



Dear Families,

On Tuesday this week we completed our annual 'Speak Out Stay Safe' assembly. This is a virtual assembly introduced by Ant and Dec and led by the NSPCC. It covers all aspects of safeguarding and gives the chance for discussion and reinforces our safeguarding policy and procedures in school. The children know they can talk to any 'safe' adult if something is worrying them. They should know that the team here (right) has specific responsibilities around this as the Designated Safeguarding Leads at King Athelstan.



Next week is incredibly busy with Nursery trips, Kingston Grammar students delivering language lessons, Van Gogh Class assembly, the celebration of 1100 years since King Athelstan was crowned "On the Origins of King Athelstan School", Y5 workshops at The Hollyfield School and the choir performing at the Kingston Music Festival at the Rose Theatre. As if that wasn't enough fun, we also have what promises to be an incredible Summer Fair on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June!

Thank you to all those parents/carers who have attended SEN Parent/Carer meetings this week. Children do best when we work in close partnership, supporting children with consistent approaches at home and at school.

It was great to see all the children starting Nursery and Reception in September 2025 who came in for a 'Stay and Play' session earlier today.

KA Event: Please read the section below carefully. If you do not have a paper ticket, you will not be able to attend the KA1100 event "On the Origins of King Athelstan School" next Thursday. We are currently waiting for payment on over 100 tickets on ParentPay before tickets can be issued. Please complete any ticket booking over the weekend. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Emily Newton**  
Headteacher

### On the Origin of King Athelstan School

Next week we will have our exciting event at All Saints Church, Kingston, to mark the 1100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the coronation of King Athelstan 'On the Origin of King Athelstan School'. Children in Y3-Y6 will re-enact many of the incidents from around the year 925 and what happened during King Athelstan's reign, and we will find out why our school is called King Athelstan. The event starts at **1pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June**. There are still tickets available at £5 each; order [here](#) and the cost will be added to your ParentPay account. Once paid, your tickets will be sent home with your child. Please order over the weekend if possible. **ENTRY IS BY TICKET ONLY, we will not be able to allow access to anyone on the day without a ticket.** Tickets are numbered but the seating in the church is unallocated. Children across the school have helped put together the show and younger children will walk to the Church to see the final rehearsal on the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you to all who have a DBS and have volunteered to walk with classes to the church - we welcome more volunteers with DBSs. Please remember, ALL children will need a packed lunch on this day. If you book lunch on ParentPay in the usual way, a packed lunch will be provided. If you prefer to give your child a packed lunch from home, remember to cancel any meal on ParentPay. No fizzy drinks or sweets in packed lunches, please. If you are attending the event, we will dismiss your child/ren to you at the church. All other children, or those attending KOOSA/after school club, will be walked back to school in time for pick up at the usual time.

Year 2 classes enjoyed making shields for the production!



## SIMs App for Parents/Carers

A reminder about setting up your account in the SIMs Parent App, and thank you to all those who have already done so. We need **every family** to do this. The Sims Parent App is a secure and convenient way for you to regularly check your child's details held by school, and update where necessary, so that school always has the correct information. This information includes home address, parent/carers telephone numbers and email addresses and also the correct details of any other emergency contacts. Along with the original email, we sent a user guide which outlines how to get started with the app and what steps to take. Please contact the school office with any problems.



## International Day Winners' Breakfast

On Wednesday, International Day winners were treated to a special breakfast, held in the Wildlife Garden shelter, which was decorated with flags from around the world. They had croissants and juice, and then extra playtime in the KS2 playground. Window to My World winner Kirpa from Y1, and Kayla from Y6, the winner of the story read in a home language were present, as well as the whole of Dali Class - winners of the Eurovision World Edition Song Contest.



## Year 6 PGL Residential Trip

Well done to the 54 Year 6 children who attended the school residential last weekend. On day 1 they had a visit to the Cotswold Wildlife Park followed by 3 nights at PGL in Wiltshire. The children accessed a range of outdoor activities such as: climbing, canoeing, zip wire and trapeze. They developed a number of skills such as problem solving, communication, leadership and team building. It was great to see what a positive attitude they had towards challenges and they all persevered to achieve their absolute best! A huge thank you to all of the staff team who made this such a memorable trip for the children: Mr McLaughlin, Mrs Williamson, Mr Barson, Miss Flood, Miss Armstrong and Imogen from Nursery. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.



## Pets as Therapy Dog

As you may be aware, school has been able to offer some children sessions with our Pets as Therapy dog, Merlin. On Thursday we had to share with children the very sad news that, following a recent, short illness, Merlin has died. Please be aware that your child may talk to you about this at home. When this sort of thing happens in our school community, we always speak to the children in a way that is appropriate for their age and stage of development. We answer any questions in a simple and factual way. We hope to reinstate PAT dog sessions in the future, when a suitable dog and volunteer can be found.



