



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 7 – Friday 23rd October 2026



Dear Families,

What a wet and windy end to the week! Well done everyone for a really busy and successful half term. Particular congratulations to our new starters in Nursery and Reception – it's lovely to see how you have settled in. Don't worry if your child is still settling – sometimes it takes a little longer, but they'll get there.

Thank you to everyone who helped out with our EYFS Open evening last night: the Choir, Y6 Leaders, staff and parents. It's lovely to show visitors around and especially impressive to hear our Junior Leadership Team speak so confidently and passionately about their experience at our school. Great work, team!



This week we said goodbye to Jade Gulliford as she starts her maternity leave. We are all excited to hear from her when the baby arrives. We also said a fond farewell to Lauren McGee, one of our teaching assistants who is moving to work at another school. She has worked across the school, and especially with Team McQueen, and will be sorely missed. We wish them both good luck in their new adventures!

Have a lovely half-term break, and see you on **Monday 2nd November**.

Emily Newton
Headteacher

EYFS Open Evening

We held a very successful Early Years Open Event on **Thursday**, when lots of families toured the school with a view to sending their children here. We are also running some short school tours, which last an hour for anyone who is interested in viewing the school:

- 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.

Y5/6 Cross Country

Huge congratulations to the 32 children who took part in the Cross Country Competition last Friday. Every single runner tackled the demanding 1.3km course with incredible determination in a series of highly competitive races across Year 5 and Year 6. We achieved some outstanding individual results throughout the morning.



A special mention goes to Emma in Dali Class for her exceptional performance, crossing the line in 5th place—an amazing achievement! As always, our pupils represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating fantastic sportsmanship and effort. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to cheer the team on and make the day such a success.

Y6 PGL & Residential Trip 2027

Families of children in Y6 have received details about the very exciting trip to the Cotswold Wildlife Park and PGL residential weekend in Wiltshire in June 2027. The **£45 deposit for the trip is due by 31st October** (at the end of half-term) to guarantee your child's place. Please see the letter for full details.



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Harvest Collection



Thank you so much to all the families who contributed items to our Harvest Festival collection for Kingston Food Bank. This is a photo of just some of the items, but there were more! All items have now been delivered to the Food Bank Warehouse for sorting. The Food Bank are very grateful for all donations and they help so many people who struggle with their finances at the moment. Thank you again.

Y4 Egyptian Day



Step Back to 1300 BC! The school was transformed into the bustling banks of the River Nile as Y4 children arrived dressed in fantastic Egyptian attire on Tuesday. From powerful pharaohs wrapped in gold and majestic queens like Cleopatra to wrapped mummies, the creativity on display was incredible. A huge thank you to parents/carers for helping create such wonderful costumes. The children put their problem-solving skills to the test in the workshop by tackling maths challenges



using ancient Egyptian numerals and everyone crafted their own beautifully detailed Egyptian-style necklaces. They were utterly mummy-ficent from start to finish!

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

Meetings this term 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

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/>

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](#).

Amazon Wish List

We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List, which we started after families wanted to contribute items to school. Thank you to the families who have recently purchased ice/heat packs for first aid - we need a lot of these! This week, we have added some items for classes to have during wet play. There is no obligation to buy anything, but all purchases are very much appreciated. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>.



House Points

This week the winners are **Red (Dawson)**, **Yellow (Cambridge)** are second, **Blue (Hawks)** are third and **Green (Villiers)** are in fourth place.





Achievement Award

O'Keeffe Y1 - Hanna

Van Gogh Y1 - Ida

Hockney Y2 - Krishna

Matisse Y2 - Abdihafid

Da Vinci Y3 - Lambert

Cassatt Y3 - Lily

Mehretu Y4 - Nadia

Wiley Y4 - Sefa

Dali Y5 - Elena

Warhol Y5 - Aythan

Kahlo Y6 - Daniel

Riley Y6 - Micah

KS2 PE - Emma in Dali Class Y5

KS1 PE - Echo in O'Keeffe Class Y1

Special mention to Ari in Hockney Class who has read all the Y2 Bucket List books!

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Matisse Rubecca	Khadija, Grace Amelya	Gregory Toby	Elif George	Oscar, Joe Poppy	Asia, Alfie Lorelai

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY

NOVEMBER

Thursday 5	Outdoor Learning Day
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 follow
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 - go to ParentPay
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

Lunch Bands



Have some of our lunch bands (left) made their way home by accident? If so please send them back in to school or drop at the school office. The same goes for ice/heat packs, too. Thank you!



