

Head Teacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to inform you that we have a potential solution with regards to lockers. I know that for a number of pupils it has proved difficult to carry all of their equipment to school, particularly on days when they have PE.

We have sourced a supplier of lockers that are durable and weather proof so that we are able to have these installed outside. The lockers will be available for parents to hire on a yearly basis at a cost of £45 per year, payable termly via Parent Pay. Pupils will also have to provide a coded padlock. Padlocks using keys are not permitted to be used on these lockers. A sample of the locker is shown below and is available for parents/carers to view in Reception.

If you wish your child to have use of a locker, please email kwilliams@thekingstonacademy.org and make a payment of £15 via ParentPay for this term's use. For those who order the lockers, we anticipate having these available from after February half-term.

Unfortunately we are not able to provide a reduced termly rate despite the late installation of the lockers this term.

The solution is only proposed for this year. We will need to take a view as to whether we will be able to sustain this offer going forward due to the restricted space we will have on site.

I do hope that what we are able to offer as a temporary fix proves successful.

Yours sincerely,
Sophie Cavanagh



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Our TKA library is growing by the day! Our thanks must go to the families who have so generously donated—**it's much appreciated.**

We will be launching our online Reading Cloud very soon which will give pupils opportunities to access books online, write reviews and blogs as part of an online school community.

Rewards for reading!



Ms Wade led an assembly on Monday about the Reading challenge. We are now 5 months in and many pupils have really enjoyed reading a range of genres. Pictured left are: Morgan (Tera), Theo (Mega), Maria (Exa), Georgia (Peta) and Mariam (Kilo) who have all excelled both in the number and the range of books they have read since September.

Magical music making...

Sound Design Club started this week and have the exciting job of creating music and special effect sounds for the TKA production of *The Tempest*. We are very lucky to have Zia and Adam from Moranne & McGuinness who have extensive music writing experience and are working with the pupils to create original ideas for an interesting theatrical sound-scape.



It was a great turn out for Football club this week with around 40 girls and boys attending on the Tiffin astro-pitch.

If you would like further details about the clubs on offer this term, please contact cbriggs@thekingstonacademy.org



Spotlight on STEM

In Science TKA pupils having started the year with a new Biology topic on the science of new life: reproduction. Pupils are learning about the life cycles of fish, birds, mammals and humans. They are being introduced to the concepts of fertilisation, gestation, birth and puberty.

Our first practical of the year is to look at the structure of an unfertilised hen egg. This is a very simple practical that can be done at home with younger siblings. Eggs are placed in a jar and covered in vinegar. After approximately one week the egg shell will have dissolved, allowing the internal contents of the egg to be removed whole. Pupils will then carefully dissect the egg, looking for key structures of the egg and appreciating how these structures contribute to the successful life cycle of a bird. The topic of reproduction is the fourth topic out of nine in Y7, with three topics being covered each term (one from each Science). The programme of study is shown below:

Term	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Autumn	Cells and organs	Mixtures and separation	Energy
Spring	Reproduction	Acids and alkalis	Electricity
Summer	Muscles and bones	Particle model	Forces



Members of Science Club: Zach, Ollie, Morgan, Molly, Monty, Archie, Adil, Val, John, Amerali and Walid.



Dr Keaney dissectioning TKA's medical model , 'Davina'!

The TKA Netball team showed great resilience in the biting cold of Thursday afternoon during their fixture against Tiffin Girls' School. Although we were beaten, the girls really showed improvement during the match and worked as a team, encouraging each other.

Mariam was voted as Lady of the Match and we look forward to more matches where we can hone our skills. *Pictured below: Molly PD, Amy, Simrat, Fia, Alys, Molly H, Sophia. Back row: Angelina and Mariam*



Important Dates for Term 1 (Autumn 2016)

Tuesday 2nd February—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs. Pupils home at 12pm.

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

Thursday 25th February—The Tempest, ACT, Kingston College. Performance at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

Wednesday 9th March—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs.

Friday 25th (Good Friday)—Tuesday 12th April—Easter holiday

Monday 11th April—Staff training morning 8-12. Pupil progress meetings with parents' in afternoon.

Tuesday 12th April—Pupils return to school at 8.35am.

Thursday 19th May—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs.

Monday 20th June—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs.

Advance notice—School Camp for all pupils—Tuesday 5th– Friday 8th July 2016