



King Athelstan Weekly Digest Issue 9 – Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Families,

This week, our school rule focus was our third PRIDE value of "imagination". Next week we will be focussing on 'diving deeper'.

In our current events assembly we talked about the history of firework night and the gunpowder plot. We know that lots of families will be attending organised fireworks events this weekend. We hope you have a great time.

This Sunday is Remembrance Day. On Monday, we will be marking the 2-minute silence with our KS2 children in assembly, and with younger year groups in an age-appropriate way. Thank you to the Junior Leadership Team that have been selling poppy merchandise this week on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

Thank you to all families who completed Christmas cards with their children as part of PCSA fundraising. Each year the SLT select a card to be the school Christmas card that is sent to our colleagues in other services and contractors we work with. Well done to Harry in Hockney Class whose card was selected this year (see below).

Don't forget it is the Parent Carer Forum on Thursday 21st November at 9am. Please submit any agenda items here: <https://forms.gle/pPJXpmmqyYaYN45s9>

Emily Newton, Headteacher



Y5 & Y6 Sportshall Athletics

30 children from across Y5 and Y6 attended the Sportshall Athletics meet at this week. Mr McLaughlin was so proud of them for their good behaviour and even better sports skills! The children participated in a number of different track and field events including soft javelin, triple jump, chest push, speed bounce and relay races. All



of the children represented the school really well and persevered to achieve their absolute best. A particular mention needs to go to all of the children for their excellent efforts in the running events (often coming back from behind to win or achieve 2nd place). Thanks to Miss Penny, Rachel (Lenny's mum) and Kathryn (Arthur's mum) for helping on the day. Your support helped the afternoon run very smoothly.

King Athelstan Christmas Cards

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the school Christmas card this year is Harry in Hockney Class, Y2. His picture will be used for the official school Christmas card, and will also be used on the estate agents' boards to advertise the PCSA Festive Fair on Saturday 7th December. Well done Harry! There were many excellent entries and it was a very hard decision. Second place went to Teddy in Van Gogh Class Y1, and in third place was Nancy in Warhol Class Y5. All three will receive a prize, as will one runner-up from each class across the school. The Christmas card samples are going home today, and the deadline for ordering the cards is **Wednesday 13th November**.



Amazon Wish List

We have an ongoing Amazon Wish List which was started after families wanted to contribute items to school. There is no obligation to buy anything, but any purchases are very much appreciated. The link is: <https://amzn.eu/hcy87Hz>. We also have the voluntary overpayments items in ParentPay. Thank you.





Children in Need

We are once again supporting this amazing charity on Friday 15th November, when everyone can come to school wearing spotty accessories! There will be an item on ParentPay where families can donate directly to Children in Need.

Gardening Volunteering Opportunity

Just a reminder that we have an opportunity for one or more volunteers who are able to support our pupils tending our flourishing allotment. The role would be from 1pm to 3pm on Mondays during term time and would suit



someone who has a little knowledge of gardening or just lots of enthusiasm for the outdoors. Three groups of ten children visit the allotment each week (30 in total for an afternoon) and take part in activities such as weeding, planting, seeding, harvesting and watering. You will need to show you are willing to commit to a weekly role and satisfy safeguarding DBS checks. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact admin@kingathelstan.rbkksch.org by 29th November.

Childcare for School Meetings

We really appreciate your engagement as parents/carers with us at school so we can work together to support your children as effectively as possible. **We try hard to give advanced notice of meetings, wherever possible, and request that you use this time to make suitable arrangements for your children to be cared for during these meetings.** Whilst we can occasionally accommodate supervising one or two children for a short period during an unexpected and urgent meeting (e.g. a discussion after school about an incident that has occurred during that day), we are unable to routinely provide childcare for larger numbers of children (e.g. during parent/carer consultations) or for longer meetings. We are seeing an increase in families expecting this type of support at a time when our resources are increasingly stretched. It can be helpful to make agreements with other families to supervise each other's children during any meetings. For example, as many meetings will occur after school, you may find that another parent is willing to supervise your child, e.g. in the park, until you can pick them up when you are finished. We are also happy, in many cases, to meet virtually if this supports your childcare arrangements. Thank you for your understanding.

Medicines in School

If your child requires short term medication, such as antibiotics, the school will be able to administer it if it is required 4 or more times per day. In this case, please complete the form [here](#). We can only give medication in school within the instructions detailed in this form. If the medication is required 3 times per day or less, parents/carers will need to administer it outside of school time. For further information please see our [Medicines Policy](#).

Attendance

We have recently sent out emails letting families know about their child's attendance levels so far for this half term. For the majority of families this is purely for your information. If your child's attendance is less than 90% our Welfare and Attendance Officer, Ms Natali O'Farrell, will contact you in the coming weeks to look at ways to support your child's attendance going forward. At this point in the year, we know that a significant illness, such as chicken pox, may bring your child's attendance down considerably and we will take this into consideration. The progress of each child at King



Athelstan is central to our school ethos. Being in school and having the best attendance possible underpins a child's education, their learning, wellbeing and wider development. Regular attendance is essential to ensure a child's uninterrupted progress and to enable them to achieve their potential. All children should be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them by law. As a school, we expect all children to attend every day as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. A child's attendance should be at least 96% across the year. Anything below 90% is considered 'Persistent Absence' and means that the child is missing a considerable amount of their education.

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week, 11th-15th November, is Anti-Bullying week and the theme is 'Choose Respect'. We will be doing a special assembly and classes will participate in a range of activities over the course of the week.



