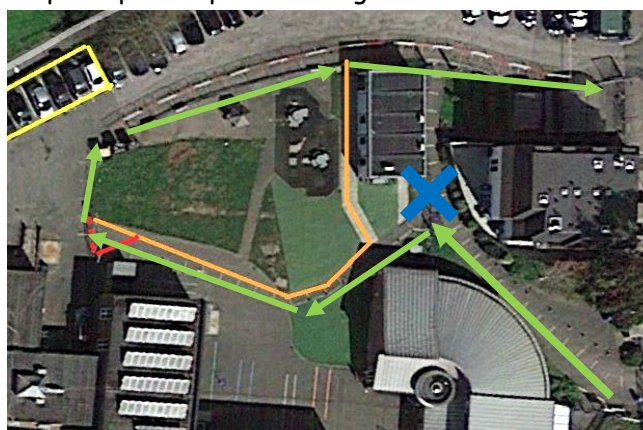
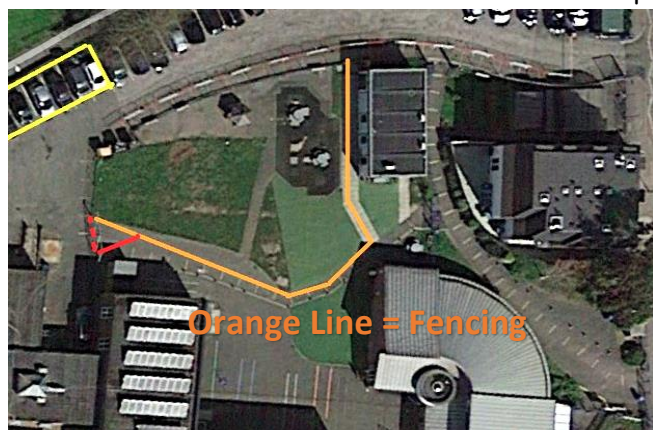
Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton
Headteacher



KS1 Playground Refurbishment

You will have seen the letter earlier this week about the start of works to refurbish the KS1 playground. Please bear with us and follow the instructions around drop off and pick ups. To prevent congestion and ensure a smooth



flow of traffic, we will re-enforce the one-way system through the KS1 playground blue gates by Haring and Inclusion, and through into the car park at pick up time for Y2 and KS2 families. **It is crucial that all parents and carers adhere to the designated green route to avoid creating bottlenecks - do not come back through the blue gates identified by the blue cross.** As you can see from the diagram, the fencing (orange lines) will make the space in this area restricted, so parents and carers will need to stick to single file to avoid blocking the way for others. Please do not come inside the school grounds before 3:15pm unless you are collecting Reception children as this restricts the area for Early Years families. If you are worried about this area being more crowded than usual, please feel free to collect at 3:18pm when the initial crowds have usually dispersed. We will review this system once in place, to ensure the safety of all families. Thank you for your cooperation.

Nursery Applications for September 2024

Within our Nursery we have provision for 8 children eligible for 2 year old funding (4 morning places and 4 afternoon places), as well as provision for 26 3 and 4 year olds in the morning and 26 in the afternoon. Morning Nursery runs from 8.30am-11.30am, and the afternoon session is 12.30pm-3.30pm. Families can apply for a space for the term after your child turns 2 or 3 (subject to eligibility and availability).

Our usual intakes are January and September.

The deadline for Nursery applications for September 2024 is Friday 1st March 2024.

We offer 15 hours entitlement, timings above. Nursery admissions are organised directly through the school. See here for further information: [Nursery admissions](#) To apply, click here for the [Nursery Admissions form](#) Please hand the completed form in to the school office or email it to: admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org

DBS Checks

School is always grateful for volunteers to accompany the many varied school trips we arrange each year. All parent/carer volunteers need to have a current DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate for safeguarding purposes. A DBS check is a way to check your criminal record, to decide whether you are a suitable person to work with children. The DBS lasts for 3 years once granted, so you would be able to volunteer for future trips, too. If you would like to apply for a DBS, please complete the Google form here: <https://forms.gle/CtuShsjEpLJuEsSx7>. We would like to invite you to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of the DBS if you feel this is appropriate. The cost has gone up to £15 and any payments can be made on ParentPay. Thank you.

