



## Mrs Mastrocola's Weekly Digest Issue 24 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Dear Families,**

We have been celebrating British Science Week at King Athelstan all week. Our focus has been on 'Growth' and the children have been using their curiosity and asking amazing questions as all classes have been investigating both in class and in assemblies. A big thank you to Mr Morris, our Science Lead, (pictured right) for all his hard work planning this fantastic week. There's also been lots of awe and wonder with our live 'Chick Watch'- our eggs arrived at the start of the week and all ten have now hatched out as chicks who made a special visit to our Friday Achievement Assembly. Thanks to Katrina who has been our 'mother hen' this year!



It was lovely to see so many families in school this week for our after-school 'Book Look' events. The children really enjoyed presenting all their amazing learning so far this year to their families and showing off their classrooms. Many thanks to all the families that attended. Now that restrictions have been lifted, we can't wait to get families back into school. We will be in touch over the coming weeks with further plans for more family events that we can hold onsite.

Thanks for your support with Comic Relief's Red Nose Day today and for the fantastic donations which have totalled £145 so far.

Thanks for your support. Enjoy the weekend and the lovely weather!

**Lucy Mastrocola, Acting Headteacher**

### Y3 Trip to Wisley

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March Year 3 spent an enjoyable and informative day at Wisley Gardens. The children took part in a fantastic workshop led by Kyle, an education officer there. The children studied different types of seeds, buds and pods on a variety of different plants and went on a nature walk with Kyle looking out for where and how seeds grow. We even saw a tree which can grow for 3,000 years and starts off as a tiny seed! Also, as part of the day, the children explored the tropical plants and desert species in the glasshouse, looking in awe at the incredible variety of trees, plants and flowers. Everyone also got the chance to plant a handful of wild flower seeds to take home. The children were very well behaved and made us proud! Many thanks again to our parents and carers who came with us. A great time was had by all!



### Trips Payment

As you know, we have been able to organise trips for the children once again to enhance and enrich their learning (more are currently being planned!). We have an item in ParentPay where anyone who wishes can pay an extra amount which goes towards ensuring the trips go ahead and can support any families who cannot make the full payment. Thank you so much to those who have already paid into these accounts. It was an idea suggested by parents, is entirely optional and greatly appreciated.



### School Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant, to work five days a week from 11.45 until 1pm. Please see eteach for further information, and to apply for the role. The closing date for applications is 28<sup>th</sup> March: <https://www.eteach.com/job/school-meals-supervisory-assistant-1218155>

## Matisse Class Assembly Y2



This week, Matisse Class hosted their first ever class assembly. They performed confidently to all their families on Wednesday. They shared their learning on the 'Great Fire of London', retold the story of the fire and read poems they wrote in English. They had lots of fun practising for their performance, and the singing was excellent! Well Done Matisse!

## Book Looks

Thank you to all the families who came in for our Book Look sessions. It was lovely to be able to have everyone in school again, and we hope you enjoyed seeing the children's work in their own classrooms.



## Spotlight on French

Our French curriculum at King Athelstan is chatty, creative and fun to learn! At every level we develop our French knowledge:

In Year 3, we have been using lots of pictures to help us to re-create Eric Carle's story of the Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse in French.

In Year 4, we are learning how French links to Latin and our Romans topic by learning days, months and counting. We are busy asking each other questions about our birthdays too.



In Year 5, children are exploring sports and are able to say their likes and dislikes. This week we have been building on our sentences and have added conjunctions and reasons for our opinions. In Year 6, children are studying nouns connected with seasons and exploring the four (yes four!) ways that you can say "the" in French. We will be using our nouns and colour vocabulary to create season poems. Keep an eye out on Twitter for the finished results towards the end of term. Our KS2 teachers also add in a little French video, song or game



here and there to shorten the gap in between the French sessions. YouTube is a fabulous resource to do the same and listen to French speakers at home. Some of my favourites are Alain le Lait who creates really catchy songs, and Learn French with Alexa has lots of videos on all sorts of topics to revise what we have learnt in class or to practice something new.

Claire Bailey, French Leader



Y5



Y4



Y4



Y5

## Chicken Pox and COVID

Please be aware that we have had several cases of chicken pox in Y1 and now also in Y3. We also have several new cases of Covid-19 in Matisse, Dali, Warhol, Mehretu, Kusama, Klee and Nelson classes. Please continue to be vigilant and do not send children to school with a high temperature or a new persistent cough. Anyone with symptoms should still get a PCR test which can be booked here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> We no longer have lateral flow tests to give to families. These must now be ordered on <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or you may still be able to get test packs from local pharmacies.



### Y3-Y6 Gymnastics Competition

Congratulations to the gymnastics teams who did so well at the borough competition this week, coming away with a



massive 7 gold medals, 5 silvers and 2 bronze! Huge thanks to Mr McLaughlin for the 8am practice sessions, which obviously worked well. The children were a real credit to the school - well done!



### Chicks in Reception



There has been great excitement in Reception classes where the 10 eggs delivered on Monday from The Happy Chick Company have all now hatched! Kusama teacher Katrina set up our very own chick-cam so the whole school can watch their progress live. The children have been learning about life-cycles and it was wonderful to see the eggs start to move, then crack and hatch the chicks. They are now very cute and also very noisy!



