



Dear Families,

This week our Eco Warriors led our assembly on the spot light: **taking care of our school**. We talked about our King Athelstan Eco Code and how the code helps us to take care of our school and also our world. During the assembly we looked at how we can reduce, reuse and recycle in class and at home. We shared ideas on litter picking and using the correct bins for rubbish, and we talked about how to save energy in school and further afield by turning off lights, electrical appliances and cars. The Eco Code will be put up in all classes to help remind everyone of the Eco Code.



Thank you to the Eco Warriors for their confident and informative presentation and we hope to see everyone continuing to take care of our school!



In my KS2 assembly we continued to explore the idea of the impact of our actions and reactions on others. acts of kindness in the story of The Two Wolves (below).

The Story of the 2 Wolves

A young boy arrived home angry and upset. His grandfather asked him what had happened so the boy began to talk about how he had fallen out with his sister that morning. He complained that he had thought about the bad things she had said all day. The grandfather looked out of the window, and then turned to the boy. He looked him in the eyes and said, "My son, inside every person's heart lives two wolves that often fight. One wolf is the vengeful, angry, violent one. The other wolf is the loving, compassionate one." The grandson asked him, "Which one wins?" The grandfather answered: "The one you feed."



We then asked the questions: Do you think there are really 2 wolves inside every person's heart? What does the story mean? Which wolf will you feed?

We also looked at a story about Kevan Chandler, a man with spinal muscular atrophy, who said "nothing is out of reach". See the short film he made here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkXJuZAHhIk> which shows the impact of kindness, the importance of aspiration and working together to achieve dreams.

Please see the important section on school uniform (below) as we have noticed increasing numbers of children wearing non-uniform items to school. We work hard to keep our uniform simple with very few logo items, however, the items with a logo are required as part of our uniform policy.

Gong Xi Fa Cai to all those celebrating Chinese Lunar New Year this week! Wishing you happiness, peace, and prosperity in the year of the snake.



Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton, Headteacher

EYFS Museum

The Nursery and Reception classrooms will be converted into museums on **Thursday 6th February 2025** to showcase some of the children's learning that has been taking place since September 2024. This is a great opportunity for families to come into the classroom with your child to observe the displayed pieces of work and to look through your child's learning journey book together.

Reception classrooms will be open from **3.10pm - 3.45pm**

Nursery classroom will be open from **3.30 - 4.00pm** for both **AM and PM** families.

It would be great to see as many parents/carers as possible to make this event a success.



Spring Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

This term, Parent/Carer Consultation meetings with your child's teacher will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 25th February 3:30pm - 5:30pm **online only**

Thursday 27th February 4:00pm - 6:30pm **in person only**

Please book a meeting online using [this link](#) which will be open from 7.00am on **Monday 3rd February** and will close at 9.00am on **Tuesday 25th February**. It is essential that you attend a meeting for each of your children. All meetings, online and in person, are 10 minutes long. A **Book Look** session for parents/carers who book online appointments to see children's work before their meeting will be held on **Thursday 13th February** from 3.30-4pm. Parents/Carers with in-person meetings can see the books when they have the meeting.

- Klee (Nursery) AM and PM in person appointments will start from 2.40pm on Thursday 27th February
- 'Little Klee' (2-year-old provision) meetings will take place **in person** on Wednesday 26th February for Little Klee AM at 12.30pm - 1.30pm and Little Klee PM 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- SEND support plan parent/carers meetings will take place **in person** in the week commencing 3rd March - details to follow

School Uniform Reminder

Please remember that children should either be in full school uniform, or their PE uniform on PE/sports club days. Both of these consist of a plain white top (or one with the King Athelstan logo) and plain black bottoms, whether that's a skirt, pinafore, trousers, shorts or jogging bottoms. Any other coloured items are **not** part of our school uniform, nor are clothes with brand logos or coloured accessories. Tights and socks can be black, white or grey. All children should be wearing the purple King Athelstan cardigan or sweatshirt with their uniform and PE uniform. Shoes should be flat, plain black leather/leather-look school (not boots or trainers), and black plimsolls or trainers on PE days only.



PLEASE put children's names in all items they bring to school, including coats and hats. We have noticed a number of children are wearing non-uniform sweatshirts and cardigans and will be contacting families directly about this and other non-uniform items from next week. Please remember, the PCSA run a second-hand uniform 'shop' to help families. All items are free.

To request any stock please email kingathelstanpcs@gmail.com with details of what you would like (item and size), having checked the available stock [link here](#). The PCSA will then access the items leave it/them at the school office with your name on. If your child is given some spare uniform to wear as an emergency, please return it to the school office when you can. Thank you.

Y2 Matisse Class Assembly

Sadly, Matisse Class assembly was cancelled this week as Miss Sarton was poorly and off school. We will reschedule the assembly so that Matisse can show off all their learning. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Y6 Swim Gala

Congratulations to the eight children who represented the school this week at the borough swimming gala. It was a fantastic day with King Athelstan achieving its best ever results! The event comprises heats where the first three (out of six) reach the final, and we reached eleven finals (out of twelve). This was an incredible achievement. Sam came 3rd in the Boys Individual Frontcrawl, Martha came 3rd in the Girls Individual Backstroke, Himden was 3rd in the Boys Individual Breaststroke, and James came 2nd in the Boys Individual Butterfly. The four boys came third in the Frontcrawl Relay, and everyone returned with a medal. Well done team!



