



## King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 25 – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Families,

Thank you to those families who attended the Parent/Carer Forum this week. The area we discussed in detail was the number of places available at KOOSA Kids (after school childcare). We are in discussions with the KOOSA directors in order to move this forward. However, it would be useful to have some clarity about those wanting places. Currently there are a number of people on the waiting list for a Wednesday but just a few on the waiting list for Monday/Tuesday/Thursday. **If you need a place at KOOSA on a particular day or days please ensure you are officially on their waiting list for the days you require.** This involves contacting KOOSA and completing a very short form. This way we can accurately assess the need and work on a plan to address it.

In assembly this week we talked about a number of rule reminders to ensure our school operates efficiently and safely. A couple of things for parents/carers to note – **children are only allowed one keyring on their bookbags.** We simply cannot manage the multiple accessories – they make the bags really hard to store and manage. Multiple key rings increase the risk of items getting lost and can be a distraction in the classroom. Please also note that **children are only permitted to wear stud earrings** that they can manage themselves for PE, and also **only small, plain discreet hairbands/slides** (no cat ear bands or bands with long hair attached or large bows!) Thank you for your support with this.

Please don't forget that **we break up for the Easter holidays one hour earlier than usual** next Thursday, and there will be **no KOOSA Kids** on this day.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Emily Newton, Headteacher**

### KOOSA Kids Holiday Club

KOOSA Kids holidays clubs are very popular and book up quickly, even though the capacity is between 60 and 70 children every holiday period. The bookings are also open for the holidays clubs over the summer, so book now if you already know your plans. See the website here for all activities and to book: <https://www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club>



### Y1 Van Gogh Class Assembly

Well done to Van Gogh Class for a great class assembly this week, showcasing all their DT learning about different materials. The assembly recording is now on Van Gogh Google Classroom.



### Author Visit



On Tuesday Y1 and Y2 classes had a very exciting visit from author Robert Tregoning, whose book 'Out of the Blue', has been shortlisted for this year's SPARK Book Awards. He read his story and the children asked him lots of questions about being an author.



### Y1-Y2 Dodgeball Festival



This week, Mr McLaughlin took 8 children to a borough dodgeball festival. The festival was based on a combined format of skills/drills stations and some competitive match play. The children were full of energy throughout the morning; it was great to see them develop their confidence and self-esteem.

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### Y3-Y6 Panathlon Festival

Eight children took part in the new Panathlon Festival last week at The Kingston Academy. The children participated in eight different games including bocchia, kurling, ten pin topple and basketball. All children received a well-earned medal at the end of the event. Mr McLaughlin said "well done for representing the school so well, we are very proud of you."



### Y5 Bikeability



33 children in Y5 took part in Bikeability courses this week, totalling 6 hours training on and off road. They learned about looking after their bikes, safety aspects and road sense, including how to communicate with other road users. The children enjoyed the sessions - well done Y5. A reminder - if your child did not take part this week, they will be able to do so in Y6. An expression of interest form will be sent out in September 2024. Current Y6 will be doing their Bikeability sessions in June.

### YR-Y6 TCS Mini Marathon

Thank you to all who applied for this event on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Letters were sent today confirming whether or not your child was successful in gaining a place in your chosen race as there were so many applications. The YR-Y6 1-mile event was oversubscribed and there are no more places available. However, **there are still 10 places for the Y4-Y6 - 2.6km event.** Please use this link to complete an application for the remaining places (2.6km race only): <https://forms.gle/dP4n7skKGw3y2aqp6>. These will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Thank you.



### 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 (see below)! 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 beside the allotment. We are running a working party day on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 plan 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](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org) or [outdoorlearning@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:outdoorlearning@kingathelstan.rbksch.org) for details. Please note, this is for adults only. Children will not be allowed on site.**



### Comic Relief



Thank you to those who donated to Comic Relief on ParentPay last Friday. A total of **£188.50** has been paid so far and the item is still available if you wish to contribute. Many children wore lovely bright red accessories or painted their own noses red!

### Nursery Trips to the Library

Volunteers needed! The Nursery team are taking two groups of Nursery children to Kingston Library on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April** and need adults to accompany them. There will be two trips, one leaving at 9.30am and one at 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](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org) to volunteer. You do not need to have a child in Nursery to help out. Thank you.

## Community Governor Vacancy

From Caroline Dawes, the Chair of Governors: As governors at the school, we're responsible for overseeing the way the school is run, signing off on key policies and the budget, and supporting the leadership team to continue to drive improvements. This Thursday we had a very interesting and informative day visiting the school to see first hand how well your children are being taught and supported throughout the school day. We're currently looking to recruit more community governors, so if you know anyone who might be interested please contact Kate Hendry, Clerk to the Governors, on [khendr2@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:khendr2@kingathelstan.rbksch.org) directly. Please note we are **not** recruiting parent governors at this present time as we already have two but may recruit more in due course. If you have any comments or questions please get in touch. Thank you.

## Clubs for Summer Term

**A reminder that Clubs have now finished for the spring term and there will be no clubs in the week commencing 25th March.** Summer term clubs have now been confirmed on ParentPay for paid for places, and by email for Pupil Premium places. Paid for places must be paid for by 28/03/24 or if you payment concerns, email [admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org). Summer term clubs will start in the week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> April, and finish by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July.



