



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 24 – Friday 15th March 2024

Dear Families,

The children in KS1 are now confidently playing on the new playground area. The heras fencing will remain in place to allow the grass, on the part that has not been developed, to recover. Please keep up all your generous fundraising and donations as we need to raise over £60k to complete phase 2.

We have made some internal changes to reconfigure spaces and facilitate more learning spaces in school. From now on, if you need to speak to the Inclusion/Nurture team, they are based in the first office at the front of the school. They will still support children on arrival with 'soft starts' where necessary.

The Holy month of Ramadan has begun. **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 are supporting children who are fasting or would like a private space to pray. Miss Rana, Y5 Warhol teacher, hosted an assembly about Ramadan (right) and was assisted by some children who volunteered their knowledge.



Last night we held our first ever KS2 Spring Showcase, which celebrated the skills and talents of our musicians, dancers and performers, giving them a chance to perform to the school community. The children had to submit audition videos beforehand, and then, if successful, prepare a piece to perform. There was singing, dancing, drums, violins, solos and group performances. We will be uploading the video recordings to Google Classroom soon for everyone to see (but not share on any social media sites). Thank you to all the families who supported their children in preparing for this fantastic event. Well done to all involved, and a huge thank you to Mr Thomas and the PCSA who helped make it happen.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Y3 Cassatt Class Assembly



Well done to Cassatt Class for a great class assembly this week. They explained all their knowledge to parents/carers (and the rest of the school) really clearly. The assembly recording is now on Cassatt Google Classroom.

Allotment/Wildlife Garden

We are very excited to see the first signs of spring in the King Athelstan allotment. Our new gardening club, as well as children from Years 3 and 4 and 5 have all been helping to plant bulbs and seeds, which are now starting to pop up! The gardeners in gardening club have also made some fantastic signs to label the different beds in the area. One fascinating project the gardeners have started is to plant pieces of willow branch which then begin to sprout! A very big thank you to Caitlin and the enthusiastic team of gardener volunteers from our school community and the Hogsmill Community Garden who are working hard with our children to develop the allotment into a fabulous haven of vegetables and flowers.

Our next outdoor learning focus is to develop our wildlife garden next to the allotment. We are running a working party day on **Sunday 24th March** from 10.30-2.30pm to get our plans started. The aim of the workday is to prepare the ground for planting and ensure it is safe for the children to start to use. The first aim for the Wildlife Garden is to plant the Meadow Seed that was sent to the school as part of the Coronation Celebrations. If you are interested in volunteering to help us please contact admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org or outdoorlearning@kingathelstan.rbksch.org for details. Please note, this is for adults only. Children will not be allowed on site.

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence

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.

Y5 Greek Day

Y5 held a Greek-themed day this week along with their current topic, 'Clash of the Titans', to fully immerse the children in their curriculum learning. The children examined the life of Ancient Greeks in multiple ways: mini Olympics, creating head wreaths and some traditional Greek food tasting. Everyone dressed appropriately and there were some amazing

creations.



Clubs for Summer Term

The letter detailing extra-curricular clubs for the summer term has now been sent to all families. The Google booking form will open on Sunday 17th March at 10:00am and close on Monday 18th March at 10:00am. Please check the letter 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.

Y5 Swimming

Y5 had their last swimming session today at the Malden Centre. Thank you to all the parents who have been taking turns to accompany them on a rota system each week - we really appreciate your help. From next term, Y5 will have normal PE lessons in school again - a new PE timetable will be issued with full dates.

CS 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. There are still some spaces 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!



Money Workshops

This week year 1-4 had a money workshop run by Yorkshire Building Society's Kingston branch. Key stage 1 enjoyed considering what they would spend at the cinema with a £10 budget. Key Stage 2 enjoyed planning a party with a budget. Years 5 and 6 will have their workshops next week.

