



Dear Families,

What an exciting end to the week! Today we had the Y5/Y6 Cross Country event and the long-awaited recreation of the Great Fire of London! We also enjoyed welcoming the team from Dove for some "Amazing Me" sessions for Years 4, 5 and 6.

Thank you, everyone, for your patience as the roadworks continue to disrupt your journey to school. Please remember to **ONLY** use the zebra crossing by the school car park and do not cross at any other point in the road. Thank you.

Next Thursday is our Open Evening for prospective families for Nursery and Reception in September 2027. Thank you to the many parents who have circulated our flyer on WhatsApp/online platforms or paper copies. If anyone else would like to take some flyers to give out, please collect some from the school office.

Have a lovely weekend.

Emily Newton
Headteacher

EYFS Open Evening

We are holding an Early Years Open Event on **Thursday 22nd October**, for anyone looking for a Nursery or Reception place in 2027. Book to come along at 4.30pm to see the whole provision and meet the Early Years Team. We are also running some short school tours, which last an hour:

- Wednesday 11th November at 4.00pm
- Wednesday 18th November at 4.00pm
- Wednesday 9th December at 9.15am
- Thursday 7th January at 4.00pm

If you would like to book to attend any of the above events, please do so [here](#). Please let any other families who may be interested know about these dates, too. Thank you.



Attendance Expectations

All families received an Attendance Expectation email last week. Here is a quick summary of our core targets and guidelines from our school policy:

- **Key Target:** Our target for every child is at least **96% attendance**.
- **Persistent Absence:** Any student falling below **90%** is classed as persistently absent.
- **Impact of Lateness:** Just 5 minutes late each day adds up to over 3 days of missed learning across the year.
- **Medical Guidelines:**
 - Mild illnesses (coughs/colds without a fever) should still attend.
 - Children must remain at home for **48 hours** after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.
 - A high temperature (38°C) requires staying home until it returns to normal.
- **Absence Reporting:** Parents/carers must report absences by **8:50am** so that registers can be completed for safety reasons
- **Leave Requests:** Term-time holidays or family events are not authorised; only exceptional circumstances with prior approval are permitted.

Please let school know if you need any extra support or guidance with managing attendance.

Years 4-6 Dove Self-Esteem Workshop

On Tuesday, we held a 1-hour PSHE workshop with Years 4, 5, and 6 hosted by the Dove Self-Esteem Project staff (right). Created with body confidence experts and Discovery Education, the interactive 'Amazing Me' session is fully tailored to be friendly and age-appropriate for primary pupils. It helps children build self-esteem, spot media manipulations, and learn strategies to resist appearance pressures in a positive, supportive way. The workshop aligns directly with our PSHE curriculum, and while created by Dove, no commercial products are promoted.



World Mental Health Day



Just a reminder that for World Mental Health Day we collected for Pets as Therapy, a wonderful charity that supports our school. For more information see their website: <https://www.petsastherapy.org/>. Our gorgeous and extremely friendly current PAT dog is called Gin (right). Any donations can be made on ParentPay in the item 'Voluntary Donation to Pets as Therapy'. Thank you.



Y3 trip to Gunnersbury Park

Last Friday Year 3 had a fantastic trip to Gunnersbury Park. They got to experience first-hand a range of artefacts some of which were genuinely from the Stone Age and some of which were replicas. The children were fascinated by the age of the objects and asked loads of great questions! They also had a Stone Age experience out in the park, building dens, throwing spears at 'wild boars' and having a go at using a bow and arrow, all under the expert guidance of the museum staff, Gareth and Abi. The children were amazing during the day and showed great skills, intrigue and resilience on the journey to and from the park. Well done Year 3! Great Stone Age trip!

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

All families will have received an email about the upcoming Parent/Carer Consultation meetings. Bookings opened on Monday 12th October and Wednesday 14th October for SEND meetings.

As a reminder, meetings are 10 minutes long and will take place on:

- Tuesday 10th November 3.30-6.00pm **in person** for all classes except Van Gogh and Hockney
- Wednesday 11th November - Hockney only **in person**
- Thursday 12th November 4:00pm - 6:30pm **online** for all classes

SEND meetings are 20 minutes long and are **all in person**. They will take place on:

- Tuesday 17th November 3.30-5.30pm - All classes except Van Gogh and Cassatt
- Thursday 19th November 3.30-5.30pm - All classes

Bookings will close on the morning of the first parent/carers consultation. Please book your meeting as soon as possible. Families must use their child's **preferred forename** and **surname** to log in to the School Cloud system: <https://kingathelstan.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Christmas Assemblies

Early Years and KS1 host Christmas assemblies to which families are invited. This year the dates are as follows:

Friday 11 December: Kusama 9.15am & Nelson 2.30pm
Monday 14 December: Matisse 9.15am & O'Keefe 2.30pm
Wednesday 16 December: Van Gogh 9.15am & Hockney 2.30pm
Thursday 17 December: Klee AM Christmas Singing & Crafts 11-11.30am
Thursday 17 December: Klee PM Christmas Singing & Crafts 12.30-1pm



Applying for a place at Secondary School

The deadline for submitting an application for a Y7 secondary school place for entry in September 2027 is **31st October 2026**. To make an application, please visit the eAdmissions website: [eAdmissions Website](#). The Admission to Kingston's Secondary Schools guide is available here: [AfC website](#).