Gardening Club has been very successful this term, making our school grounds look lovely with their spring planting! Please do not let your children pick flowers in the pots or in other garden areas - they are growing for everyone to enjoy. Thank you.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### MARCH 2024

Monday 25	PCSA Second hand uniform sale - donations welcome
Tuesday 26	Y4 trip to Natural History Museum. <b>Returning at 4pm</b>
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
Thursday 18	Y6 trip to Kew Gardens
Wednesday 24	O'Keeffe Class Assembly 9am - families welcome
Friday 26	Y1 Cake Sale after school
Sunday 28	Y5/6 Fashion Show - at Fusebox <a href="#">Tickets available here</a>
Monday 29	Summer term clubs start this week
Tuesday 30	Klee AM and PM Trips to the Library - <b>Volunteers needed</b>

### 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 <a href="#">Tickets here</a>
Monday 20	Y6 Bikeability this week
Wednesday 22	Nelson Class Assembly 9am - families welcome



## Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Yousra

Van Gogh Y1 - Ollie

Hockney Y2 - Imogen

Matisse Y2 - Jack and Amina

Mehretu Y4 - Robbie

Wiley Y4 - Evie

Warhol Y5 - Lacey

Dali Y5 - Karlis

Kahlo Y6 - Nataniel

Riley Y6 - Sonny

PE KS1 - Frankie in Matisse Y2

Equality and Diversity Award - Poppie-Rose in Wiley Class Y4

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Benjamin	Rachel		Grace	Himden	Georgie
George	Joshua		George	Hai Yen	

## House Points

This week, **Yellow (Cambridge)** are the winners with 38 points. In second place is **Blue (Hawks)** on 36. **Green (Villiers)** have 24 and **Red (Dawson)** have 23 points.



## PCSA

The PCSA (Parent Carer Staff Association) brings together parents, carers and staff to support the school and to raise money. The recent KS2 Spring Showcase was a sell out event and raised **£450** towards the KS1 playground refurbishment! Well done to all the performers.



Upcoming events:

- Poster Competition - entry forms will be sent home next week
- KS2 Spring Showcase - as you may know, we had some technical issues, but hope to upload a recording of this fantastic event before Easter
- Clothes donations for sustainable fashion show - Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March
- Fashion Show for all - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at Fusebox, Kingston [Tickets available here](#)
- Quiz Night 7pm, adults only, in school Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May [Tickets here](#)
- Indie Disco 8pm, over 18s only, Fighting Cocks Kingston
- Y5 Summer Disco - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 7-8.30pm St John's Hall (ticket needed)
- Summer Fair - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 12-3pm
- Y6 Leavers' Disco - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 7-8.30pm School hall [Tickets here](#)
- Dragon Boat Challenge - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July
- Y6 Leavers' Tea - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at school
- End of year picnic for all - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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:

**We're Going on a Bear Hunt** - in partnership with Wild in Art and Walker Books, Kingston First is thrilled to announce the **Bear Trail**, inspired by Michael Rosen's iconic children's book "We're Going on a Bear Hunt", illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. This free trail will feature **ten unique bear sculptures**, each hand-painted with stunning artwork by talented artists, and will take place from **29th March to 7th June, 2024**.

From the bright and colourful **Groovy Bear-by** to the bold and futuristic design of **Mother Paw'd**, each sculpture tells a unique story. **Clarence the Climate Bear** reminds everyone to protect the environment, while **Spectrum** embodies the spirit of inclusivity and hope. **Jester** challenges all to rethink their relationship with these majestic creatures, while **Bear-Play** delights with its playful geometric patterns.



You can pick up a trail guide leaflet at **Waterstones**, **Fusebox**, and **The Rose Theatre**. You'll have a map of the trail, where you can tick off all 10 bears as you make your way around Kingston!

**School Health Questionnaire** - Calling parents/caregivers in Kingston with children aged 0-12 years! UCL researchers want to hear your views on family wellbeing, health, and how children's physical growth is measured at school. Help improve local services and future research. Click on the link to take part: [https://qualtrics.ucl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV\\_ewzCZy5ivY3EeZE](https://qualtrics.ucl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV_ewzCZy5ivY3EeZE). Thank you.

**Home Start Volunteers wanted** - If you have some free time, and you are a parent or grandparent (or have similar experience), you could help other families with pre-school children. Local charity Home-Start is offering a free course to train you to be a home-visiting volunteer, supporting families with difficulties such as post-natal illness, bereavement or disability. The course will run in Hampton Wick from 9.45am-2.30pm, on Thursdays from 9<sup>th</sup> May to 20<sup>th</sup> June (not half-term 30<sup>th</sup> May). After the course, volunteers visit and support a family for 2-3 hours a week. For more information, please contact Erin on [erin@homestart-rkh.org.uk](mailto:erin@homestart-rkh.org.uk) or [volunteer@homestart-rkh.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@homestart-rkh.org.uk) or 07884 536161.



**Man&Boy Volunteers** - Are you passionate about enhancing families and fostering meaningful connections between Men and their Boys? Man&Boy, a dynamic charity committed to strengthening family relationships, is searching for dedicated individuals to join their Board of Trustees. For more information and to apply, please click on the link: [trustees-unlimited.co.uk/roles/man-and-boy-trustees-multiple-positions-available/](https://trustees-unlimited.co.uk/roles/man-and-boy-trustees-multiple-positions-available/)

**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 benefits-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 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April**. Bookings can be made by calling 01276 21884 and quoting your unique 17-digit HAF code, as above.

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