

KINGS ACADEMY BINFIELD & OAKWOOD PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

[Link to dates for the diary.](#)



MESSAGE FROM MRS TATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a busy one as we learned about Children's Mental Health Week, a time for all of us to reflect on the importance of looking after our mental health alongside our physical health. The children have been discussing ways to keep both minds and bodies healthy.

We held a thought-provoking assembly, led by the Eco Council students and Mrs Grindley, about an exciting competition to raise awareness for 'Make it Wild' – a company that partners with charities to protect nature, with the belief that it's not just our aim, but our purpose to protect wildlife. See [page 9](#) for more information.

I've also had the pleasure of touring some visitors around our school this week, including Mrs. West, the KGA Director of Primary, and Mr. Cross, the CEO of KGA. During the walkarounds, I was proud to see how hard our students were working and engaging in lessons.

This week, our KAB/KAO students represented us in a speed stacking challenge at Garth Hill School, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts!

Enrichment activities have continued to be a highlight of the week for many of our students, and it's wonderful to see their enthusiasm and joy as they explore different areas of learning.

Looking ahead, next week we are excited for the Year 3/4 Indoor Athletics event – a great opportunity for our students to showcase their athletic skills.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Warm regards,

Jacqueline Tate
Head of Primary
King's Academy Binfield and King's Academy Oakwood

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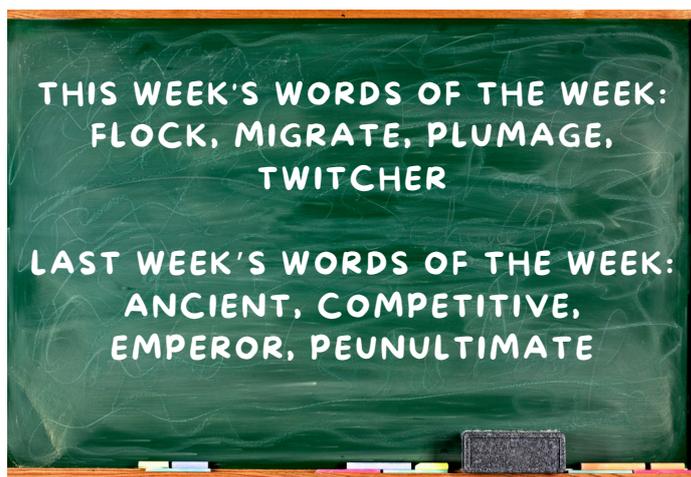
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NURSERY & RECEPTION UPDATES

RUBY CLASS

Over the last few weeks, we have been showing such enthusiasm about our animal topic. A big highlight has been a visit from Rendall's mummy to teach us about the animals on their family farm. We got to see pictures of the animals, try on some horse riding clothes and see some of the different tools and equipment required to look after the animals. It inspired us to make our own Veterinary Surgery in our role play area so that we can practise taking care of some cuddly animals.



JADE CLASS

Last week, we had the most fantastic visit from the wonderful Mrs Lu and Mrs Kit who taught us more about Lunar New Year! We learned about the origins of the Lunar New Year and the story of the Chinese Zodiac. As this year is the year of the snake, the children loved decorating their own wiggly snakes using pencils, sequins and sparkles.

To further segment our understanding of the Chinese Zodiac, we have been reading "The Great Race" by Christopher Cross. The mythological story retells the great race between twelve animals. Their positions have determined the order of years in Chinese culture. The children have loved re-enacting the race using a variety of props in our Tuff Tray. Alongside this, our role play area has transformed into a Chinese restaurant. The children have played beautifully in this area, organising themselves as either chefs, servers or customers. Noodles made out of wool has certainly been a customer favourite!

This week, the children have been learning more about birds in honour of The Royal Society of the Protection of Birds School's Birdwatch. After making brilliant binoculars and wonderful bird-food skewers, we headed up to the big secondary field to do some glorious birdwatching. The children loved identifying the different birds through both auditory and visual methods. We, of course, couldn't resist having some much needed rolling down the hill fun after our exciting birdwatching!

