

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back! I do hope you all enjoyed a restful break and ate copious amounts of chocolate. It was lovely to see the staff and pupils return with a real spring in their step, ready for another busy term at TKA! We have already made a great start to the term in so many ways.

This week we had our first ever Subject Progress Meetings with parents. This was an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss their child's progress in all curriculum areas. Due to the size of our school this was quite a logistical feat with some staff seeing over 100 parents across the two sessions. I want to thank the staff and parents for making these sessions so worthwhile. I know from speaking to many parents at these meetings that they were well received and very informative. Whilst we will have greater capacity as we grow, it is important that we understand how the experience was for all parents, so if you do have any feedback, please contact Mr. Sheppard. For any parents who did not make these meetings, we will contact you so you have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress report in greater depth.

We had two new members of the team join us this week. Karen Churms started as our School Business Manager and will be crucial in refining our business practices and financial efficiencies. Karen is an experienced leader in this field and we are already reaping the benefits of having her on our team. Alex Lockett joins as the youngest member of the staffing body. He is an accomplished sportsman, graduating recently with first class honours. Alex has extensive experience of supporting young people and he will be working as part of our Inclusion team and will be coaching Tennis and Cricket this term.

The building work is gathering momentum as many of you will have seen from our Twitter feed. Our Construction Captains paid a visit to the site yesterday and will be providing a full report in next week's edition of TKA Times. If you aren't yet following us yet on Twitter, please do as it is a great way to stay in touch with the school's progress.

The summer term can be viewed by some as a less demanding term. The summer evenings are longer and we all have one eye on that summer holiday that doesn't seem that far away now. Please be assured at TKA we have no intention of taking our foot off the pedal in a summer term. There is much work to be done and we expect staff and pupils to maintain their work ethic and commitment right up to the last day of term.

We are looking forward to Camp 2016 when all Year 7 will spend 3 nights away. Whilst away, we will be pushing the boundaries and challenging pupils to deepen their resilience and creativity, showing integrity and generosity at all times, culminating in a well deserved sense of fulfilment upon their return. Dr. Keaney is leading on Camp 2016 and we will be send more details on this next week.

I look forward to working with you all over this summer term which promises to be another productive and exciting chapter in our journey.

Kind regards,

Sophie Cavangh



Payment reminder

GLOBE PLAYERS performance

Thursday 21st April

9.30am in School Hall

to mark the

400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death

Please make a £4.50 payment via Parent Pay by Friday 15th April at the latest.

New TKA Staff



We are delighted to welcome Karen Churms (pictured left) to the role of School Business Manager. Karen previously worked at Burlington Infants School and is keen to get to grips with the exciting challenges that lie ahead. Alex Lockett (pictured right) is our new Inclusion



team member, will be teaching in PE as well as working with pupil premium pupils. He is looking forward to coaching the cricket and tennis teams.

Friends of TKA lottery

It's only a week until the first draw of the FoTKA lottery on Friday 23rd April.

You can start supporting TKA now for only £1 a week and all profits go to OUR school! There's a GUARANTEED prize to someone on our supporter list every week and a further chance of winning £25,000 in a separate draw every week.

Do spread the word – anyone can participate – Grandparents, carers, the local community.

Click the link to sign up – the more members, the bigger the weekly prize fund:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-kingston-academy>

Spotlight on STEM

During Monday's assembly, Ben Kahn, from the Education Liaison team at Kingston University visited us as part of our partnership with the university. He had previously worked with us on the Water Rocket Days and shared with us his own educational pathway.

As well as his role at KU, he also runs his own business. His interests at school lay in Sports and Science and he had a passion for football so studied Biology at the University of Manchester. Subsequently, he explored a range of careers in retail and sales and then worked for an environmental charity (Global Action Plan) and co-ordinated football coaching in Brixton. Later he joined a graduate scheme called 'Into University' and has now what he calls a "dream job" at Kingston University. His advice for our History Makers was: keep your options open by exploring a range of opportunities, find out what you love and simply make the most of your education.

Ben was also delighted to award the two winning teams (Millennium Falcon and Swag Mobile) from the Water Rocket days with £10 Amazon vouchers.

The next STEM events with KU will be 'Women in Science and Engineering' in May 'Lab in a Lorry' in June.



MUSICAL TALENT



Nathan, 7Co, attends The World Heartbeat Music Academy in Wandsworth and as part of this group, had the lucky opportunity to meet Alesha Dixon at the Jimi Hendrix museum as part of the Lottery funding project. Nathan was delighted to meet her and she complimented his impressive array of musical talent. She told him to, *“Keep going with your music, you’ could go far.”* Nathan is a member of the academy’s jazz band and he also plays bass guitar, clarinet and saxophone. We hope he will showcase his talents at future TKA performances.

New lockers

If you have paid the deposit for a locker please ensure your child has a combination lock.



Summer Term Clubs

Clubs officially start again on Monday 18th April. All pupils are expected to attend at least one club so please ensure you know which clubs your child is attending. Please contact Kath Williams if you are unsure.

We are delighted to announce that Georgia R (7Hg) has won the accolade of having her article aimed at prospective parents published to TKA feeder schools. This was part of an English assessment where pupils write for a real audience.

MUSCLES & BONE topic

Our first experiment after the Easter holidays involves the pupils measuring their own lung capacity. For this we need as many clean 2 litre plastic drink bottles as possible.



Important Dates for Summer Term 2

Wednesday 20th April—Whole school photograph at 10am.

Thursday 21st April—Globe Players performing 'What you Will' in school Hall (9.30-10.30am) Please pay £4.50 via Parent Pay.

Monday 2nd May—Bank holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 18th May—PSHE day (Personal, Social, Health, Economic)

Thursday 19th May—Staff training 1-5pm—no afternoon lessons or clubs; pupils leave at 12 noon.

HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June

Thursday 9th June—TKA Spelling Bee at 3.45-5pm in School Hall. Parents welcome.

Saturday 11th June—New TKA pupil testing (Year 6).

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

Saturday 25th June—Fun Run and Picnic.

Thursday 30th June, Friday 1st July and Saturday 2nd July—Art exhibition

5th-8th July—Summer Camp