



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 22 - Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Families,

We were delighted to welcome former student Audreane Leclercq to Monday's KS2 assembly. Audreane left our school and moved to live in France when she was in Y4. She is now finishing her school studies and hoping to attend university in Canada next year. Audreane sent us a copy of her first book, "Elffay: The Ruse of Evil" last year and came to answer questions about her journey as a writer. The children had amazing questions- particularly about how to create a plot that extends through 300 pages and still makes sense at the end. It made editing their daily writing in school seem so much more straightforward!

We love hearing about previous students' achievements and these help improve our current pupils' aspirations for their learning journeys.

Don't forget it's World Book Day next Thursday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Chicks in Reception

There has been much excitement in Reception, and across the school, as the incubator was set up on Monday in



Kusama Classroom. There were 10 eggs getting ready to hatch. Yesterday, the first 5 eggs hatched, and by the time we arrived at school today, all ten eggs had hatched, and the chicks are very noisy! All activity continues to be captured on our in-house chick-cam.



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.



FUEL Programme - Easter Holidays

The FUEL programme (Kingston and Richmond's Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) provision) delivered by [Achieving for Children](#) is again offering free holiday clubs to pupils who are receiving benefit related free school meals.

There is a great mix of clubs on offer which will help keep eligible children engaged, safe and fed over the Easter holidays. All children receive a meal whilst at a FUEL club.

To book a place for your child/ren, visit the AfC website [via this link](#) or scan the QR code below.

You will see a listing of all clubs running across Kingston and Richmond. Choose which club you would like and contact them directly to book a space, giving them your

child's FUEL code to confirm they are eligible. The code is unique to each child, has 17 digits and will always start with a K or R, for example, K16L123456789101A. You should have been given details of your code from school - if not, please contact the school office. Club bookings will be live on the [Local Offer website](#) from **Monday 4th March 2024**.



KOOSA Kids bookings for Easter Holiday activities can be made on [Koosakids.co.uk](#) or by calling 01276 21884. KOOSA will also have spaces available on the FUEL scheme - check with KOOSA for details.



Nursery Applications for September 2024

The closing date for Nursery applications for places starting in September 2024 is today. Families will find out if they are successful in gaining a place on or before **Friday 3rd May**.

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Elif

Van Gogh Y1 - Robin, Zoe and Elsie

Hockney Y2 - Sophie

Matisse Y2 - Alice

Cassatt - Ari

Da Vinci Y3 - Daniel

Mehretu Y4 - Rhys

Wiley Y4 - Bob

Warhol Y5 - Katie

Dali - Milena

Kahlo Y6 - Ilyas and Tanmay

KS1 PE 23rd Feb - Joseph in Hockney Y2

KS1 PE 1st March - Paula in O'Keeffe Y1

KS2 PE 1st March - Rory in Kahlo Y6

Equality and Diversity Awards - Rumaisha and Frankie for their wonderful posters.

Freya in Wiley Class Y4 played the piano beautifully during KS2 assembly.

Mr Barson distributed certificates to those children who took part in the Reading Challenge over half-term - well done everyone!

House Points

This week, we have a tie for first place! **Red (Dawson)** and **Blue (Hawks)** both have 29 points. **Yellow (Cambridge)** are second with 27 points, and **Green (Villiers)** have 20. **Yellow (Cambridge)** won last week.



Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Yousra	Olivia	Sahib & Ari	Zlata	Arthur	Roanna
George	Shiloh	Inaya	Anastasiia	Max & Abdul	

TCS Mini London Marathon

This event will take place on Saturday 20th April, and once again as in previous years, Mr McLaughlin has reserved 50 places in each event: a one mile event for Reception to Y6 children, and a 2.6km event for children in Y4 to Y6.