Great Fire of King Athelstan

We usually hold the Great Fire in July at the end of the academic year and re-create the Great Fire of London using the Tudor houses which Y2 make in their art lessons. However, this year with the heatwaves of the summer it was not safe to do so. Instead, we held the event today and the children, now in Y3, greatly enjoyed seeing how the fire caught hold and spread. They were fascinated by how quickly the flames spread and how the fragile houses replicated the disaster in 1666! It was slightly dampened by the earlier rain, but did not dampen any enthusiasm!

Thank you to Dariusz for managing the event safely for everyone.



Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Elise

Van Gogh Y1 - Laiba

Hockney Y2 - Khadija

Matisse Y2 - Viktoriia

Da Vinci Y3 - Noah

Cassatt Y3 - Olivia

Mehretu Y4 - Ronnie

Wiley Y4 - Anisa

Dali Y5 - Hamody

Warhol Y5 - Moreglory

Kahlo Y6 - Toby

Riley Y6 - Zoe

Black History Month certificates were awarded to Elsie in Y4, Loni in Y4 and Hazel in Y3 for their wonderful work.

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Phoebe M	Isabelle, Advik & Amelya	Hazel Herberts	Loni Anisa	Amina Joe	Jayan

House Points

This week the winners are **Blue (Hawks)** with 31 points! **Red (Dawson)** are second with 28. **Green (Villiers)** have 18 and **Yellow (Cambridge)** are on 13.



Amazon Wish List

We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List, which we started after families wanted to contribute items to school. The list has been updated for this academic year with lots of new items. There is no obligation to buy anything, but all purchases are very much appreciated. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>.



KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY	
OCTOBER	
Tuesday 20	Y4 Egyptian Workshop in school - go to ParentPay
Thursday 22	EYFS Open Event 4.30pm - see details above
Mon 26 - Fri 30	Half-term
NOVEMBER	
Monday 9	Book Looks 3.20-3.50pm - for families with online meetings to see children's books
Tuesday 10	Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-6pm - book now
Thursday 12	Parent/Carer Consultations online 4-6.30pm- book now
Friday 13	Children in Need - wear spotty accessories & make a donation on ParentPay
Tuesday 17	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.10pm- book now
Wednesday 18	Flu immunisations - apply by 13 th November
Thursday 19	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.10pm- book now
Friday 20	MHST free Workshop for families - "Managing my child's 'unexpected' behaviour" 9am
Monday 30	Y5 trip to the Science Museum - go to ParentPay
DECEMBER	
Friday 11	Kusama Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Friday 11	Nelson Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Monday 14	Matisse Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Monday 14	O'Keeffe Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Tuesday 15	Thinker's Project Exhibitions 3.20-4pm and 5-6pm
Tuesday 15	Y4 to see Wind in the Willows at the Rose Theatre - details to follow
Wednesday 16	Van Gogh Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 16	Hockney Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 17	Nursery Christmas Singing & Crafts Klee AM 11-11.30am Klee PM 12.30-1pm
Friday 18	Christmas jumper Day. Christmas lunch & break up one hour early
JANUARY 2027	
Monday 4	Inset day - children not in school.
Friday 8	First Y5 swimming lesson at The Malden Centre - details to follow
FEBRUARY	
Mon 15-19	Half term
TBC	Iftar event - details to follow
MARCH	
Monday 1	Eggs/chicks arrive in Reception
Thursday 4	World Book Day
Tuesday 9	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.30pm - details to follow
Thursday 11	Y3 trip to Festival Hall - details nearer the time
Thursday 11	SEND Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-5.30pm - details to follow
Tuesday 16	Parent/Carer Consultations in person 3.30-6pm - details to follow
Thursday 18	Parent/Carer Consultations online 4-6.30pm- details to follow
Friday 19	Reception trip to the Wetlands Centre - details to folloe
Tuesday 23	Thinker's Project Exhibition
Monday 22	Y5 Bikeability course starts
Thursday 26	Last day of spring term. School finishes one hour earlier
APRIL	
26 March - 9 April	Easter holidays
Wednesday 14	Y4 Thames Young Mariners trip - details to follow
MAY	
Monday 24	Y6 Bikeability course starts
Mon 31- Fri 4 June	Half-term
JUNE	
Wednesday 9 June	Sports Day for EYFS

