



King Athelstan Primary School

Newsletter

Date 21/1/16



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016! I hope everyone had a happy and relaxing holiday. Please take time to read this newsletter thoroughly as there is a lot of new information about changes at school and some great activities taking place outside of school for parents and carers. Please also be sure to make a note of the key dates below as we have a busy 3 weeks leading up to the February half term. After half term we have a Parent/Carer information session on the school's new assessment system. It is essential that parents/carers attend. The workshop is at 9am and repeated at 7.30pm. More information is to follow.

Key Dates:

28 th January	Dali Cake Sale
11 th February	Magritte Cake Sale
11 th February (3.15pm)	Last Day of Term
12 th February	INSET DAY
15 th - 19 th February	Half term break
22 nd February	First day back
25 th February	Hockney Cake Sale
1 st March (9am/7.30pm)	New School Assessment System Parent/Carer Information Session
4 th March (Staggered Timings TBC)	Mothers' Day Assemblies
8 th March	Parent/Carer Meetings
10 th March	Parent/Carer Meetings
10 th March 8.55am	Matisse Class Assembly
17 th March	Matisse Cake Sale
17 th March 8.55am	Magritte Class Assembly
18 th March	Sports Relief
24 th March	Visiting Theatre Performance (PCSA Funded)
24 th March (2.30pm)	Last day of term

Birthday Celebration Changes

We are a school working towards **Healthy Schools Gold Award** and as a result of these efforts we are making a change to the way we celebrate birthdays at King Athelstan. Effective from after the February half term we will no longer be accepting sweets or cakes to hand out on birthdays at school. Instead, if you would like to celebrate/mark a birthday, you are welcome to donate a book to the class book corner. It will have a special bookplate in the front celebrating that this book was donated on behalf of a child in celebration of their birthday. As with cakes/sweets, the book donation is totally optional. The book can be shared with the class and enjoyed by all years. We hope you will agree this is a great and long lasting celebration of a child's birthday. The book can be any age appropriate book of your child's choice. See our **Change4Life** information overleaf which links in with this initiative.

Lateness

We are becoming very concerned about the number of children arriving late every day. Children are expected to be in school at 8.45am. It is incredibly unsettling for children to arrive late as they miss the register and beginning of learning. Please make an extra effort to ensure your child arrives on time.

Nursery

Nursery is looking for donations of old telephones/mobile phones for their role play area. They particularly need "landline" phones of any age. Please speak to Semina or Sarah if you can help.

"Thunks"

Have a go at these "Thunks" with your child/ren:

1. What colour is Monday?
 2. What do clouds taste like?
- Our own "Thunk" was generated in Cezanne Class this week:
3. Where does a snake's tail start?



The Parenting Puzzle

Stressed? Want to make a change? Want to have more fun in your family? Achieving for Children (AfC) are running a course "The Parenting Puzzle" at the Kingston Town Children's Centre on our school site. The group started on Thursday 14th January 2016 and runs from 9.30am to 11.30am but you can still join by contacting the Centre on 020 8481 0640 or by popping in. Why not check it out? A Crèche is available but spaces are limited.



Celebrating Achievements of Past Pupils

We would like to share some fantastic achievements we have been informed about by parents/carers of some past pupils from King Athelstan.

Congratulations to:

Finn: *Outstanding Achievement Award in Drama for Year 8.*

Ellen: *Outstanding Achievement Award in Spanish for Year 9.*

Lucy: *Outstanding Achievement Award in History for Year 8.*

Lemar: *Outstanding Achievement Award in Art for Year 8.*

Suraj: *Outstanding Achievement Award in Spanish for Year 8.*

Kevin: *Outstanding Achievement Award in French for Year 8.*

William (not photographed): *Exceeding in sports at county level.*

Congratulations to these pupils on your fantastic efforts and a big well done to all our other past pupils who are achieving great things at secondary school. Keep it up!



Want to be a teacher?

Kingston University, School of Education has been consistently rated as one of the country's leading teacher training providers. For anyone interested in wanting to train as a teacher, there is an **Open Day on Saturday 23rd January from 10am-2pm**. A current student teacher said "The real asset of the university is the lecturers; they inspired me to embark on my teaching career". If you think teaching is a career you might be interested in, be sure to take a look at the campus and modules this Saturday.

Kingston University

Reminders from the Office

If your contact details change at any point during the year please let the office know. It is important that we are able to contact you and also that you are kept up to date with letters and information that is sent electronically.

Please do not walk underneath the car park barrier to get onto the school premises, this is very dangerous. Please use the main entrance. Thank you.

Go Sugar Free this February

Change4Life Campaign has released a "sugar app" that parents/carers and children can use to scan products barcodes to better understand how much sugar is in food. Research suggests that on average, children aged four to ten years old are consuming 22kg of refined sugar a year. That's about 5,500 sugar cubes! As a Healthy School we think this app is an easy and modern way to support us in making healthier choices and help to curb some of the issues caused by too much sugar such as diabetes and tooth decay. The app works on more than 75,000 products and can be downloaded from the app store by searching "sugar smart" and more information is available online at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/campaigns/sugar-smart/home>



School Fleeces

A limited number of school fleeces are now available to purchase through the school. If you would like to buy one please enquire at the school office.

Coffee Morning

If you are interested in meeting old friends or making new friends please feel free to attend the "Gup Shup Aur Chai" coffee mornings. They are held 9.30-11.30am every Wednesday from January to March at the Queen Mary's Hall, KT1 3NP. Women from all walks of life are welcome. For more information please contact Sarbath on sarbathwai@truehonour.org.uk

Gup Shup Aur Chai

Farewell

Mr Brendon Richards, current Dali Class Teacher, who has been at King Athelstan for 5½ years will be leaving us at the February half term. We will be saying farewell to Mr Richards properly nearer the time but wish him all the best in the next step of his career.

Congratulations!

Congratulations go to Mrs Barbara Favretti, Cezanne Class Nursery Nurse, who is expecting her third child. Mrs Favretti will remain with us for most of the school year. We are looking forward to meeting the new addition to her family in the Summer.