

Dear Parents/Carers

TKA had a blooming marvellous start to our week with an assembly about The Chelsea Flower Show. Whether you're a fan or not, it marks a very special time of year in the gardeners' calendar. All the blossoms have burst, wisteria of all colours dangle ornately from woody stems, the scent of lilac languishes in the air and peonies sit plumply upon their stems.

There is, of course, a purpose for my overindulgence in all things floral. Having visited our school building site again this week, I was able to take a peak at our central quad space and in doing so I realised that there is quite a special opportunity for parents to contribute to this important space.

My ambition is for our courtyard garden to become a place where pupils, staff and parents may go and read, relax and reflect. To establish a well-being garden we need to plan carefully what plants might feature so that there is colour, scent, texture and movement all year round and an eco-system that encourages a rich community of wild life.

The Royal Botanic Gardens horticultural team are providing us with some guidance on a planting scheme and I'm keen that our green fingered parents have an opportunity to contribute. If you would like to get involved, please express your interest via Reception. All parents may get involved by nominating themselves to purchase plants from our plant catalogue. These plants are not funded through the construction programme so we have to be creative if we are to ensure our pupils have access to such a space in the school day. We will provide more detail next half term and I do hope as many of you as possible get involved in this opportunity to shape our school.

I'm sure I don't have to remind you that next week is half-term. I hope you all have a restful and sunny break and return refreshed for the remainder of the summer term. It will once again be packed with activities such as the BREXIT vote, hustings for our pupil leadership nominations and of course our first ever Year 7 Summer Camp!

Kind regards,

Sophie Cavanagh.



## Art exhibition

Private view  
Thursday 30th  
June 6-8pm  
Creative  
Industries  
Centre,  
Kingston  
College.

RSVP Kath  
Williams



This week's Friends of TKA lottery winner:

NAYDEN STANCHEV



FOUNDATION

Archie from 7 Ni is a member of Chelsea's football Disability programme and plays for the foundation's Under 14 CB team. In May he won the FA CP National cup with this team.



Last Saturday he was also lucky enough to attend the FA trophy final at Wembley where FC Halifax Town took on Grimsby. He came on to the pitch at half term for a warm up and scored a goal! Archie certainly embodies our core value of resilience.



## Holiday Reading

As we near the end of the school year, the Reading Challenge is drawing to a close. The theme for June and July is adventure stories.

[www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/](http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/)

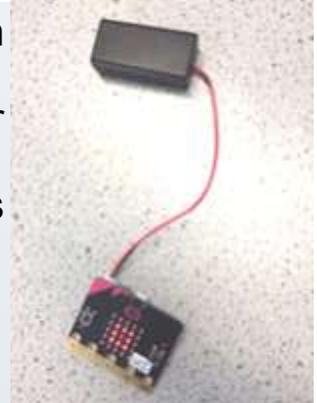




# Spotlight on STEM



In Science this week we have been using our Micro Bits to test our reaction times as part of the 'Muscles and Bones' topic.



In Digital Literacy lessons, our pupils coded a simple programme to be uploaded onto the Micro Bit, so reaction times could be tested. Pupils then used this programme to measure how quick they were in responding to a visual stimulus. We discussed the effect of legal stimulants, such as caffeine, on the human nervous system and in terms of making nerve impulses quicker. Pupils are welcome to use their Micro Bits at home to investigate whether their reaction time does decrease after drinking coffee or soft drinks (with parental permission of course!)

We are very pleased to be utilising the Micro Bits for the very useful purpose of scientific investigation.

Dr Keaney & Mr Smith



# SPORTS NEWS

Last week our TKA athletes took part in the English schools' track and field cup. It was hosted at Epsom and Ewell Harriers home track. Competition was tough as the pupils were entered in categories with much older competitors and more established clubs. But we saw some impressive efforts from all our athletes.



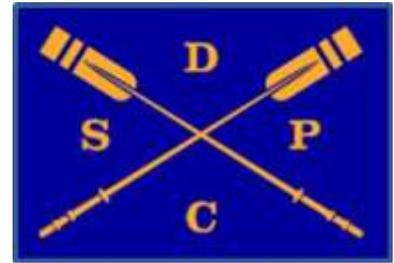
Our next fixture is at the Kingston Schools' borough competition at Kings Meadow.



Back row: *Leo, Mariam, Sophia, Mollie, Esther, Thomas, Sam, Zack.*

Front row: *Connor C, Noah, Isabelle, Annaliese*

# Venice adventure



During the weekend of 13th of May I was lucky enough to go to Venice with the **Dittons' Skiff and Punting Club**. We had 3 boats taking part in the 42nd Venice Vogalonga. This originally started in 1974, where a group of Venetians, had a race to the island of Burano. They came up with an idea of non-competitive "race" in which any kind of rowing boat could participate. The first Vogalonga began the next year with the message to protest against the growing use of powerboats in Venice and the swell damage they do to the historic city.



22 of us went in total with 13 people rowing, the rest were spectators. People call it a race but at several stages it was very hard to race as there were 1800 boats taking part, going from St Marks Square to Burano, then Murano and back down the Grand Canal. At some points it was complete chaos as all the boats tried to get back into the canals at once! Boats were capsizing and people were getting tipped into the water.

I had a brilliant time and in addition to the Vogalonga I saw where James Bond's 'Casino Royale' was filmed. I also found out that one of the men at the rowing club worked on that movie and other Bond movies and has met Daniel Craig loads of times. I was very jealous.

I also got to go in a private water taxi from Murano back to Venice, it went very fast and was amazing!

Maia 7Co





# Spelling Bee !

The Spelling Bee is fast approaching on Thursday 9th June. It will be an opportunity to fight for some House points before the year has finished. Pupils have been given a list of key words and websites to focus on and parents are very welcome to attend this inaugural event.

How to spell website: <https://howtospell.co.uk/>

Word Lists: [https://www.spellzone.com/word\\_lists/index.cfm](https://www.spellzone.com/word_lists/index.cfm)

Word Lists: <http://grammar.yourdictionary.com/spelling-and-word-lists/misspelled.html>

## **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/clubs. Pupils leave at 12.

**Saturday 25th June**—Fun Run and Picnic.

**Thursday 30th June**—Private viewing of Art Exhibition 6-8pm, Kingston College.

**Friday 1st July Sat 2nd July**—Art exhibition, Kingston College, Richmond Road campus

**Tuesday 5th– Friday 8th July**—Summer Camp

**Wednesday 13th July**—Summer soiree

**Friday 15th July**—Last day of summer term