

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of our academic year. We have a busy half term ahead with World Book Day next week, Times Table Rock Stars House competition, Science Rocket Days in partnership with Kingston University and of course, the soon to be much coveted Parent Quiz Cup!

Congratulations to all pupils and staff who were involved in putting on The Tempest at the Arthur Cotterell Theatre at Kingston College. I'm sure that all those who attended would agree that the pupils performed with great skill and confidence. I was especially encouraged to see so many pupils involved, including those beyond the stage, managing the front of house, backstage and even taking control of the lighting.

My thanks also to the staff and parents involved quietly behind the scenes. This performance was a huge accomplishment in such a short time, with only one year group to draw upon. I was extremely proud of our History Makers. It certainly bodes well for the future and we will continue to ensure that opportunities which develop and promote creativity are at the forefront of our planning and delivery. Roll on the next school production!

National Careers Week is looming and I would welcome parents writing a few lines about their own careers, with the starting point being a brief description of their role and then a brief statement that begins: *It's great to work in.....because...* It is so important that we raise pupils' awareness of the many opportunities that await them so we can build on their interests and enable them to make informed choices going forward. If you wish to contribute, please email your entry to careers@thekingstonacademy.org.

Kind regards,
Sophie Cavanagh

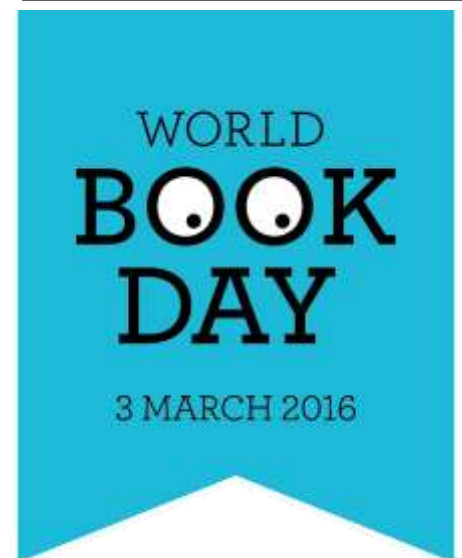
Supercool Liquid!

In the run up to **National Science and Engineering Week** (14th-18th March), we have managed to procure some liquid nitrogen from the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. Next week, TKA pupils will see demonstrations of the amazing properties of this ultracool liquid, in both Science and Design Technology lessons. Liquid nitrogen is kept in a special container at -196 C. It freezes everything it comes into contact with immediately. We hope this will be an exciting opportunity for our History Makers.



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Who will you dress as on World Book Day?

Pupils and staff will be celebrating by dressing as their favourite literary character on Thursday 3rd March

The Tempest

Our inaugural performance of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' was an enormous success this week. On Wednesday we hosted St Paul's and Fern Hill Primary Schools at the technical rehearsal at the Arthur Cotterell theatre in Kingston College. Then Thursday saw a matinee and sell out evening performance. Our partnership with Kingston College meant pupils had the opportunity to shadow the Performing Arts students and learn skills in all aspects of theatre and performance including sound, lighting and stage management. Friends of TKA generously provided refreshments and we are also very grateful to all the families who have supported our pupils over the last few weeks of rehearsals. We look forward to our 2017 production! Professional photographs of the performance will be available from next week via an online link.





Spotlight on STEM

In Monday's assembly we were visited by John Hatton, Project Manager and Scott Nicholls the Site Manager from Interserve. They gave us an update on the building work and an important safety message about the many dangers found on the site and in the building they are currently working in. Nick and Freya had the chance to model the safety helmets, high viz jackets, gloves and protective goggles to really appreciate how important health and safety is. The extensive building work is a unique opportunity in understanding the Engineering aspect of our specialism of STEM. We also recognise that not enough girls and women pursue an education and career in STEM and we are keen to challenge this trend!



An opportunity for pupil leadership has also arisen. We are looking for Construction Captains who will act as ambassadors for the pupil body by inspecting the work carried out as well as communicating directly with the Interserve team.

Below left—demolition work carried out during half term

Below right—Nick and Freya modelling the Health and safety gear.



Literature Quiz

We were delighted to come 4th in last term's Kingston Literature Quiz! Other schools who entered were: Tiffin Boys, Surbiton High, Kingston Grammar, Coombe Girls, Richard Challoner, Southborough and Tolworth Girls. Our team had read a selection of books including 'Silence is Goldfish' by Annabel Pitcher and 'The Wolf Wilder' by Katherine Rundell. The first round was based on these books; the second round was general knowledge and included questions on characters from literature. The TKA team were really proud to represent the Kingston Academy and are keen to enter again next year! *Pictured below are: Rowan, Isabelle, Mariam, Ismaeel, Reuben and Teju.*



Important Dates for Spring Term 2 and Summer Term 1

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. Pupils leave at 12.

Kingston University Discovery Days—Mon 21st March: Lovelace, Tue 22nd March: Curie, Wed 23rd March: Hawking, Thursday 24th March: Berners-Lee

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

Monday 11th April—Staff training morning 8-12pm. 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. Pupils leave at 12.

Monday 20th June—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs. Pupils leave at 12.