Pupil News

Elena in Y2 Hockney Class proudly wore her three Blue Peter badges to school today! She won the iconic blue one for submitting some fantastic artwork, the purple one for being a member of the fan club, and the special sparkling silver one which is awarded to Blue Peter fans who show individual acts of kindness! There are also badges for reading, music, the environment and sport, and Elena is keen to earn them, too! To find out more about earning Blue Peter badges, [click here](#)



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MARCH 2024	
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. Returning at 4pm
Friday 22	PCSA Y3 and Y4 Easter Disco 4.30-6pm St John's Hall
Monday 25	PCSA Second hand uniform sale - donations welcome
Tuesday 26	Y4 trip to Natural History Museum. Returning at 4pm
Tuesday 26	Y2 Drama Workshop (in school). Please pay on ParentPay
Tuesday 26	Year 5 trip to St John's Church 9.30-12pm
Tuesday 26	Clothes donations for PCSA Sustainable Fashion Show workshops
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 Tickets available here
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 Tickets here
Monday 20	Y6 Bikeability this week
Wednesday 22	Nelson Class Assembly 9am - families welcome

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Benjamin	Van Gogh Y1 - Teddy
Hockney Y2 - Oliver	Matisse Y2 - Poppy
Cassatt Y3 - Whole Class	Da Vinci Y3 - Eloise
Mehretu Y4 - George	Wiley Y4 - Timothy
Warhol Y5 - Lacey	Dali Y5 - Leo
Kahlo Y6 - Whole Class	Riley Y6 - Ava

8.3.24: PE KS1 - Paula in O'Keeffe Y1 PE KS2 - Mohamad in Mehretu Y4

15.3.24: PE KS1 - Olivia in Hockney Y2 PE KS2 - Inaya in Da Vinci Y3

Equality and Diversity Award - Isla in Y6

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Giulia	Emma	Meryem	Grace	Max	
Jamie	Joshua		George		

House Points

This week, **Yellow (Cambridge)** are the winners with 33 points. In second place is **Blue (Hawks)** on 31. **Green (Villiers)** have 29 and **Red (Dawson)** have 26 points.



Y6 Science

Year 6 have been busy this week examining bugs as part of their science work. They have been creating different habitat boxes to find out which is the best environment for insects to thrive in a wildlife garden. It certainly looks like they enjoyed the experiments.



PCSA

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

Upcoming events:

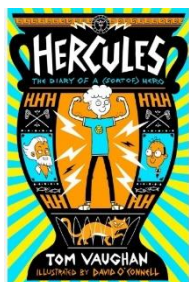
- Y3 and Y4 Easter Disco - St John's Hall, Friday 22nd March 4.30-6pm (ticket needed)
- Poster Competition - information will be sent out before Easter. winning entry to be used as summer fair poster!
- Clothes donations for sustainable fashion show - Tuesday 26th March
- Fashion Show Y5/6 - Sunday 28th April at Fusebox, Kingston [Tickets available here](#)
- Quiz Night 7pm, adults only, in school Thursday 16th May [Tickets here](#)
- Indie Disco 8pm, over 18s only, Fighting Cocks Kingston
- Y5 Summer Disco - Friday 21st June 7-8.30pm St John's Hall (ticket needed)
- Summer Fair - Saturday 6th July 12-3pm
- Y6 Leavers' Disco - Friday 12th July 7-8.30pm School hall [Tickets here](#)
- 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:



Author Visit - Children's author, Tom Vaughn, wrote 'Hercules: The diary of a (sort of) hero' which is currently one of the bestselling 9-12 year old books, perfect for fans of 'Loki' and 'Who Let The Gods Out?'. Tom will be visiting the Kingston Waterstones store on **Wednesday 20th April** from 4pm and will be holding an interactive workshop on all things Greek Gods. He will also go into a little bit about creative writing and his characters in his book, explaining the process behind creating them. There will be props and a quiz at the end, so it will be fun! More details on the event can be found [here](#).

FUEL Programme - Don't forget 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**.



To book a place for your child/ren, visit the AfC website [via this link](#) or scan the QR code below. You will need your child's unique FUEL code to book a space - please contact the school office if you do not have your code.



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, as above.



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 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.



Raring2go! The Spring edition of Raring2go! Kingston and Merton is full of family events and activities to keep the family busy over the periods to include both the Easter and May half term holidays. Having just had World Book Day, there is also a lovely page on book suggestions for children who struggle reading due to dyslexia. You can see a copy of the magazine [here](#).

Kingston Hospital is looking for volunteers to help out. If you have time to spare, contact them here to find out what is available. Call them on 020 8934 3620, or on their website [here](#). Thank you.