## Amazon Wish List

We are always grateful for any items purchased from our ongoing Amazon Wish List, which was started after families wanted to contribute items to school. The list is updated regularly with various things to enhance school life. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz> . Thank you.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

JUNE	
Tuesday 17	Nursery Trips to the Library
Wednesday 18	Y1 Van Gogh Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 18	'Welcome to Reception' meeting for families 4pm
Thursday 19	On the Origin of King Athelstan School Event- All Saints Church 1pm
Friday 20	PCSA - Please donate chocolate and sweets (NO NUTS) for the Summer Fair
Saturday 21	Summer Fair 12-4pm
Wednesday 25	Y1 trip to Littlehampton - go to ParentPay
Wednesday 25	Sports Day EYFS (Nursery & Reception) - see letter for details
Thursday 26	Sports Day Y1-6 - see letter for details
JULY	
Tuesday 1	Backup EYFS Sports Day (in case of cancellation)
Wednesday 2	Y1 O'Keeffe Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 3	Backup Y1-6 Sports Day (in case of cancellation)
Thursday 3	Y6 Lolly Sale
Friday 4	INSET Day - children not in school
Tuesday 8	Y3 Lifting Young Voices Concert #2 - details to follow
Wednesday 9	Y3 Country Dancing - details to follow
Thursday 10	Reception trip to the Wetlands Centre - go to ParentPay
Friday 11	PCSA Uniform sale - King Athelstan Centre from 8.40-9am
Friday 11	Y6 Lolly Sale
Friday 11	PCSA Y6 Leavers Event - details to follow
Monday 14	EYFS Beach Day
Tuesday 15	Thinker's Project Exhibitions 3.30-4pm and 5.30-6pm
Wednesday 16	Y2 trip to Hampton Court - go to ParentPay
Wednesday 16	Y6 Production 2pm - details to follow
Thursday 17	Y6 Production 7pm - details to follow
Friday 18	Y4 Ukulele Concert 2.30pm
Friday 18	Y6 Lolly Sale
Monday 21	Y6 Leavers' Assembly & Tea - details to follow
Tuesday 22	Break up for summer one hour earlier
Tuesday 22	PCSA Picnic in the Park for all
SEPTEMBER 2025	
Monday 1	INSET day - children not in school
Tuesday 2	First day of autumn term

## PCSA News

Volunteers still needed for the stalls at the Summer Fair on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 12-4pm. Please contact the PCSA here if you can help for an hour: [kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com](mailto:kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com)

Events coming up:

- **Friday 20th June** - please donate chocolate /sweets (**no nuts**) and bottles for a tombola
- **Saturday 21st June** - Summer Fair, Medieval Theme, 12-4pm.
- **Friday 11th July** - uniform sale, King Athelstan Centre 8.40-9am
- **Sunday 20th July** - King Athelstan Dragon Boat team race at Canbury Gardens!
- **Tuesday 22nd July** - School's Out Picnic

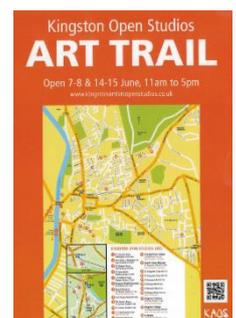
PCSA are looking for some additional committee members, and also need someone to take on the second hand uniforms, accepting and sorting new donations and pulling requested items from stock. If you think you could be more involved, please email [kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com](mailto:kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com) to find out more. Thank you!



## 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:

**Kingston Artists Open Studios (KAOS) -14-15 June 2025.** Explore local creativity as artists across Kingston open their studios to the public. See artworks, watch live demonstrations, and meet the artists in their own creative spaces. Don't miss this inspiring community event! [Here is a link to the catalogue and map of artists and locations.](#)



**Year 7 admission to The Tiffin Girls' School** - there is an upcoming Open Evening for Y5 children on Tuesday 8 July, from 4.30pm. If any Year 5 parents/carers would like to register their daughter for the admissions tests for Year 7 entry, the registration link is now open on the school website at [www.tiffingirls.org/admissions](http://www.tiffingirls.org/admissions) until Monday 1 September 2025, 12.00 noon. Tiffin wants to encourage pupil premium or looked after or previously looked after children to register - as they will receive priority in the selection criteria. A 10% leeway will be applied to the scores of disadvantaged children in all



testing stages in order to support their application. The Open Evening is taking place in school on Tuesday 8 July, 4.30 - 7.30pm. It is a 'drop-in' event - no need to register or book to attend. Details on the Open Evening can be found at [The Tiffin Girls' School - Open Evenings.](#)