We are continuing to work on our Gross Motor Skills within PE. This week's obstacle focus was balancing and the children have done an excellent job challenging themselves to walk along upside-down benches unaided. Jade Class has also been encouraged to increase their independence skills through practising doing up their own coat zips and folding any worksheets into their school bags independently! Well done superstars on another brilliant few weeks at school!



NURSERY & RECEPTION UPDATES

EMERALD CLASS

Last week we had a wonderful time in Emerald Class learning about Lunar New Year. We were very grateful to Mrs Lu and Mrs Kit who visited us and helped us learn more about how their families get ready for and celebrate Lunar New Year including cleaning the house, visiting the flower market, putting up decorations and eating delectable food. As it is the year of the snake, Mrs Lu had kindly made us all a special snake with a Chinese good luck message written on it. We loved decorating our snakes! A huge thank you to Mrs Lu and Mrs Kit and 'Kung Hei Fat Choi' to all who are celebrating!

Through the week we enjoyed learning the Great Race (Chinese Zodiac) story, practising using chopsticks in our restaurant, painting Chinese numbers and playing a fun maths game with money and lucky red envelopes. We also enjoyed some fortune cookies which Lily kindly brought for us all.

This week, we are taking part in the 'Big Schools' Birdwatch' so have been learning about British Garden birds. Emerald Class are fantastic twitchers! We made our own binoculars and loved going on an expedition to the field to see what birds we could spot! In our maths lessons, we have been learning how to tally and we practised our tallying whilst doing our birdwatch. We've also made some bird feeders with which we've hung up in our garden to entice more birds!



WILLOW CLASS

Last week Willow class learnt about the Lunar New Year. We were very lucky to have a special visit from Mrs Lu who helped us understand how Chinese people celebrate this special occasion all over the world. We learnt that this year is the year of the snake and how children are given red envelopes filled with money. Willow class had lots of fun decorating their own paper snakes and saying Happy New Year in Mandarin. We also decorated our classroom with Chinese lanterns, ordered our favourite Chinese dishes from our Chinese take-away and performed a dragon dance around the school.

This week we have been learning all about the different birds that populate our gardens. Willow class were excited to take part in the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch and were thrilled to spot some wood pigeons, black birds, magpies and red kites with their binoculars.

Our very successful twitchers also enjoyed making some attractive bird feeders to help the birds through the winter months when food is scarce.



YEAR 1-6 LEARNING JOURNEYS

	Oakwood	Binfield
Year 1	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computing - Creating images, using thin and thick lines • Maths - Adding using number bonds, Doubles • Science - Sorting animals • Art: Outside Collage <p><u>KAO - Ash Class</u></p>	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>KAB - Opal Class</u> • Maths - Numbers to 20 • Adding and Subtracting • Geography - Landmarks/Continents • Computers - Zebra Stripes • Music- Glockenspiels • Science - Animals including humans <p><u>KAB - Opal Class</u></p> <p><u>KAB - Moonstone Class</u></p>
Year 2	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art - Clay sculpting • PE - Yoga • RE - Stained glass windows • Science - The food chain <p><u>KAO - Birch Class</u></p>	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English - Fantastic Mr Fox • Maths - Multiplication and Division • Art - Sculpture • PE - Yoga • Science - Living Things <p><u>KAB - Topaz Class</u></p> <p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English - Character descriptions • Maths - Multiplication and Division • Art - Sculpture • Science - Living Things <p><u>KAB - Amber Class</u></p>

YEAR 1-6 LEARNING JOURNEYS

	Oakwood	Binfield
Year 3	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science - The Human Body • Art - Printmaking • Maths - Dividing <p><u>KAO - Chestnut Class</u></p>	<p><u>KAB - Quartz Class</u></p>
Year 4	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science: Digestive System • English: Newspaper Reports <p><u>KAO - Pine Class</u></p>	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English - Newspaper article • Science - Digestive system • Science - Teeth • PE - (Yoga) • Geography - Volcanoes • Maths - Multiply and divide by 10 and 100 • Music - (Body percussion) <p><u>KAB - Amethyst Class</u></p>
Year 5	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English: Shared Write <p><u>KAO - Sycamore Class</u></p>	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography - Coasts • Music - Remixing • Maths - Finding a fraction of an amount <p><u>KAB - Sapphire Class</u></p>
Year 6	<p>Blog updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other activities - Residential • Maths - Ordering fractions, decimals and percentages • DT - Making burgers <p><u>KAO - Oak Class</u></p>	
Sport	<p><u>KAB/KAO Primary PE</u></p>	

