



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 21 - Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear Families,

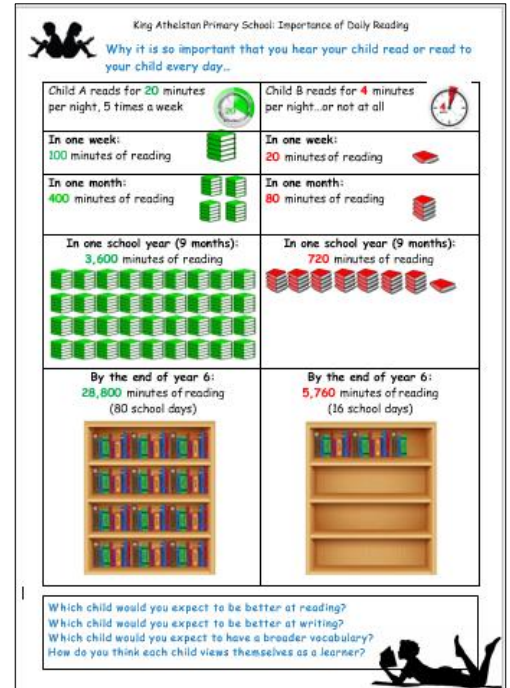
Welcome back; I hope you all had a great half-term break. This half-term has begun with an incredibly busy week. We have had parent/carer evenings and the Senior Leadership Team have had progress meetings with all class teachers to look at the current attainment of every child in the school and the steps they have made towards their end of year targets. We do this regularly throughout the year. The biggest area highlighted consistently across the school, was children not making progress in their reading, contributed to by **lack of daily reading out loud at home**. This was the case from Early Years all the way up to Year 6. Children cannot learn to read fluently and develop their comprehension skills by simply reading at school. Reading at home is also part of our homework policy. There were a few children whose progress had rocketed because their families had started to work with their children every day on top of their school reading. The difference was staggering and was reflected in their writing, too. Several had closed the gap to achieve age-related expectation at this point in the year. Well done! Thank you to all those who commit this time in your daily routines to support your children. The key to all learning is being a good reader and this brings with it the confidence and resilience to have a go at challenges.

In assembly this week we talked about the start of Lent and the approach of Easter and what this means to Christians.

The progress of the KS1 playground is clear to see! Not long to go now until the children can take advantage of this wonderful space. Thank you for following the one way system, which is working really well.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton
Headteacher



Nursery Applications for September 2024

The closing date for applications to join Nursery in September 2024 is Friday 1st March 2024. See here for further information: [Nursery admissions](#). Click here to apply: [King Athelstan Nursery Online Application Form](#)

Meal Vouchers for the Easter Holiday



Achieving for Children (AfC) will be providing supermarket vouchers for the Easter holidays for children on benefits related Free School Meals (FSM) in YR - Y6 (not the universal free school meals). If families have had a recent change in circumstances and think that they may qualify for benefits related FSM and have not yet applied please [click here](#). Families will need to have confirmation and have notified the school by **Monday 11th March 2024** to receive the £24 worth of vouchers for the Easter Holidays.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Spring term parent/carer Book Look and consultations took place this week.

Next week there are SEND Parent/Carer Consultations as follows:



- SEND Parent/Carer Consultations **Tuesday 27th February 3.30-5.30pm in person**
- SEND Parent/Carer Consultations **Thursday 29th February 3.30-5.30pm in person**

If you have not yet booked an appointment, please see the letter sent before half term (and saved on the website) with full details and how to book.

Reception - Polka Theatre Trip

Reception children had an amazing time this morning when they went to the Polka Theatre in Wimbledon to see a show called 'Tidy', based on the much-loved children's book by author and illustrator, Emily Gravett. 'Tidy' is a gentle but cautionary tale about the value of the world around us and what happens if we don't look after it, starring the puppet Pete the Badger. Thank you to all the parents/carers who accompanied the staff on this trip, and to the several families who generously donated extra funds to ensure the trip went ahead.



Y6 PGL Interim Payment



Y6 families, please remember that the second interim payment of £60 is due by Friday 1st March (next Friday) for those whose children are attending the PGL Liddington trip in June. Please make your payments on ParentPay. You can pay more or even the full amount at any time. Thank you.

Y4 and Y6 Science Workshop



The whole of Y4 and Y6 went to a Science Workshop held at Surbiton High School this morning. It was conducted by the Royal Institution and entitled 'SUPER CELLS!'. Two of our Y6 children were volunteers and assisted in the experiments!



Chicks in Reception



Next week will be very exciting for everyone in school, and the children in Reception in particular. We will be hosting some eggs and looking after them in their special incubator until they hatch into chicks! Reception will learn all about the life cycle of the chicks and everyone in school will be able to visit the chicks and also see them on our special webcam - this is a photo of last year's chicks!

