



Dear Families,

Our spotlight for this week was: *We are kind with our words*. Next week, we will focus on our listening skills: *We listen to everyone*.



In my assembly we focussed on a story about a boy who kept losing his temper and saying unkind words to his friends and family. His dad told him to hammer a nail into a tree each time he said something unkind or lost his temper. He then told him to remove a nail each day that he was kind and did not lose his temper. Here is the final image in the story (left). Ask your KS1/2 child and see if they can remember the message of the story.

Over the last two weeks we have welcomed new children into our Nursery classes. Some have joined our 2-year old provision and others have joined the main 3- and 4-year olds class. A warm welcome to all our new families! We have some spaces in the afternoon Nursery for 2-year olds. Please contact the office [here](#) for more information.

With increased numbers of children on site first thing in the morning, please remember to wait, lined up against the fence, outside the main school gate on the pavement until it is your child's turn to come in. When you have dropped off, please move away from the drop-off zone quickly so that other families can access easily. There is a yellow line on the ground outside the gate for Nursery, Reception and Year 1, which we ask all parents/carers to stay behind to allow space for the children to enter the gate independently. Please ensure everyone who drops off or collects your child knows about all of this. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

Focus on Online Maths Resources

The times tables are one of the basics of maths. If children know the basics, they'll find the rest much easier. The National Curriculum states that by the end of Year 4 every child must know their multiplication and division facts up to 12. We work through the times tables like this:



Year 2 - 2s, 5s and 10s Year 3 - 3s, 4s and 8s Year 4 - All tables up to 12 x 12

[Times Tables Rock Stars](#) is a fun and challenging online way to practise tables independently as well as against your peers and other schools. This is maths homework for children, and certificates are awarded every week to those who practise the most.

[NumBots](#) is an online resource for children from Nursery onwards where they can practise their number recognition, number bonds, addition and subtraction skills, so that these become fluent and they can leave their fingers behind! NumBots is also set as homework for some children. Both NumBots and TTRS use the same login details - speak to your child's teacher if you do not have these.



Royal Institution Science Event

Y4 and Y5 were invited to attend the Energy Live! Show at Kingston Grammar School this week. **Energy LIVE!** is an exciting workshop run by the Royal Institution which delves into the different stores of energy and how they affect our daily lives. They use lively, fire-based demonstrations to demystify some of the terminology around energy, showing children just how simple this subject can be. The children came away not only knowing their elastic from their gravitational energy, but also fired up about energy and with a newly-enthused approach to science.



Children's Appointments

To avoid disruption to a child's attendance, medical and dental appointments should **not** be booked during the school day whenever reasonably possible. When appointments are necessary during school time, contact the school office in advance via email to request the leave of absence. Evidence of the appointment will be needed for the absence to be authorised. This can be an email, text, letter or appointment card, and can be emailed or brought in to the school office. On the day of the appointment, children should be collected from school as close to the time of the appointment as possible and return to school for the rest of the school day afterwards. Thank you.

Author Visit

Remember that on Thursday 6th February, author Kieran Larwood is coming to talk to Years 3-6 about his Dungeon Runner books and being an author. If you would like to order one or both books, please pay via ParentPay by the closing date of **27th February**. This is entirely optional. Kieran Larwood will sign any books on the day.



EYFS Donation



We ask for a one-off voluntary contribution of £5.00 for the year from families of children in Nursery and Reception. This goes towards the additional costs of cooking ingredients and other consumables in Early Years. We would be grateful if any families in Nursery or Reception could pay this via ParentPay online. If you do not yet have access to ParentPay, please speak to your child's teacher so that we can set this up.

Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Van Gogh Y1 - Avery | O'Keeffe Y1 - Aira |
| Hockney Y2 - Sophia | Matisse Y2 - Salma |
| Cassatt Y3 - Aya | Da Vinci Y3 - Stanley |
| Mehretu Y4 - Connor | Wiley Y4 - Ari |
| Dali Y5 - Kaysha | Warhol Y5 - Azra |
| Riley Y6 - Maia | Kahlo Y6 - Katie |

KS2 PE Erin in Wiley Y4 and Cemre in Riley Y6 KS1 PE Teddy in Van Gogh Class Y1

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Sharvika	Giulia	Elena	Hatice	Grace	Julia
Fatima	Robin & Jamie	Elif	Eden	Ziyad	Nicholas

House Points

This week in first place is **Red (Dawson)** with 28 points. Yellow (Cambridge) are second place on 26. Green (Villiers) have 25, and Blue (Hawks) have 21.



Amazon Wish List



We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List which was started after families wanted to contribute items to school. There is no obligation to buy anything, but all purchases are very much appreciated, and we have just updated it with new items! Have a look at the link here:

<https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz> . We also have an ongoing item in ParentPay called *Donation to School Fund for Resources 2024-25*. Thank you to all those who have already been able to donate into this - we are then able to bulk-buy items such white board pens and glue sticks at a cheaper rate.



Lost Property

We continue to have unnamed items left around the school which we cannot return to owners. **PLEASE put your child's name in all their clothing.** At the moment, as it is so cold, we have a huge amount of single (and pairs of) unidentified gloves, hats and scarves. It will all eventually end up in the Lost Property box just inside the main KS1 gate, but if it is named, we will return it directly to its owner. If your child has lost anything, please check in this box. Thank you.