We will send more information next week, and a Google form to sign up. Places will then be issued on a first-come, first served basis. Any child who participates and crosses the line will earn £10 for the school! This is courtesy of the sponsor, TCS. This will support the PE provision and help fund other resources in the school. It would be great to get as many children as possible attending this exciting event.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MARCH 2024	
Monday 4	Reception Mystery Readers
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
Tuesday 12	Y3-6 Panathlon event - by invitation only
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 4.30-6pm 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
Sunday 28	Y5/6 Fashion Show - at Fusebox
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
Thursday 16	PCSA Quiz Night - at school
Monday 20	Y6 Bikeability this week
Wednesday 22	Nelson Class Assembly 9am - families welcome

KS2 Spring Showcase

Tickets for the PCSA Spring Showcase, which takes place on **Thursday 14th March from 6.30-7.45pm**, are now available! The Showcase is a concert that will display the skills of our musicians, dancers and actors, giving them a chance to perform to the school community. There will also be refreshments available. The children submitted their audition videos, and the successful entrants have been informed. The first link below is for families of PERFORMERS ONLY to book tickets. There are 2 free tickets available for each child. If you have two children performing in the showcase, please only book 2 free tickets and buy any additional ones required from the second link.



PERFORMERS ONLY FREE TICKETS: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/king-athelstan-primary-school-pcsa/key-stage-2-spring-showcase-performing-children-only/e-pgbyyz>

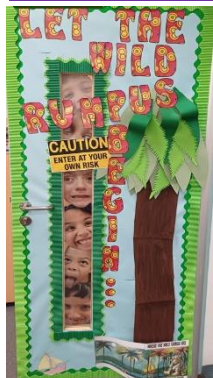
ADDITIONAL TICKETS: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/king-athelstan-primary-school-pcsa/key-stage-2-spring-showcase/e-kdbkmo>

We hope to see many of you there to celebrate the achievements of the children taking part!

Message from Local Resident

A resident of Kingsworthy Close has requested that any families walking through the close **shut the gates**. This is due to a recent increase in attempted burglaries during the day. Please be vigilant and community-minded and shut the gates behind you whenever you pass through. Only residents of Kingsworthy Close who have the gate codes should be using this access, and not just as a short cut. Thank you.

World Book Day



It is World Book Day next Thursday 7th March. We always celebrate this day, and this year is no different. Children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character, or wearing pyjamas and should bring their favourite book with them. The whole school has been busy decorating classroom doors with book themes - here is a sneak preview of just a few which are not yet finished. We will showcase many more next week!



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. Last week's cake sale made a fantastic £208! Many thanks to all those who baked, donated and bought cakes. The PCSA has been offered a 2 year partnership with local Estate Agents Gibson Lane who will pay £10 per advertising board for both Winter and Summer fairs, for up to 100 boards per fair. This is the easiest way to help fundraise, and volunteers are needed. If you could have a board put up outside your house between 17th June and 12th July (latest) then all you need to do is complete the [form here](#) and the rest will be done for you. If we can get a full 100 boards that's £1,000 per fair!

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 4.30-6pm (ticket needed)
- Fashion Show Y5/6 - Sunday 28th April at Fusebox, Kingston
- Y5 Summer Disco - Friday 21st June 6.30-8pm St John's Hall (ticket needed)
- Summer Fair - Saturday 6th July
- Y6 Leavers' Disco - Friday 12th July 6.30-8pm School hall (ticket needed)
- Y6 Leavers' Tea - Tuesday 23rd July at school
- 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/>

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 Music Service - Kingston Music Service (KMS) is a Local Authority service which receives core funding from Arts Council England. KMS offers a range of music activities for children and young people in school and at four music centres across the borough, in Coombe, Kingston, Tolworth and Hook. These operate after school and on Saturday mornings. At these venues we offer a wide range of activities, including individual and small group [lessons](#); theory and music technology classes and [ensemble](#) activities including music clubs, bands, orchestras and choirs. If your child already plays an instrument, there are various ensembles that they could join, at different levels: training string orchestra, percussion ensemble, wind band, jazz band. They offer free taster sessions. To find out more, contact: musicservice@kingston.gov.uk



Fairfield Litter Pick - After January's whopper of a session, in which 37 litter heroes braved the cold to collect a mind-blowing 14 bags of rubbish (5 of recycling) from across Fairfield and the children's playground, the next litter pick has been scheduled for **Saturday 23 March (2-3pm)** to clean this popular park in the run up to Easter! As always at the bi-monthly events, there will be litter pickers to lend out and sweet treats for participants. Please help spread the word with your neighbours, school friends or any other



local groups so we can make the park as lovely as possible. And if you're on Twitter, do retweet [this post](#) too to help spread the word.

Thanks as always for your ongoing support, and we look forward to seeing many adults and children next month.

Suzanne Seyghal Buckingham (Sunflower Streets RA) and Martin Bates (Tricorn RA)