Trips coming up that require volunteers:

- Nursery trips to the Library (AM and PM) on 30th April
- Reception trip to the Polka Theatre on 23rd February
- All other year groups will also have trips coming up this term and next term.

If anyone with a DBS is available to help with the Nursery trips on 30th April, even if your child is not in Nursery, please let school know, as we will need a lot of adults!



Universal Free School Meals



As you know, the Mayor of London confirmed in a letter to parents/carers last week that Universal Free School Meals for KS2 children (Y3-6) will continue for the next academic year, from September 2024. **Remember, although they are free, families still need to book meals in ParentPay to make menu selections for children, or to cancel meals if they are not needed** (e.g. if a child prefers a packed lunch from home) so that we do not waste food.

For those families who feel they would like to contribute the money they would spend on school meals to the school for kitchen running costs and other resources, you are able to make a contribution on ParentPay under the item 'Donate the cost of a Lunch 2023'. <https://www.parentpay.com/>. Thank you so much to all those who have already contributed.

Amazon Wish List

Thank you so much to everyone who has been kind enough to purchase items from our ongoing Wish List – it is very much appreciated. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>. There is, of course, no obligation to buy anything.



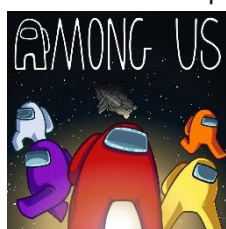
KS2 Spring Showcase

Mr Thomas, our Music teacher, has sent a letter to KS2 (Y3-6) families about the Spring Showcase, a new event to be held on **Thursday 14th March from 6.30pm**. PCSA will be providing refreshments, and ticket details will follow soon. Any child wanting to take part needs to submit a video audition of up to 3 minutes to Google Classroom by Thursday 8th February, and Mr Thomas will confirm successful entries by the end of term. We hope to make this event an annual fixture in the King Athelstan Primary School calendar, a wonderful event that champions the performing arts at our school. We hope many children will be encouraged to submit an audition.



Online Game 'Among Us'

We have had several incidents of children in KS1 playing a playground version of the online game 'Among Us'. On the Apple store this game is rated 9+, other websites recommend 12+. The online game is played with 4-15 players. One or more random players are Impostors bent on killing everyone. The online game has **kill animations** which occur



when a player is murdered by one of the Imposters. These show violent scenes, including **getting stabbed with a knife or a sharp alien tongue**, having your character's **neck broken** or getting **shot with a gun**. This is not an appropriate game for young children to be playing, online or in the playground. **Please ensure you set parental controls and restrictions on any devices at home to which children have access. Please see the school website [page here](#) for information about eSafety.**

Mobile Phones in School

Children in Year 5 and 6 who have permission to walk home alone often have a mobile phone. Please remind any child who has a phone that **they must switch their phones off when they arrive at school and hand them in to their class teacher**, who will store them securely throughout the school day. At home time, phones will be given back to the children. They are not permitted to keep a phone in their coat or locker, and are not allowed to access a phone during the school day without adult permission.

Clothes Donations

The Early Years team (Nursery/Reception age) would be grateful for any donations of clothes in good condition that your child has grown out of, particularly boys' pants, socks or joggers. Thank you.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY 2024	
Monday 29	Oral Health Team visiting Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y4 and Y6
Tuesday 30	Y6 Swimming Gala - by invitation
FEBRUARY 2024	
Thursday 1	Y6 Junior Citizen trip - please consent on ParentPay
Tuesday 6	Y3-6 Eco Warriors Conference
Tuesday 6	Y3/4 Golf Competition - by invitation
Wednesday 7	Da Vinci Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Wednesday 7	EYFS Museum - in Nursery & Reception classrooms
Mon 12 - Fri 16	Half Term
Tuesday 20	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings R-Y6 in person
Thursday 22	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings R-Y6 online
Friday 23	Y6 to Science event at Surbiton High School
Friday 23	Y3 Cake Sale after school
Friday 23	Reception trip to the Polka Theatre - please consent on ParentPay
Tuesday 27	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings R-Y6 in person
Thursday 29	SEND Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings R-Y6 in person
MARCH 2024	
Tuesday 5	Y5 Greek Day
Wednesday 6	Wiley Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Thursday 7	World Book Day
Wednesday 13	Cassatt Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Thursday 14	KS2 Spring Showcase 6.30pm
Monday 18	Y5 Bikeability starts
Wednesday 20	Van Gogh Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Friday 22	Y2 Cake Sale after school
Friday 22	Y3 trip to Kew Gardens
Friday 22	PCSA Y3 and Y4 Easter Disco 3-5pm St John's Hall
Tuesday 26	Y4 trip to Natural History Museum
Wednesday 27	Hockney Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Wednesday 27	Thinker's Project Exhibition 3.25-3.50pm and 5.30-6pm
Thursday 28	Break up for Easter, one hour earlier than usual
Thursday 28	There will be no KOOSA Kids on this day