Achievement Assembly



Achievement Award

Van Gogh Y1 - Jesse	O'Keeffe Y1 - Genevieve
Matisse Y2 - Theo	Hockney Y2 - Kayden
Cassatt Y3 - Uzay	Da Vinci Y3 - Su
Mehretu Y4 - Zayd	Wiley Y4 - Jake
Dali Y5 - Ryan	Warhol Y5 - Adam
Riley Y6 - Ava	Kahlo Y6 - Hai Yen
KS1 PE Elsie in Hockney class	KS2 PE Nicholas in Riley class

Thank you to James In Riley Class Y6 for playing the piano to accompany KS2 assembly, and also to Giulia in Matisse Class Y2 for playing beautifully at the KS1 assembly.

Times Tables Rock Stars/NumBots Maths Champions this week:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Durrah	Jayson	King	Ruby	Max P	Elaie
Dario	Faid	Sirine		Ben	Mariline

House Points

This week, **Yellow (Cambridge)** are the winners with 30 points. Red (Dawson) are in second place with 26, and there is a tie on 24 points for Blue (Hawks) and Green (Villiers). Well done, all.



PCSA

Contact: kingathelstanpcsa@gmail.com



The **PCSA Halloween maps** - these raised £80, as well as providing a fun, safe activity for the children over half-term.

Art-K - a local art business, is offering a trial session for one of their local kids' art classes. Scan the QR code in the flyer, or on the PCSA noticeboard outside school, to book a place.

Festive Fair - on 7th December from 12pm - 3pm. Plans are in full swing. Speak to your class rep about volunteering to help run the stands, even for an hour, to make it a huge success. Thank you.



DATES FOR THE DIARY	
NOVEMBER 2024	
Monday 11	Y2 trip to Bushy Park - please go to ParentPay
Tuesday 12	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 3.30-6.30pm in person (Matisse only)
Thursday 14	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings 4-6.30pm online (Matisse only)
Friday 15	Children in Need - wear spotty accessories and donate on ParentPay
Wednesday 20	Y5 Warhol Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 20	Y4 Wiley Class to Kingston Synagogue
Saturday 23	PCSA Family Rave at St John's - for ticket link, see PCSA noticeboard
Tuesday 26	Y5 & Y6 Cross Country Competition - invited children only
Wednesday 27	Y4 Wiley Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 27	Y5 Trip to the Science Museum - please go to ParentPay
Thursday 28	Y4 Mehretu Class to Kingston Synagogue
Friday 29	Cake Sale Y5 3.15pm
DECEMBER 2024	
Monday 2	Y5 Viking Day
Tuesday 3	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Parent/Carer Meeting 3.20pm
Wednesday 4	Y6 Riley Class Assembly 9am
Friday 6	Y3 to Kingston College - Panto Workshop - please go to ParentPay
Monday 9	Y2 Matisse Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Monday 9	Y2 Hockney Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Monday 9	Last week of clubs
Saturday 7	Festive Fair 12-3pm
Tuesday 10	Reception Nelson Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Wednesday 11	Y1 Van Gogh Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 11	Y1 O'Keeffe Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 12	Reception Kusama Christmas Assembly 9.15am
Thursday 12	Nursery AM Christmas Singing & Crafts 11-11.30am
Thursday 12	Nursery PM Christmas Singing & Crafts 12.30-1pm
Tuesday 17	Y4 trip to the Rose Theatre - pick up at Rose at 4.15pm
Friday 20	Break up for Christmas one hour early - No KOOSA Kids on this day
JANUARY 2025	
Monday 6	Inset Day - children not in school
Friday 10	Y5 first swimming lesson
Wednesday 15	Deadline for applications for Reception places in September 2025
Wednesday 29	Y2 Matisse Class Assembly 9am
Friday 31	Cake Sale Y4 3.15pm
Friday 31	PCSA Gig Night at the Fighting Cocks from 7pm
FEBRUARY 2025	
Wednesday 5	EYFS Museum
Wednesday 5	Y3 Da Vinci Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 12	Y6 Kahlo Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 13	Book Looks

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 at Christmas - Kingston First (Business Improvement District) has organised an exciting range of Christmas activities in Kingston town centre from 14 November 2024 - 5 January 2025. The popular Christmas Market will make a return, filled with unique gifts and artisan food, including a festive bar, and a stage with live music performances. New this year is a free Nutcracker Trail, featuring 15 life-sized Nutcracker statues hidden around the town centre, with an opportunity to win a Christmas hamper. Plus, the first 300 trail-goers will win an exclusive wooden tree decoration! The town's evolving festive offering also includes a pop-up crafts stall featuring free activities that kids will love, from personalised mini wreaths to magical decorations. All of this alongside the incredible retail, hospitality and entertainment offer, means there's no place like Kingston this Christmas!



Autism Spectrum Disorder - The following session is free and available for families of children with ASD. Please register on the link in the flyer so they know how many people to expect.



The Rotary Club Art Competition - The Rotary Club of Kingston, New Malden and Surbiton have pleasure in providing the opportunity for students to participate in the 2024/25 Borough wide art competition for primary school children. The four entry categories are: Year 1, Years 2 and 3, Years 4 and 5 and then Year 6. There will be prizes for the individual winners and their schools. The title for the 2024/25 competition is 'I am alive, I have wings and I can fly'. This can be interpreted broadly and we very much look forward to viewing the students' imaginative submissions. The judging of the competition will take place before the end of the Spring Term and therefore the deadline for submitting the art work is **28th February 2025**. Details of how to submit work to follow.



Kingston Music Service - Music lessons. Learn a new instrument: piano, trumpet, violin, guitar, Flute, clarinet any many more! Or join a youth band - brass or strings. Lessons available in Kingston schools or in Music centres around the borough, after school and at weekends. Scan the QR code on the flyer, or go to : <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/music>

