

Message from Shona Pitcher

Headteacher

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas... and the school certainly has a festive feel about it! The Year 6 children have been making their advent calendars this week to take home and share with their families. Thank you to our volunteers who have been into school this week to support the children with their amazing sewing projects.

The school has been bustling with activity this week in preparation for the Christmas fair and I look forward to welcoming you into school tomorrow. The staff will be running the Pick a Pine Needle stall. Please do pop along and say hello to them and try your luck at winning a stamp on your prize card! We hope that you enjoy this exciting event and a huge thank you to everyone that has been involved in preparations so far.



We had a great Anti-Bullying Week, including wearing odd socks to show our solidarity in stopping bullying.

The children had class discussions and assemblies to help them understand what bullying is, how to ask for help and support others in stopping it. This year's theme was 'Choose Respect' and I would like to share some of the wonderful posters children made for this.

Mr Cary

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to vote at Tesco for our Grand Avenue Wild Life Area project. We were lucky enough to win £500 which was donated by Tesco as part of their 'Stronger Starts' initiative. We will use the money, matched with money donated by GASPA, to restore the pond and provide new seating and learning resources so that it can once again be used by our children as both a learning and a calming area. We are planning a 'Volunteers Day' in Spring term, where we hope that members from the school community can come along to help us get started. We would be particularly grateful if anyone with experience in creating a pond could get in touch to offer advice and possibly some help in building the pond.



Thank you for those who attended the first Parent Forum of this academic year on 15th November. This was a well attended meeting with positive and interesting discussions.

[Please click here to visit the Parent Forum page](#) where the minutes can be found. Also attached is a document with positive parent feedback .

A Note on Dangerous Gifts from the Child Accident Prevention Trust

December is on the horizon and that can mean the start to a busy time for Christmas shopping. However, not all presents are created equally. More than ever our Christmas shopping is done online from an increasingly varied list of providers. From imitation manufacturers, to sellers platforms like Etsy and to third party small businesses that use known provider logistics services, we're all trusting people ever further removed from us to provide high quality goods.

Unfortunately, this is far from guaranteed. Production firms abroad or within a 'cottage industry' may not have the strict manufacturing standards applied in the UK, or expected as industry standard. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has published a list of eight gifts most likely to cause an accident this year. [Please click here for details](#). It's always important to remember that prevention is always better than repairing.



Ananigaa (3W) was awarded 3 gold badges from the Kingston festival performing Arts 2024. These were awarded for choral speaking and writing and reading her own poem.

Well done Ananigaa.



This week 3S performed to parents and carers their newly found ukulele skills. It was a lovely performance and the children wowed the audience with a number of popular songs including Roar!



Butterflies' weekly visit to the library was very special . They were able to sit around the Christmas tree to listen to a story.

As part of Kingston Council, the Kingston Adult Education provides a range of courses to people aged 19 or over. Many of the courses are free and take place in school hours. Please see the attached document with more details.

There are a number of courses starting in January, please see their latest prospectus for further details about these courses as well as their wider offering: bit.ly/KAE-2425prospectus

The classes take place both online and at centres across the Royal Borough of Kingston. For further information, please contact Kingston Adult Education directly on 020 8547 6700 or at adult.education@kingston.gov.uk

Weekly House Points

Here are this weeks house points. Well done to Painshill.

Painshill	123
Kew	117
Richmond	106
Wisley	104
Norbury	88
Claremont	88

LOST RING

A member of the school community has lost a gold ring which is of great sentimental value. It was lost leaving school at the lower gate.

Please can you keep an eye out and if you do see the missing ring, please take to the School Office.

Thank you.



Spotlight on attendance

Congratulations to **6C** who have had the highest attendance this week (100%).

Dates for your Diary

Sat, 30th Nov	ALL	GASPA Christmas Fair
Mon, 2nd Dec	4SP	Drumming Performance @ 2.40pm
Mon, 2nd Dec	YR2	Firefighter Visit
Tues, 3rd Dec	YR 6	National Army Museum
Tues, 3rd Dec	RBF	Butterflies Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Weds, 4th Dec	RL	Ladybirds Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Wed, 4th & Thurs 5th Dec	Y1	Festive craft afternoon @2pm
Thurs, 5th Dec	RBB	Bumblebees Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Thurs, 5th Dec	GS	Grand Singers at John Lewis
Fri, 6th Dec	YR1-6	GASPA School Disco
Tues, 10th Dec	5L	Violin performance @ 2.30pm
Weds, 11th Dec	YR 2/3	Christmas Performance @ 9.15am
Thurs, 12th Dec	ALL	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs, 12th Dec	R—YR 6	Christmas lunch
Fri, 13th Dec	YR 2/3	Christmas Performance @ 1.45pm
Thurs, 12th Dec	N	Sing-a-long @ 11am (AM class) @ 2.30pm (PM class)
Fri, 13th Dec	YR5	Design & Technology class gallery @ 2.45pm
Fri, 20th Dec	N	Nursery Christmas Party
Fri, 20th Dec	ALL	Last day of Autumn Term
Mon, 6th Jan 2025	ALL	First day of Spring Term