

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year two of our TKA journey and a new phase in our wonderfully refurbished building. It provides our History makers with state of the art technology and flexible learning spaces to achieve their very best. We are very proud of our new school building but recognise there is still work to be done to get it where we want it to be for our staff and pupils. We do have a large area to the rear of the site that is available for all pupils at lunch and break, weather permitting. This playground is for football, basketball and table tennis. The Quad and front playground are solely for the purpose of reading and relaxation. Areas of the school that appear as large areas of earth are awaiting artificial grass and we hope to have this resolved by no later than half term.

I'm sure many of you read about the Headteacher in Kent who took a particular stance on school uniform. I applaud his determination to set the bar high, as we do at TKA. I have no intention of turning pupils away from school for uniform infringements at this early stage in the term. Pupils should be proud to wear the TKA uniform and I want to congratulate our pupils on looking exceptionally smart this week. Parents/carers are crucial to ensuring this standard is maintained and I appreciate your support in this regard. Please be aware that the TKA skirt is the only skirt permitted to be worn and this may be purchased from School Zone, third floor in Bentalls.

There will be a new parents' information evening next Tuesday 13th September where we will be distributing the Chromebooks and presenting new parents with information on assessment and e-safety.

I am very keen to ensure that parents and carers have the opportunity to shape the way our school develops. I will therefore be introducing a monthly drop-in session where members of our Leadership Team and I will be available for parents to come and talk to informally about any general aspect of the schools work. Specific queries relating to your child should be referred via their tutor. The first drop-in session will be at 10:15am on Friday 23rd September in the Conference Room. If you are unable to attend these drop-ins, yet you have an observation or suggestion you wish to share with us, please email askmyschool@thekingstonacademy.org.

We are really looking forward to working with your family in what will be an action packed, eventful and no doubt successful year for us all.

Kind regards

Ms Sophie Cavanagh



**School
ends early
at 3pm on
a Friday.**

**Year 7
Parents:**

**Please
complete the
lease
agreement on
Chromebooks
as these will
be distributed
next week.**

New TKA staff

We are delighted to welcome new staff to the team this year

Teaching staff:

Eryn Caddick—Intervention

Chris Couling—PE

Maria Cruz—English

Guillermo De Lope—Teaching assistant

Monica Jang— Mandarin

Shahina Khatun—Maths

Mark O'Brien—DT

Martin O'Brien— Geography

Gianella Negrotti—Assistant Head Teaching & learning (maternity cover) and History

Operational staff:

Natalie Russell—Data analyst

Gemma Cole—Administrative apprentice

Melanie Hallows—Education Welfare officer

David Harris—Facilities manager



Mandarin lessons will be starting on Monday 12th September in Q1-3

Year 8 lesson—7.45am-8.30am

Year 7 lesson—1.15pm-1.50pm

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Clubs this half term

We are proud to offer a diverse and engaging range of clubs. All pupils are expected to attend at least ONE club a week. Please sign up!

New clubs this term:

- ⇒ Tech club
- ⇒ Juggling
- ⇒ Chess club
- ⇒ Minecraft club (Y8 only this term)
- ⇒ Games club
- ⇒ Acapella group
- ⇒ Card masters
- ⇒ Politics club
- ⇒ Creative writing

Other clubs this term:

- ⇒ Drama
- ⇒ Art
- ⇒ Choir
- ⇒ Science
- ⇒ Netball
- ⇒ Rugby
- ⇒ Chatterbooks
- ⇒ School Council



New **Going Beyond** programme for Year 8

We continue to offer the Year 8 pupils a varied Going Beyond programme and the following activities started on Friday 9th September.

Ms Cruz (school magazine)

Ms Linch (art project)

Mr Virgo (debating)

Mr O'Brien from DT (life skills)

Mr O'Brien from Geography (navigation and campcraft)

Mr Sheppard (first aid)



The Year 8 pupils will be assessed using a TKA Going Beyond passport which focuses on the key skills and performance over the duration of the programme.

My first week at TKA...

"All the teachers are really friendly. I enjoyed Science because we used Bunsen burners."

Aidan

"It wasn't as scary as I thought! I've enjoyed everything"

Jennifer

"I liked the Philosophy lesson because of the story of Hiroo Onoda."

George

"It's been great! I loved Science."

Roah

"The Spanish lessons were good because it's good to learn a new language."

Louis

"I liked the Maths lessons because they're fun and I could understand the work"

Suraj

Friends of TKA

A very warm welcome to all our new parents from the school's PTA which is called Friends of The Kingston Academy or FOTKA for short. We had a very successful first year with some great events organised and a healthy amount of fundraising taking place. Now our pupil and parent / carer numbers have doubled we are really looking forward to growing and building on this!

Please do get involved in any way you can - we are always keen to see you at our meetings but if you are unable to attend please do get in contact with us via **Kath Williams in the School Office**. If you are on Facebook please join our Friends of the Kingston Academy group.

Our first get together will be at school on the morning of Friday 30th September between 10.30am and 11.30am when we will be holding a cake sale and coffee morning with all proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Care. We ask for donations of cakes (no nuts please) on the morning of the sale. Last year was a great success with almost £300 raised and a few excellent cake makers coming to light!

Our first FOTKA meeting is planned for an evening at the start of October (date to be announced) where we'll discuss upcoming events including our first Christmas & Enterprise Fair, Disco for the pupils and charity challenges to name but a few. All new ideas very welcome too!

Finally, please do support the FOTKA School Lottery. It is very easy to register and at only £1 per week it's an easy way to support the school whilst giving yourself a chance of winning prizes; the more members we have the bigger the weekly prize fund! Just go to <http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/> and search for The Kingston Academy.

Thanks very much and look forward to meeting you.

Catherine Havers - FOTKA Chair

IMPORTANT dates for 2016-2017

Tuesday 13th September at 6pm—New Y7 Parents' Evening

Thursday 15th September 2016 at 7pm—Y8 Presentation evening

Thursday 13th October 2016 5-8pm—Year 6 Open Evening

Half term holiday: Fri 14th October 2016—Fri 28th October 2016

Christmas holiday: Fri 16th December 2016—Tuesday 2nd Jan

Pupils return to school on Wednesday 4th January 2017