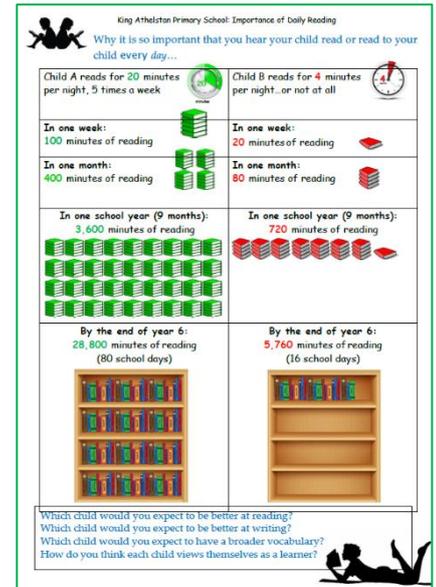
Secondary School Transfer for children with an EHCP

Achieving for Children has issued an invitation to attend an information evening for parents and carers of children with education, health and care plans (EHCPs), currently in Years 4 or 5 of primary school in the Kingston and Richmond boroughs. This will take place on Wednesday 5 February from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Richard Challoner School, Manor Drive North, New Malden, KT3 5PE. [Click here](#) for more information.

Focus on Reading

Reading for pleasure is at the top of our reading agenda at King Athelstan and we work hard to create a positive reading environment. We promote reading in school with the following initiatives:

- **Reading Corners:** each class has a reading corner which is full of classical and contemporary children's literature
- **The Bucket List (reading spine):** each year group has an extensive list of books that the children are encouraged to read by the end of the year - for each book read the children receive a sticker to collect on their 'Bucket List Bingo Chart' [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more.
- **Home Reading Scheme:** our home reading scheme is an eclectic mix of fiction and non-fiction
- **Free Reading Time:** at different points of the day the children are encouraged to read for pleasure
- **Story Time:** teachers read stories to children all the way from Nursery to Year 6 - you are never too old to enjoy a good story!
- **Library:** we are constantly adding books to our library and classes have scheduled times to visit to choose books to develop their love of reading
- **Reading Record Scheme:** Children in Y1-Y6 have a reading record book where their reading at home is logged and they collect dots. For every 20 dots they will receive either a certificate or a reading record prize!
- **Hosting visiting authors:** when we can, we invite children's authors to come in, meet the children and talk about their life and work as an author. Last year, we hosted 2 authors, and went to the Rose Theatre to hear a third. Last term we were visited by Jack Meggitt-Phillips, and coming up on **6th February** is a visit by children's author Kieran Larwood.



We also celebrate **World Book Day** annually in the first week of March. This is always a special day in the King Athelstan calendar; we plan a carousel of activities all linked to a story and the children get to experience creative lessons throughout the day as well as dressing up as a book character or in their pyjamas ready for a bedtime story! Watch out for further information about this year's activities soon. As parents and carers, you can support the love of reading at home by listening to your child read and reading to them daily. Bed time stories and reading at home not only increase academic ability, but also help to strengthen family relationships and foster a lifelong love of books. Thank you.



Breakfast Club

There are currently some places available in our Breakfast Club, which is open **7.45 to 8.45am** daily for children in Reception to Y6. It is located in the King Athelstan Centre at the back of the School. Children attending are given a choice of breakfasts such as cereals, yoghurt, fruit, toast, and juice and undertake a mixture of fun and educational activities, before being taken to their classes in time for registration. The charge is **£6.50 per day**. The Breakfast Club is run by King Athelstan Staff, and a registration form must be completed by a parent/carer before the child can attend for the first time. For more information, and to complete the registration form, click [here](#).



Amazon Wish List

We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List. There is no obligation to buy anything, but all purchases are very much appreciated. Have a look at the link here: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>. We are currently having to purchase replacement ice/heat packs! We also have an ongoing item in ParentPay called *Donation to School Fund for Resources 2024-25*. Thank you for all donations.



House Points

This week in first place is **Green (Villiers)** with 34 points. **Yellow (Cambridge)** are in second place on 32. **Blue (Hawks)** are third with 30 points and **Red (Dawson)** have 26.





Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Olive

O'Keeffe Y1 - Louis

Hockney Y2 - Isaac

Matisse Y2 - Matilda

Cassatt Y3 - Alannah

Da Vinci Y3 - Sofia

Mehretu Y4 - Rosa

Wiley Y4 - Ana

Dali Y5 - Robbie

Warhol Y5 - Abdulrahman

Riley Y6 - Mei

Kahlo Y6 - Alice

KS1 PE Harrison in Matisse Class Y2

KS2 PE - Swimming Gala Team Y6

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Ruth	Matilda	Elena	Ruby	Ziyad	Julia
Fatima	Dana & Zoe			Elliot	Zak

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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. Book orders now closed.
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 online
Wednesday 26	Parent/Carer Consultations Little Klee: AM 12.30pm - 1.30pm/ PM 1.30pm - 2.30pm
Thursday 27	Parent/Carer Consultations 4.00-6.30pm in person
Thursday 27	Parent/Carer Consultations for Klee (Nursery) 2.40-6.30pm in person
Friday 28	Cake Sale Y3 3.15pm

MARCH

Monday 3	Y6 to Royal Institution Science event at Surbiton High School
Monday 3	Secondary School Offer Day
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
Friday 7	Closing Date for Nursery Applications for September 2025
Wednesday 12	Y6 trip to Kew Gardens
Wednesday 12	Y3 Cassatt Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 12	Parent/Carer Book Looks 3.30-4pm
Thursday 13	Y5 trip to the British Museum - details to follow
Thursday 13	KS2 Spring Showcase - See Google Classroom
Tuesday 18	Y4 trip to Natural History Museum - details to follow
Tuesday 18	Lifting Young Voices Concert - information to follow
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
Friday 28	PCSA Quiz Night (adults only) School Hall
APRIL	
Wednesday 2	Thinker's Project Exhibition 3.20-3.50pm and again 5.30-6pm
Friday 4	Break up one hour earlier for Easter holiday
Wednesday 16	Primary School National Offer Day
Tuesday 22	Children return to school
Friday 25	Y4 Thames Young Mariners Trip - details to follow
Friday 25	Cake Sale Y2 3.15pm
MAY	
Monday 5	Bank Holiday - children not in school
Tues 12-15	Y6 SATs
Thursday 22	Cake Sale Reception 3.15pm
Mon 26-Fri 30	Half-Term
JUNE	
Wednesday 4	International Day - details to follow
Friday 6-Mon 9	Y6 PGL Trip
Tuesday 10	Rest day for Y6 children and staff who were at PGL
Wednesday 11	Y6 'Kids Out!' at Chessington
Thursday 12	Class Photographs

KOOSA Kids

KOOSA Kids are pleased to be operating our February Half Term Holiday Club at King Athelstan Primary School from Monday 17th to Friday 21st February. Join us for five days of Paw-some Adventures with our Purrrfect Pets activity programme! Children will take part in up to 9 activities each day, always a mixture of sporty and team games, arts & crafts, drama, imagination, squad rallies and of course our popular go karts. All from just £27.00 per child, per session (Standard day 10.00am to 4.00pm; longer days available) and your third child goes FREE (siblings only)! Visit www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club for more information or call 01276 21884. Bookings are now open. All children aged 4 - 13 are invited.



Parent Governor Vacancy

The King Athelstan Governing Body currently has a vacancy for a Parent Governor, and information and application forms were emailed to all families on Wednesday 22nd January.

As the parent or carer of a pupil currently on roll you are eligible to stand as a candidate. (Eligible candidates include: father, mother, legal guardian, person having custody of a child on roll). To find out more, see the website [here](#). The closing date for applications is 12pm on **Thursday 13th February**.

King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence

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

- 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



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:

The London Bookshop Crawl - the [London Bookshop Crawl](http://www.bookshopcrawl.co.uk) is celebrating its 10th year from Fri 14th - Sun 16th February with all sorts of events in bookshops across London, including a [drawalong with author Sophy Henn](#) at The Alligators Mouth in Richmond on Sunday 16th February and Group Bookshop Crawls across London. We have a [Bookshop Scavenger Hunt](#) and lots of resources on our website for families to do their own bookshop crawls over the weekend, as well as a programme of planned [events across London](#). For more information, see here: www.bookshopcrawl.co.uk



Kingston Adult Education - has a number of new workshops and short courses taking place this term.

1. FREE maths courses for adults to grow numeracy confidence and help you to better support your children with their maths school work.
2. A series of two-hour Saturday family workshops where an adult and child can spend quality time together while learning. Workshops cost £20 for one adult and one child and activities include cookery, computing, Italian and art, and jewellery making.

See this brochure for further details about these courses as well as Kingston Adult Education's wider offering: bit.ly/KAE-Spring2025. The classes take place both online and at centres across the Royal Borough of Kingston. For further information, please contact Kingston Adult Education directly on 020 8547 6700 or at adult.education@kingston.gov.uk

Mindfulness Moments and Meditation course - Bring some calm into your day, learn simple breathing exercises and enjoy guided meditation. Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:00 term time only. Starts 30 January for 9 weeks.

'Together Thursdays' at Parent Champions Cafe, Kingsnympton Youth and Community Centre, Kingston KT2 7RP. For further information and to enrol please use this [link](#). Parents/carers are also welcome to join FREE Tai Chi and Pilates sessions plus our parents/carers coffee mornings. All learners are welcome to stay after for our guest talks and community lunches. These sessions are free to learners earning below the London Living Wage (currently £27.007.50). [Click here](#) to view the flyer.