Digital Leaders

Miss Sarton, Computing Lead, has announced the Digital Leaders in Years 2-6 for this year. Their role is to help Miss Sarton and children with laptops, ipads and anything to do with the digital world. They are:

Matisse: Amelya, Hockney: Advik, Da Vinci: Hazel, Cassatt: Toby, Wiley: Afsa, Mehretu: Flo
Dali: Joe, Warhol: Uzay, Riley: Max, Kahlo: Hatice. They each received a badge. Well done!



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KOOSA Kids

KOOSA Kids have issued their Autumn/Winter 26-27 Holiday Club dates and themes at King Athelstan. [Bookings are open](#). 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.



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

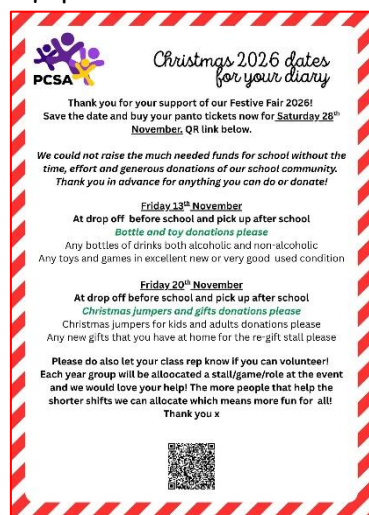


upcoming events:

Sat 28th Nov - Christmas Panto - see flyer to book!
Fri 11th Dec - 'Christmas' Cake Sale Competition (Y5)

Christmas Pantomime - Our annual Christmas Fair is fast approaching on Saturday 28th November and this year we will be putting on a Christmas Panto for everyone to enjoy!!! Tickets are now available using the QR code on the flyer here.

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.

on kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com

You can contact the PCSA

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:

Roadworks - UK Power Networks, who are installing new underground electricity cables on Villiers Road, have said that work should be completed by 10th November. However, other roadworks in the area (Villiers Avenue and Lamberts Road) will continue until the end of the month.

Research opportunity: Kingston University. An academic and researcher at the Psychology Department in Kingston University is conducting research with 7-11-year-olds. The project is looking at ways to promote honesty in children with real-world implications on evidence-based strategies for investigators to interview child witnesses. Child participants will partake in a soundwave experiment, and during that time, they will witness a research assistant pretend to take £5 from a wallet (staged). They will then be interviewed about the event. Each child will be fully debriefed at the end of their participation, and the money will be returned to the wallet in front of them. The research leaders will have a conversation about the importance of being honest with trusted adults. Each participation is expected to last around 20 minutes. The study has obtained a favourable ethics opinion from Kingston University's School of Law, Social, and Behavioural Sciences and has collected data from 189 children so far. For more information or to take part, contact g.salhab@kingston.ac.uk



Free Cycle Training - Kingston Council is offering free cycle training to families and adults. Whether you are a first-time rider, a regular cyclist looking to improve your skills or a family looking to make journeys together, they provide fully subsidised Cycle Skills training to suit your needs, so you can start improving your skills for free. If you are interested, please sign up via the online [form here](#), or contact cycleskills@kingston.gov.uk



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Christmas Card Competition - last week we highlighted the competition for the Mayor of Kingston's Christmas card. This week it is the turn of Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP, Kingston & Surbiton! He says:

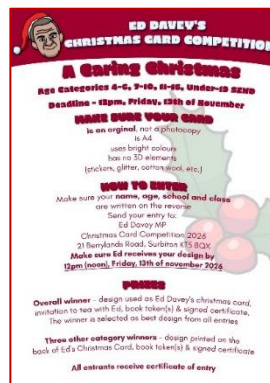
*I am delighted to once again be launching my Christmas Card Competition. The competition is open to pupils from across the Kingston & Surbiton constituency. This year's theme: **A Caring Christmas***



*Closing date: **Friday, 13th November - 12pm (noon)***
Pupils are free to interpret the theme in any way they wish.
There are four categories (entrant's age is determined as of 1st September 2026):
Ages 4-6 Ages 7-10

Ages 11-16 *Under-19 SEN*

The design should be an original on A4, not 3d (no glitter/stickers etc. Write your name, age, class and school on the back and send to Ed Davey MP, Christmas Card Competition 2026, 21 Berrylands Rd, Surbiton KT5 8QX. The overall winner will have their design printed as my official 2026 Christmas card and will also be invited to have tea with me. There will be prizes for the winners of each category, with certificates for every entrant, runners up and all highly commended entries. I very much look forward to seeing all the designs, and hope your pupils have fun creating them. If you have any queries about the competition, please email: edward.davey.mp@parliament.uk



Kids Eat Free for Half-Term - Stir Food, our school lunch provider, has shared this quick, helpful resource to save a bit of money for families while dining out! This is a guide from Money Saving Central listing restaurants, cafes, and pubs across the UK offering "**Kids Eat Free (or for £1)**" deals during October 2026.



Free handwriting help -



Safeguarding Details

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



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