INSET Days 2024-25

INSET Days for 2024-25 are: Monday 2nd September 2024, Tuesday 3rd September 2024, Friday 4th October 2024, Monday 6th January 2025. The last INSET Day in the summer term has yet to be decided. Please remember, the last INSET Day of this academic year will be Friday 5th July 2024.

Achievement Assembly

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Melih	Immy	Toby	Keosha	Amber	Leah
George	Ali	Alex	Ivy	Gabi	

Miss Meggitt awarded Equality and Diversity certificates to Inaya, Ruby and Dunia in Y3 and Milena in Y4.

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Kayden

O'Keeffe Y1 - Giulia

Hockney Y2 - Joe

Matisse Y2 - Skie

Cassatt - Alae Nor & Hatice

Da Vinci Y3 - Zayd, Dunia, Max

Mehretu Y4 - Emily

Wiley Y4 - Elliot

Dali Y5 - Himden

Warhol Y5 - Alice

Riley Y6 - Georgie

Kahlo Y6 - Zarina

19 Jan : KS1 PE - Megan in Hockney Y2

Y2KS2 PE - Amelie in Cassatt Y3

26 Jan: KS1 PE - Johnny in Van Gogh Y1

Y2KS2 PE - Hugh in Kahlo Y6

House Points

This week, **Green (Villiers) are the winners with 34 points.** Yellow (Cambridge) are second with 32, Blue (Hawks) have 30 and Red (Dawson) just behind on 28.



PCSA

- The PCSA is holding its AGM on **Wednesday 24th January at 8pm** at the Spring Grove (13 Bloomfield Road). Why not go along to find out more about the PCSA? Or you can email on kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com
- PCSA events cannot run without people's help so it would be great to see you there.
- Year 1 & 2 had a great time at their disco held after school last Friday. It was a wonderful 1.5 hours. The event raised an amazing £230! Thanks to those who came and all the parents/carers who volunteered.
- PCSA treasurer, Luiza, has received £1,879 on Gift Aid for past events, bringing the total amount to £5,487! PCSA will continue to claim this back on all future events where applicable.
- Mr Morris, Dali teacher Y5, is running the London Marathon in aid of PCSA fundraising efforts! If you'd like to sponsor him please do so [via this link](#).
- PCSA are arranging a 'Spring Showcase' with Music teacher Mr Thomas which will be an evening of performances by children. It will be held on 14th March - look out for the letter from Mr Thomas!



KOOSA Kids

There are still some places available in KOOSA Kids during the February half-term break. Please see here for more information and to make a booking: <https://www.koosakids.co.uk/surrey/kingston-upon-thames/king-athelstan-primary-school-kingston-upon-thames/holiday-club>

Community Messages

This is a message from Tania Park, a King Athelstan parent:

Our kind and beautiful Katerina, affectionately known as Baba, passed away in January 2024 at the age of 95. She was well-known among families, children, and friends of the Park family. Baba, a Primary School teacher for over thirty years, loved children and plants, as well as our community, particularly the King Athelstan Primary School community (that Katie and Alex, her great-grandchildren, attend). This is why we created an In Memory page to support children and the school's outdoor project, which Baba would have liked to see complete. If you'd like to make a small donation, please [click here](#); all proceeds will go directly to assisting children and the school's Big Outdoors Project. Thank you.