

## Head Teacher's Update

Dear Parent/Carers

As you may have heard, we have had a few issues relating to our water supply this week. The temporary mains feed to the Portacabins froze on Tuesday. We have planned for such an eventuality and thus we were quickly able to respond to the situation and prevent a school closure.

Pupils were provided with bottled water and access to toilet facilities at Fern Hill Primary School. Unfortunately we have had to revert to this plan today with a further interruption to the supply.

I would like to thank all the pupils and staff for their resilience and Fern Hill for their generosity. Such challenges are inevitable at this time but we are prepared to respond creatively to ensure we remain open to our community.

This week TKA was represented at BETT, a national exhibition held annually that showcases all the very best use of technology in an educational setting. Mr Smith attended on our behalf along with 3 of our Chrome Captains. Our work with Google and chrome books is really taking shape and it's great to be able to showcase this excellent work.

I would finally just like to remind parents that our recruitment drive is well under way. Details are available on our website. Please do share these far and wide!

Yours sincerely,

Sophie Cavanagh



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**A photographer will be in school on Tuesday 26th Jan to take individual photographs of the pupils.**

# Thank you! £88.31

raised by TKA for Kingston Young Carers

Every pupil has been given a red pen. This is now part of our equipment list. It is **intended that pupils use this pen to respond to their teacher's comments and we hope it will show how pupils are making corrections and additions to written work.**



# Parent survey results

Many thanks for taking the time to complete the Parent Survey last term. We had 119 responses which is 89% of the cohort. The results were overwhelmingly positive.

Parent View Survey - Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	School response to Parent View
I have looked at the homework tasks on the website		Yes 88.9%	No 6.8%	Not sure 4.3%	We continue to publish the weekly homework tasks on the website.
What are your thoughts about the homework tasks set?	Right amount 72.6%	Not sure 7.7%	Too much- 13.7%	Not enough 6%	We continue to allocate 40 minutes for each subject and adapt homework tasks to the needs of each pupil. Research shows that homework adds approximately 5 months of progress.
I feel my son / daughter is being challenged with HOMEWORK across all subjects	30.8%	56%	6%	Not sure 8.5%	Homework tasks across all core subjects are set once a week; other subjects are set at least twice per half term.
I think my son /daughter is being challenged with CLASSWORK across all subjects	30.8%	57.3%	5%	Not sure 8.5%	Our Teaching & Learning policy embeds differentiated tasks in every lesson where pupils are encouraged to take risks and embrace mistakes in order to make progress.
Their exercise books are regularly marked.	41.9%	47%	5%	Not sure 7%	SLT monitor marking and feedback regularly. Pupils have also been given red pens to respond to teachers' comments and gap tasks.
Has your child attended a school club or clubs this term?	Yes 98%	No 2%			We expect all pupils to attend at least 1 club every week and this club offer is updated each term.
I am pleased with the clubs on offer.	49%	44%	5%	0.8%	We continue to review our club offers in the light of feedback.
I am pleased with the Friday 'Going Beyond' activities (Karate, Conservation, Dance, Thames Young Mariners)	70.9%	26.5%	0.9%	Not Sure 1.7%	We continue to review the activities for Going Beyond and make adjustments to the timings and activities.
I understand the reward and sanction system.	40.2%	46.2%	11.1%	2.6%	We have included more information about the rewards and sanctions on the website.
I feel the school regularly communicates with me.	57%	40%	2.9%	0%	We continue to email parents weekly and publish TKA Times on the website each week.
I feel the transition process has been successful	64%	34.2%	0.9%	Not sure 2.6%	Tutors continue to work with their tutees and parents to support academic and pastoral needs.
I feel the feedback my child receives (in books and verbal) is helping them make progress	38.7%	52.1%	0.8%	Not sure 8.4%	SLT continue to monitor the feedback in books and Google Classroom as well as regularly visiting lessons.
I feel I can easily ask questions and raise concerns with the school	60.5%	39.5%			Any concerns can be raised via the tutor and who may refer the matter to a Head of House or Lead Teacher.
I am confident that any concerns raised will be taken seriously and acted upon	57.1%	42%	0.8%		
I feel my child is safe at The Kingston Academy	70.5%	25.7%	1%	2.9%	We continue to maintain our safeguarding responsibilities and have increased SLT presence at the Richmond Road bus stop.



# Spotlight on STEM



At Science club we launched air rockets out of balloons, straws and paper clips. The rocket teams were called: Star Wars (Millennium Falcon), Simplicity, Tardis, Big Bertha and The Terminator Duckling. It was fun because even if you didn't get very far everybody cheered. The winners were Val, Matteo, Alistair and Leo with a launch of 5 metres! Dr Keaney, Jessica and Laura from Kingston University, helped to build our rockets. **By Lily Pollard, 7Co.**



Our **TKA Lit Quiz team** are busy preparing for the Kingston school Lit Quiz on Thursday 11th February. The team have been given books to read in advance of the quiz by Kate Priestley from Kingston Library services. They are all very excited to be taking part as the inaugural team.

*Pictured below are: Mariam, Teju, Isabella, Kate Priestley from Kingston library service, Ismael M, Rowan and Reuben.*

Rehearsals are in full swing for **TKA's first Shakespeare production**. The play will be performed at the Arthur Cottrell theatre on Thursday 25th February at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets will be available from-school reception very soon.



### **Important Dates for Term 2 (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.**

**Wednesday 24th February**—The Tempest, ACT, Kingston College. Technical rehearsal at 12. Dress rehearsal at 2.30pm.

**Thursday 25th February**—The Tempest, ACT, Kingston College. Performances at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. **Families welcome at both performances.**

**Thursday 3rd March**—WORLD BOOK DAY—Pupils & staff to dress as literary character

**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.