

King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 23 - Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Families,

What a wonderful week we have had at King Athelstan! It's hard to pick just one highlight, but yesterday was certainly an amazing World Book Day. Thank you for all your efforts with costumes and pyjamas. The children (and staff) all looked absolutely fantastic - see photos at the end of the Digest. Children engaged in a range of fun activities throughout the day in classrooms and learning spaces that all had book-themed doors. They were really impressive.

The chicks that have engaged us all over the past 10 days returned to their farm yesterday. The whole school was alued to 'chickcam' from the moment they hatched.

Finally, a moment that has been years in the planning - the first phase of our new KS1 playground is complete (see below) and open! Please see separate letter regarding this with opportunities for younger, non-school siblings to have a go. Please remember not to use the equipment before or after school.







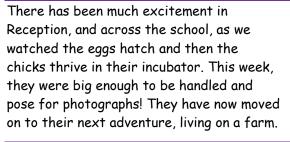


The Holy month of Ramadan begins next week. If your family is observing Ramadan and your child has chosen to fast, or would like to take time for prayer during the day, please email the school office to let us know your child's requirements. We will be able to support children who are fasting or Ramadan 2024 would like a private space to pray.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Chicks in Reception













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.



Nursery Trips to the Library

Volunteers needed! The Nursery team are taking two groups of Nursery children to Kingston Library on Tuesday 30th April and need adults to accompany them. There will be two trips, leaving at 9.30am and 1.30pm and lasting 1.5 hours approx. If you have a DBS and are available on this day for either trip, please contact the school office on admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org to volunteer. You do not need to have a child in Nursery to help out. Thank you.

FUEL Programme - Easter Holidays



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

To book a place for your child/ren, visit the AfC website <u>via</u> <u>this link</u> 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.



Onsite at KOOSA Kids, eligible children are invited to book up to 4 free holiday activities and food sessions between 8th and 11th April. Bookings can be made by calling 01276 21884 and quoting your unique 17-digit HAF code.





TCS Mini London Marathon

This event will take place on Saturday 20th April, and 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.

If your children want to take part, sign up on the Google form here or in the letter emailed to all this week. Places will 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, and will support our outside learning environment and help fund other resources in the school. It would be great to



get as many children as possible attending this exciting event, and Mr McLauglin will be there to cheer them only

Yorkshire Building Society - Money Workshops



We have been lucky to be offered free workshops for KS1 and KS2 about money. Yorkshire Building Society's

Kingston branch have volunteered to run

Date	Year group	Topic	
Weds 13 th March	1 & 2	Wants & Needs (ages 5-7)	
Thursday 14 th March	3 & 4	Project Party (ages 8-11)	
Thursday 21th March	5 & 6	, , , ,	

several 1-hour workshop sessions for us during the school day. This will be a great experience for the children.

Update on Donations to School

We have recently placed an order for 30 new iPads using the £3,204.50 raised by families making donations on the ParentPay item 'Donation to School Fund for resources' and also £736.71 from the item 'Donate the cost of a lunch'. Thank you so much for all the donations so far - we are very grateful. The payment items will remain open on ParentPay if anyone would like to contribute towards the £6,043 outstanding amount.



Request from Nursery

Nursery would be really grateful for any donations of underwear for both boys and girls and any trousers aged 3, 4 and 5 years old for them to keep as spares. Thank you very much!

Breakfast Club



We have recently increased the capacity at Breakfast club, so if you do need care in the mornings please see the website here for how to register and book.

Scooters

Please note that no scooters may be used on the school site for safety reasons. Please remind children to wait until they are off the school premises before scooting. This also applies to adults using scooters, and especially those using electric scooters. Thank you.

Secondary School Transition for Y6

For families of children in Y6, remember the deadline for accepting or declining the offer of Y7 place at secondary school is next **Friday 15**th **March**. Submitting your response online guarantees that the school knows your decision.

Mystery Readers

Thank you so much to all the parents/family members who have signed up to be Mystery Readers for EYFS and KS1. The children are so excited to find out who is coming to read them a story each week! We will put out a timetable after Easter so you can sign up to be a Mystery Reader in the summer term.

Clubs for Summer Term

The letter detailing extra-curricular clubs for the summer term will be sent to all families on Friday 15th March. The Google form for bookings will open on Sunday 17th March at 10:00am and close on Monday 18th March at 10:00am. Please see the letter when you receive it for all information on clubs available and how to book. Clubs will start in the week beginning 29th April, and finish by Friday 12th July.

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Dana Van Gogh Y1 - Florence

Hockney Y2 - Thalia Matisse Y2 - Aya & Archie

Cassatt - Aicha Da Vinci Y3 - Jasper

Mehretu Y4 - Bibi Wiley Y4 - Summer

Warhol Y5 - Martha Dali - Meryem

Kahlo Y6 - Alfie Riley - Akeera

Equality and Diversity Awards - Violet and Isla in Y6, and Nicholas in Y5.

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Faid	Tasya	Ruby	Grace	Gabi	Roanna
Jamie	Ali	Alfie	Robbie		Blanka

House Points

This week, Green (Villiers) are the winners on a huge 32 points. Yellow (Cambridge) are second with 29 points. Red (Dawson) have 23 and Blue (Hawks) 21.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MARCH 2024				
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 - ticket entry only			
Friday 15	Comic Relief - wear red accessories for a donation on ParentPay			
Monday 18	Y5 Bikeability starts			
Wednesday 20	Van Gogh Class Assembly 9am - families welcome			
Wednesday 20	Dodgeball event - by invitation only			
Thursday 21	Parent/Carer Forum 2pm. All welcome			
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). Please pay on ParentPay			
Tuesday 26	Year 5 trip to St John's Church			
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 - Volunteers needed			
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			

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. Upcoming events:

- KS2 Spring Showcase Thursday 14th March 6.30pm School hall (sold out)
- 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:

Fairfield Litter Pick - The next litter pick has been scheduled for Saturday 23 March (2-3pm) to clean the popular Fairfield in the run up to Easter! As always at the bimonthly 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.



Free Athletics Classes - A school parent has let us know that School Camps are running free athletics classes for children 5-15 years during term time. They say:

We will provide 2 x FREE coached athletics sessions per week for school children (ages 5-15yrs). In partnership with Kingston Council and Places Leisure, the sessions are delivered



at various sites and are entirely FREE for all participants. Each session lasts for 45/60 minutes and covers a variety of track and field events for all abilities.

The camps are run at Kingsmeadow Weir Archer, Tolworth Recreation Centre, and the Malden Centre. See here for more information and to book: https://schoolcamps.org/clubs

An invitation to collaborate with CRE - The regeneration team at Cambridge Road Estate (CRE) are on a mission to foster positive change and create a vibrant, inclusive community. As part of their endeavour, they are developing a Social Value Action Plan that aims to uplift and empower residents through various initiatives. Whether your organisation specialises in health and wellbeing, employment and training, support for young people, or community investment, they want to hear from you! By collaborating with the CRE regeneration team, you'll have the opportunity to contribute directly to the betterment of the neighbourhood and its residents. To express your interest or learn more about partnership opportunities, please contact: Semana Nota, CRE Resident Engagement and Social Value Lead on semana.nota@kingston.gov.uk.

Measles - The childhood illness Measles is on the rise in London. To make sure your child is up to date with their MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccinations , check your child's red book and make an appointment with your GP practice to catch up on missed doses.

It's also important to stress that you can book an appointment and catch up on the MMR vaccine at any age.

For more information, please visit the NHS website here.