Achievement Assembly

There was no KS2 Achievement Assembly today as so many classes were out on trips! We will nominate 2 children for next week instead. Next week Miss Smee will also announce the winners of the Times Tables Rock Stars battles that took place over half-term.



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Johnny

O'Keefe Y1 - Harrison

Hockney Y2 - Megan

Matisse Y2 - Sarah

NumBots/TTRS Champions	
Year 1	Year 2
Faid	Tasya
Elsie	Joshua

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.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

FEBRUARY 2024	
Tuesday 27	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 29	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.30pm
MARCH 2024	
Tuesday 5	Y5 Greek Day - moved to Thursday 14 March
Wednesday 6	Wiley Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Thursday 7	World Book Day - dress as book character or wear pyjamas
Wednesday 13	Cassatt Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Thursday 14	Y5 Greek Day
Thursday 14	KS2 Spring Showcase 6.30pm
Monday 18	Y5 Bikeability starts
Wednesday 20	Van Gogh Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Wednesday 20	Dodgeball event - details to follow
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
Tuesday 26	Y2 Drama Workshop (in school)
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
APRIL 2024	
Wednesday 17	Y4 Thames Young Mariners Trip
Wednesday 24	O'Keeffe Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Friday 26	Y1 Cake Sale after school
Monday 29	Summer term clubs start this week
Tuesday 30	Klee AM and PM Trips to the Library
MAY 2024	
Wednesday 1	Kusama Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Monday 6	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Wednesday 8	Matisse Class Assembly 9am - families welcome

PCSA

The PCSA (Parent Carer Staff Association) brings together parents, carers and staff to support the school and to raise money. As you can see, the KS1 playground is looking great and the children will be able to start using it soon. However, fundraising is ongoing for the last £60,000 to get the remaining area completed. Mr Morris, Dali class teacher, is running the London marathon on Sunday 21st April with all donations to the playground, and the current committee is planning the next events as well as reaching out to local businesses to see if they can help support their community in this way.

Upcoming events:

- KS2 Spring Showcase - Thursday 14th March 6.30pm School hall (ticket needed)
- Y3 and Y4 Easter Disco - St John's Hall, Friday 22nd March 5-7pm (ticket needed)
- Fashion Show Y5/6 - Sunday 28th April at school
- Y5 Summer Disco - Friday 21st June 6.30-8pm (ticket needed)
- Summer Fair - Saturday 6th July
- Y6 Leavers' Disco - Friday 12th July 6.30-8pm School hall (ticket needed)
- End of year picnic for all - Wednesday 24th July at Athelstan Park, after school




For more information and details of all events see the PCSA website: <https://pcsa.kingathelstan.co.uk/>

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence

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:

HENRY Newsletter for Parents

February 2024




Update from Kingston's HENRY Coordinators

Hello from the Kingston HENRY Team, and a warm welcome to the next edition of the HENRY newsletter. HENRY continues to grow within Kingston and we are delighted to be able to offer FREE Healthy Families Group programmes and workshops.

Space left on our next online programme! We still have some space on our online 8-week programme on Thursday mornings. Further details are below.

Brite Boxes: A reminder that all parent/carers who attend a HENRY programme can access 6 Brite Boxes for FREE. BRITE Box is a weekly recipe meal kit which contains all the ingredients for a family to prepare and cook a healthy, balanced meal together.



What is HENRY all about?

We know that everyone wants the best for their children, but it can be hard to ensure a healthy lifestyle for the whole family. The HENRY team offer 8-week programmes and one-off workshops for parents and carers of children between 0-12.

HENRY is for everyone, and topics covered include understanding children's behaviour, setting boundaries, parent wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, supporting children eating a wide range of foods, screen time, being active, family routines, sleep, self-esteem, and much more.

The programme and workshops are **FREE to attend** for parents/carers of children attending Kingston Schools. You can self-refer by clicking [here](#) or via the QR code or to find out more please feel to email us on henry@yourhealthcare.org.

Upcoming HENRY Programmes and workshops

Healthy families

Healthy Families Growing up (5-12's) Programme - Online


Venue: Online

Day/Time: Thursdays 10am-11.15am

Dates: 29th Feb – 2nd May 2024

Break: 2 week break for Easter holiday

Interested in attending or want to find out more? Use this QR code to fill out the referral form and a member of our team will be in contact.



- What do parents say who have already accessed HENRY?**
- I enjoyed that I was not being 'told what to do', but instead we had discussions around what would work for my family.
- The possibility to talk and listen with other parents, getting ideas to cope with difficulties.
- The food boxes are brilliant