Thursday 10	Sports Day for Y1-6
Wednesday 16 June	Back up Sports Day for EYFS
Thursday 17	Back up Sports Day for Y1-6
Tuesday 22	SEND Parent/Carer Plan Review Meetings in person
Thursday 24	SEND Parent/Carer Plan Review Meetings in person
Fri 25-Mon 28	Y6 PGL Residential weekend
Tuesday 29	Rest day for Y6 on PGL
JULY	
Friday 2	Inset day - children not in school. No clubs
Wednesday 7	International Day
Friday 9	EYFS Beach Day
Wednesday 14	Y6 Production 2pm
Thursday 15	Y6 Production 7pm
Friday 16	Y4 Ukulele concert 2.30pm
Tuesday 20	Thinker's Project Exhibition
Wednesday 21	Y6 Leavers' Tea & Assembly
Friday 23	Break up one hour earlier

INSET days for the academic year 2027-28 are now on the school [website here](#).

PCSA

The PCSA (Parents, Carers, Staff Association) brings together parents, carers and staff to support the school fundraising for equipment and activities for the children. Here are some of the upcoming events - more details to follow:

- Friday 23rd Oct 'Halloween' Cake Sale - run by Y2
- Friday 23rd Oct Halloween Discos Y3-4 & Y5-6
- Sat 28th Nov Christmas Panto!
- Friday 11th Dec 'Christmas' Cake Sale Comp - run by Y5



Families of Reception children - if your child is in Reception (Kusama or Nelson Class) and you would like to join the WhatsApp group, click here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KT2IYMQScmt253GKrkhI6U?s=cl&p=i&mlu=4&ilr=4>

Christmas cards - Just a reminder that your child's Christmas card designs must be handed in to their class teacher by **Tuesday 20th October**. The Christmas card samples should be with us approximately 2 weeks later. The samples will have all the details you need to place your orders from the online shop. There is no obligation to purchase.

School Lottery: Don't forget to support our school lottery! The odds for winning are really good. At just £1 a ticket it's great value plus there's bonus entries to win some fabulous prizes! Visit: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for King Athelstan Primary School. You can contact the PCSA on kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com



KOOSA Kids

KOOSA Kids have issued their Autumn/Winter 26-27 Holiday Club dates and themes at King Athelstan. [Bookings are open](#). Dracula Spectacula is the theme for October Half Term 26th-30th October, Merry & Magical for Christmas holidays 21st-23rd December and Blast Off into Space for February Half Term 15th-19th February. Prices start from just £31.50 per child (Standard day 10.00am to 4.00pm; extended days available 8.15am-6.00pm). See the brochure here for more information: www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club or call the friendly customer service team on 01276 21884.



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:

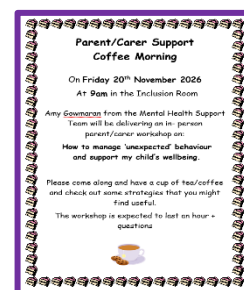
Harlequins Amateurs - join mini and youth rugby at Harlequins on Sundays from 9.30am in Bushy Park, and join some King Athelstan children who already attend! It's lots of fun and a very welcoming club. See the [website here](#) for more information.



Family Connect Sessions - There will be a free Halloween half-term event on **28th October** between 11am-3pm in Queen Mary Hall. The event will have free refreshments, spooky arts & crafts as well as information stalls for services in the area. There is no need to sign up to this event, Just come along! **RBK Community Safety team**



Parent/Carer Support - Save the date! The Mental Health Support Team is offering a free Workshop and coffee morning on **Friday 20th November at 9am**. The workshop will focus on how to manage your child's unexpected behaviour. There will be time for questions and answers, too.



Mayor of Kingston's Christmas Card Competition - all children of primary school age, living or studying in the borough, are invited to enter a competition to design the Mayoral Christmas Card for 2026. Entries should be submitted by email to the Mayor's office on mayors.office@kingston.gov.uk. For anyone without computer access at home, application forms are available from the school office. Entries on paper should be handed back to the school office by **Friday November 6th** and school will email them on. The overall winner will receive a prize and their family will be invited to a special tea in the Mayor's parlour at the Guildhall, where they will receive a framed copy of their winning entry. Runners up will each receive a certificate. The full letter from the Mayor's office has been emailed to all families.



Family First magazine - if you would like to see an online version of this magazine, [click here](#).

Beyond Blocks - thank you to the people from Beyond Blocks who recently donated some Lego bricks to our school.



Safeguarding Details

Click here to find out about the school DSLs: [Designated Safeguarding Leads at King Athelstan](#)

