

Dear Parents / carers,

As the last few hours of our very first term tick away, it presents an ideal opportunity to reflect on how far we have all come together and how much we have achieved.

Our History Makers, all 133 of them, should be very proud of what they are beginning to build with our TKA staff. It is clear from the many daily visits my colleagues and I make to lessons that pupils are working well and making very good progress in their learning across the curriculum. They have certainly earned a rest!

I do hope that word has spread about our planning application being passed last night. The refurbishment works are under way in the existing building and this means we will occupy this original building in the summer term of 2016. This will then give way for the construction of our brand new building. This is a huge milestone and secures the way forward for your child to benefit from the very latest educational facilities locally.

The Rose Theatre was such a highlight for many this term. We promised that we would share the filming of this with you and, by way of a small Christmas present, please click on the link below to view the entire concert:

<https://youtu.be/jHd-OCz19ns>

Finally, my thanks to you for supporting your child and your school over these crucial first few weeks. We will continue to develop and improve how we work with you as the school grows. We may not be quite perfect yet, but we have our sights firmly set on delivering the high quality experience every child deserves.

Wishing you and your family a very restful and festive break.

Sophie Cavanagh, Head teacher.



Many thanks to Layan from 7Hg who made an impressive TKA themed Christmas cake for the staff. Needless to say it went down very well in the staff room!



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@TheKingstonAca



DOUBLE ISSUE!

- House of Parliament trip
- Assembly celebrations
- The Big Wrap
- Dance club
- Carol concert
- Brit In Space

Houses of Parliament trip

On Monday 14th December, School Council and Debate Club went to The Houses of Parliament.

The people who were involved were Lily, Maia, Theo, Joseph, Sam, Hussain, Ismail, Angelina, Ayah and the two teachers that came were Miss Wade and Mrs Williams.

We met James Berry again and asked him some questions about Syria, being an MP and the current Primary school project in Surbiton. We got the chance to see the speaker's chair in the House of Commons and a solid gold chair for the Queen's speech! When we had finished our tour we ate lunch and spoke about what we had seen. All in all, it was a once in a lifetime experience, especially with only a few TKA students!

By Lily, Maia and Theo



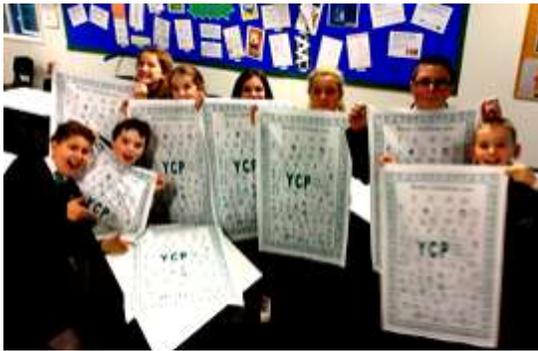
Celebration assembly

This Monday's whole school assembly celebrated our pupils' achievements and progress across academic subjects, 100% attendance and punctuality as well as living out our core values of: Resilience, Integrity, Generosity, Fulfilment and Creativity. Mr Sheppard announced many impressive achievements while the Heads of House presented the certificates. Ms Wade's House (Berners-Lee) is currently leading the House competition, but with lots still to play for! Our History makers are pictured below with Ms Toynbee, Ms Cavanagh, Mr Deveson and Dr Keaney.





The Big Wrap!



Generosity was in action on Monday when every transition group took part in a charity event for the Young Carers' Project who support the needs of 450 young carers who do extraordinary things for their families in our borough. Every TKA pupil wrapped a total of 150 specially designed tea towel featuring members of the YCP group. Thanks to Mrs J. Williamson from Friends of TKA for organising as well as Cat from the project who delivered an informative assembly to our History Makers. If you would like further information about the project, please go to:

<http://kingstoncarers.org.uk/young-carers>

UN Climate change conference



Last week all the world leaders met to have a significant conference discussing climate change: it is a major issue in the world. David Cameron is attending this meeting which is being held in Paris.

Climate change is linked to the temperature of the world. Over the last few years, the world has been increasing in temperature more quickly than in the past, due to pollution. For example, when we burn oil or coal to produce energy for our homes, they release carbon dioxide. This is part of what makes climate change a concerning matter. Scientists agree that humans need to find a solution to sort this problem out. This is what is being discussed in Paris.

"How will climate change affect us?" is a question asked by many of us. Climate change is making ice melt and ruins habitats of animals. In fact, experts say that if the planet's temperature goes up by more than two degrees Celsius, sea levels will rise so much that low lying coastal areas and islands could end up underwater. This is definitely an issue that needs to be resolved.

The conference will be based about greenhouse gases that are causing this problem. Hopefully, world leaders will be able to make a long term plan to limit the damage caused to the planet. Additionally, they will try to find a way to decrease the rising temperatures by focusing on renewable types of energy like wind, solar and wave power, and reducing energy waste. Richer countries including the UK and USA have promised to help poorer ones, but they disagree about the amount of money on offer. In conclusion, this issue will hopefully be solved by our world leaders in the upcoming weeks.

By Layan 7 Hg *Since writing this article the world's leaders have agreed to limit climate change to a 2 degree temperature rise.

Dance club performance



Members of Dance Club performed their Christmas dance to an eager lunchtime audience this week. They rocked around the Christmas tree.

Look out for future performances!

Well done to: Teju, Georgia, Layan, Leah, Domile, Maeve, Annelise, Maria, Leyla, Morgan and Tess.



Congratulations to Lily who has been awarded several prizes this year for her Dance performances at Teddington Dance School.

A merry Christmas from Meg, our TKA mascot!



Carol concert



On Friday Mrs Headley led a performance of carols and festive music.

Sydney (cello) and Johanna (piano) played Silent Night, Sophia and Layan (both violin) played Santa Claus is coming to town. The choir sounded angelic with Candlelight Carol; a rousing It's the most wonderful time of the year and the German Stille Nach was a fitting song.



The staff gave an 'accomplished' performance of the 12 days of TKA Christmas and thanks must go to Friends of TKA who had organised a fundraising raffle.





Spotlight on.....STEM

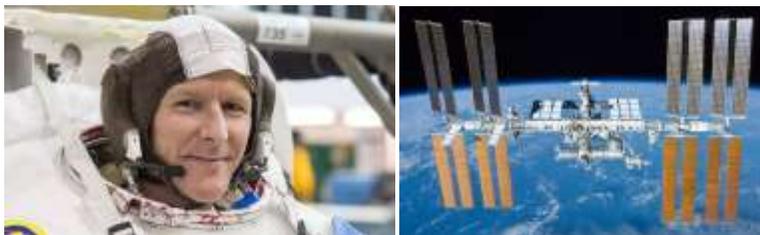
Final countdown!

On Tuesday 15th December our History Makers witnessed a very special moment: British man, Tim Peake, launched into space. His mission is called Principia and he will be based in the International Space Station. By the time he returns next year he will have lapped the planet 2,700 times!

Follow his progress on Twitter:

@astro_timpeake and follow the location of the ISS at:

<http://spotthestation.nasa.gov/sightings/>
#.Vm_wIIWLTVY



Important Dates for Term 1 (Autumn 2015)

Tuesday 5th January 2016 Term begins for pupils. School starts at 8:40am.

Tuesday 2nd February 2016 Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs.

Monday 15th—Friday 19th February 2016—Half term holiday.