DATES FOR THE DIARY	
JANUARY 2025	
Monday 27	Y6 Swim Gala - invited children only
Wednesday 29	Y2 Matisse Class Assembly 9am
Friday 31	Cake Sale Y4 3.15pm
FEBRUARY	
Saturday 1	PCSA Adult Gig Night at the Fighting Cocks, Kingston 8pm
Wednesday 5	Y3 Da Vinci Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 6	EYFS Museum in school
Thursday 6	Author visit for Y3-6. Order books if required on ParentPay
Tuesday 11	Y5 Greek Day
Wednesday 12	Y6 Kahlo Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 13	Book Looks for parent/carers
Mon 17-Fri 21	Half-Term
Tuesday 25	Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-5.30pm in person
Thursday 27	Parent/Carer Consultations 4-6.30pm online
MARCH	
Monday 3	Y6 to Royal Institution Science event at Surbiton High School
Tuesday 4	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-5.30pm in person
Wednesday 5	Y3 trip to Kew Gardens
Wednesday 5	Y4 Mehretu Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 6	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations 3.30-5.30pm in person
Thursday 6	World Book Day
Wednesday 12	Y3 Cassatt Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 12	Parent/Carer Book Looks 3.30-4pm
Thursday 13	KS2 Spring Showcase - See Google Classroom
Wednesday 19	Y5 Dali Class Assembly 9am
Friday 21	Comic Relief
Monday 24	Clubs end this week
Wednesday 26	Y2 Hockney Class Assembly 9am
Friday 28	PCSA Easter Cake Sale
APRIL	
Friday 4	Break up one hour earlier for Easter holiday

INSET Days 2025-26

Monday 1st September 2025 will be an INSET day for staff training and children are not in school. Children will return to school on Tuesday 2nd September. Wednesday 1st October 2025 is also an INSET day when children are not in school, as is Monday January 5th 2025. The remaining INSET days for the rest of the year have not yet been confirmed.

PCSA



The PCSA is looking for some additional committee members and particularly a Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Chair. If you would like to get involved, or find out more information, please contact: kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com

Dates for the diary

- Friday 31st January, cake sale - Year 4
- Saturday 1st February, Gig Night (right) - adults only from 19:00
- Friday 28th February, cake sale - Year 3
- Thursday 13th March, Spring Showcase - run by Mr Thomas
- Friday 28th March, Quiz Night - adults only, school hall



Second Hand Uniform 'shop'

To request any stock please email kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com with details of what you would like (item and size), having checked the available stock [link here](#). We will then access the items at our earliest convenience and arrange to meet you or leave it at the school office with your name on.

We can also take donations to keep stock topped up. Please contact one of the committee or your class rep to arrange, or leave at the school office and they will let us know to collect it. Please ensure all donations are clean and in good condition. No shoes.

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:

Royal Academy of Arts - the Young Artists Summer Show is a free to enter exhibition for children from 4-18. Parents/Carers can submit one piece of artwork per child from now until 5th March. The judging will take place in May, and selected artworks will then be featured in an exhibition at the Royal Academy in Piccadilly, London from 15th July - 10th August 2025. King Athelstan has registered, so families can submit any work directly. See the [link here](#) for further information, and how to make a submission. Good luck!



Free Tennis Sessions - the FREE Community Family Sessions on Saturday at Kingston Road Recreation Ground from 1.30pm - 2.30pm ARE BACK and available to all children and their families. This is run by the Ten Project. Find out more here: www.tenproject.org.uk

True Honour Charity - this charity works to support survivors of Honour Based Violence (HBV), Forced Marriage (FM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and pledges to help all victims of abuse, however they can. See the flyer (left) for more information.



Who should I contact?

At King Athelstan we want to work in partnership with parents/carers. Sometimes it can be hard to know who to ask about different aspects of your child's care. We hope this overview will help. Please note that, even if you request to speak to a particular person, another member of our team may respond if they are better placed to do so. Thank you for your understanding.

Your first point of contact should be:

Who	About
Office/admin team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School lunches and Free School Meals - Clubs - Dates/trips/events and DBS applications - Forgotten items - Online log-ins - Parent/carers consultations
Attendance and Welfare Officer (Natali O'Farrell)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attendance and punctuality - Medical needs
Designated Safeguarding Leads (Emily Newton, Alice Govan, Denise Ramkissoon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safeguarding concerns (for your own family or another) - Looked After Children (Alice Govan)
Class teacher	<p>Class teachers will be able to support you with most other matters, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns or queries about learning/progress/behaviour - Support for special educational needs (SEND support) - Emotional/social needs - Specific incidents - Reasonable adjustments or additional resources - Support/intervention in school - Home learning/supporting at home

Concerns about your child must always be first discussed with your child's class teacher. Teachers can access advice regarding supporting your child from the relevant teams in school. They may also refer you on to the following staff directly.

Who	About
Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Lead (Denise Ramkissoon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Bank Vouchers <p>If referred on by class teacher or already in direct discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social, emotional and mental health needs - Autism and ADHD - CAMHS, Emotional Health Service, Mental Health Support Team, School Health
Inclusion Teacher & Assistant SENCo (Jane Bennett)	<p>If referred on by class teacher or already in direct discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEND, learning and language needs - Educational Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy - EHC needs assessment requests
Assistant Headteacher & Inclusion Lead (Alice Govan)	<p>If referred on by class teacher or already in direct discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EHCPs - Sensory and physical needs - SEN/Inclusion policies and procedures
EYFS Lead (Becks Parker)	<p>If referred on by class teacher or already in direct discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EYFS SEND - EYSIF funding
Senior Leadership Team (Emily Newton, Naomi Ahearn, Alice Govan, Becks Parker)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whole school matters - Concerns that have not been able to be resolved through the class teacher