### Achievement Assembly

Well done to the following children who received their certificate of excellence this week:



## Achievement Award

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Science Week!

Kusama Reception - Joshua

Nelson Reception - Layla

Van Gogh Y1 - Daniel

O'Keeffe Y1 - Lorelai

Hockney Y2 - Bibi

Matisse Y2 - Whole Class

Cassatt Y3 - Alba, Gracie-Mae & Himden Da Vinci Y3 - Oscar, Hai Yen & Tilly Rae

Mehretu Y4 - Jihane

Wiley Y4 - Burhan

Dali Y5 - Raiyan

Warhol Y5 - Harvey

Kahlo Y6 - Savannah

Riley Y6 - Tinashe

PE KS1 - Miqdaad in O'Keeffe Y1

PE KS2 - Tamuka in Mehretu Y4

Apologies to Y3 who were accidentally left off this list last week! Last week's winners have been added this week. Sorry!

### Parent/Carer Survey

Just a reminder that you can still complete the Parent/Carer survey here:

<https://forms.gle/caQHCnpAp6WTtgCt8> Thank you very much.

# Maths Achievement

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Rachel	Daniel	Freya	Max
Joshua	Ari	Benjamin	Frankie

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Violet	Josie	Maximus
Isabella W	Raiyan	Evan T



Party Like a Rockstar!

## House Points

Congratulations to **Red House, Dawson**, who are this week's winners on 29 points! Unusually, Blue, Yellow and Green House all came second with 24 points! Well done everyone!



Villers (24)



Dawson (29)



Cambridge (24)



Hawks (24)

## Comic Relief 2022

COMIC RELIEF

It has been a funny day today with everyone wearing red noses and accessories! Please make your contributions to Comic Relief on ParentPay to help this fantastic charity.

Thank you.



## British Science Week

On Monday, Mr Morris launched British Science Week with assembly introducing our theme of *GROWTH*! Every class was attempting to grow mould on bread! We looked at having a normal slice of white bread and three other slices. One had water, one had sugar and one had salt. Every child in the school predicted what slice they thought would grow the most mould. Now we are waiting on the results! Every student also looked at what was



growing in our local environment! They went to see what plants and trees there are in our school and what other wildlife life grows around them. Whereas key stage 2 used iPads to identify the different plants, Early Years and Key Stage 1 looked at collecting samples of living things and identifying them.



*King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence*



We then returned to classrooms to do some writing and research on the growing things we found in our local environment. The children also had the opportunity to create a poster for British Science Week. Again, the topic was 'Growing'.

### Dates for the Diary

MARCH	
Mon 21	Y5 Swimming resumes
Mon 21	Y5 Bikeability
Wed 23	Cassatt Class Assembly 9am
Wed 23	World Maths Day
Fri 25	PCSA Easter Cake Sale
Fri 25	Y3 trip to Chessington Zoo

APRIL	
Fri 1	Finish one hour earlier for Easter
Tue 19	Children return to school
Wed 27	Y4 trip to Thames Young Mariners
Wed 27	Nelson Class Assembly 9am

May	
Thur 5	Police to visit Reception
Mon 16	Y6 Bikeability
Fri 20	Firefighters to visit Reception
Wed 25	Y3-Y4 Tennis Competition

June	
Wed 8	Y6 Kids Out to Chessington
Fri 10	Y6 PGL Trip
Wed 15	Kusama Class Assembly
Thur 23	Sports Day
Fri 24	INSET Day
Tue 28	Y6 trip to Imperial War Museum
Wed 29	Y2 trip to Hampton Court

Class Assemblies 2022	
All are at 9am. Please wait by the main school office door after drop off. Thank you.	
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Cassatt Class Y3
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Nelson Class, Reception
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> May	O'Keefe Class Y1
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Kusama Class, Reception

### PCSA News

The PCSA are holding an Easter cake competition on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March! Please make sure any cakes made are nut-free. All proceeds from sales will go to the KS1 Playground appeal. Prizes for the best cakes are family cinema tickets and Easter treats. Good luck! The last cake sale raised a whopping £350 for the Big Outdoors Project, taking us closer to having a wonderful new KS1 playground. Take a look at the noticeboard outside the EYFS gate at the front of the school to see the plans for the new playground. The children are already very excited about it. The PCSA AGM is on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March** at the Spring Grove pub on Bloomfield Road from 8pm. All parents and carers are welcome to come along to this sociable setting and find out more about the work of the PCSA, events they run, share their ideas and support fundraising for the outdoor area. It's a great time to have a chat, too, and meet other parents.

**KING ATHELSTAN PCSA**  
**EASTER CAKE COMPETITION**  
 FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 2022

TO ENTER PLEASE MAKE A 6" CAKE OR 6 CUPCAKES WITH AN EASTER THEME TO DONATE TO OUR CAKE SALE  
 Make sure your cake is nut free and tasty!

First Prize: Family cinema tickets  
 Runners Up: Easter crafts and chocolate treats

Bring your entry (clearly labelled with name and class) to morning drop off on Friday 25th March and the winner will be announced at the cake sale after school.

All cakes will be sold to raise money for the Big Outdoors Project