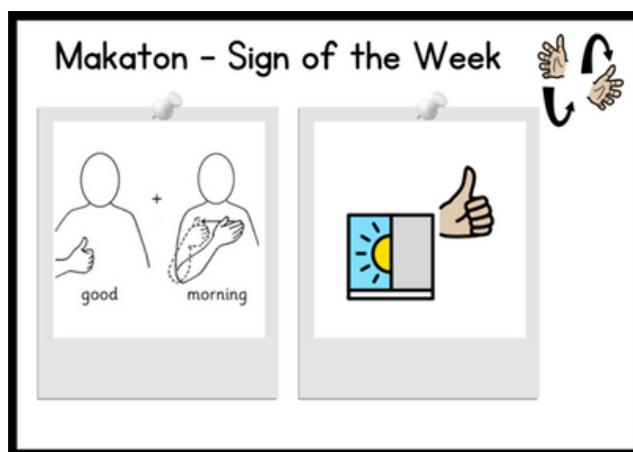
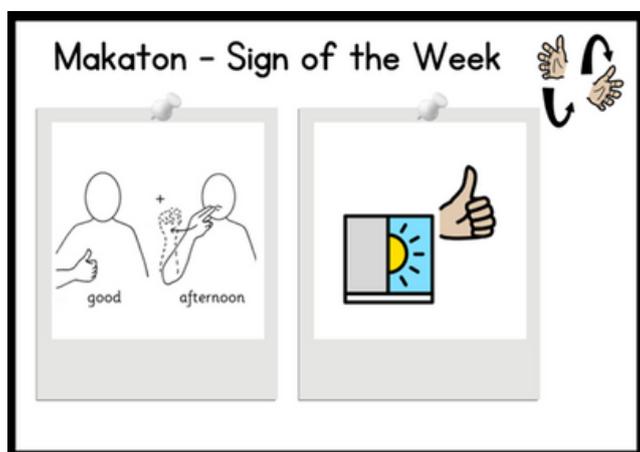
KABKAO UPDATES

MAKATON SIGN OF THE WEEK

We at KAB Primary believe that every pupil deserves to have a voice. Being able to communicate is one of the most fundamental skills that we all require. Learning in school, building relationships, resolving conflicts, connecting with friends, expressing and understanding our own and others' wants and needs all require the ability to communicate effectively. However, for some of our learners, the ability to communicate can be a challenge. This barrier can lead to feelings of frustration and isolation.

Makaton is a multi-model communication system that utilises 'symbols', 'signs', and 'speech' to provide an inclusive, shared language for all. Makaton provides tools for people with communication difficulties to be fully expressive, receptive, and participate in conversations within their environment.

Last week, we started our 'Makaton Sign of the Week'. Each week, we will learn at least one Makaton sign and will encourage its use throughout the school. It has been delightful to see our children excited to communicate using this incredible system, and we cannot wait to expand our Makaton repertoire! Here are the Makaton Signs we've recently been working on:



DATES FOR THE DIARY

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Monday 10th February	Young Voices at Wembley Arena
Wednesday 12th February	Pine Class assembly - 2.45pm
Wednesday 12th February	Year 6 SATs talk for parents - 3.30pm
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February	February Half Term
Monday 24th February	Term starts
Thursday 27th February	Wales residential 2026 talk for Year 5 children and parents at 6.15pm. More info to follow.
Friday 28th February	KABKAO Year 2 Windsor Castle trip
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Friday 7th March	KAO enrichment - Year 3 parents - 2.30pm
Tuesday 11th March	KAB Parents' Evening 1 - 3.30pm - 7pm
Thursday 13th March	KAO Parents' Evening 1 - 3.30pm - 7pm
Friday 14th March	KAO Enrichment - Year 2 parents - 2.30pm
Tuesday 18th March	KAO Parents' Evening 2 - 3.30pm - 7pm
Wednesday 19th March	KAB Parents' Evening 1 - 3.30pm - 7pm
Friday 21st March	KAO Enrichment - Year 1 parents - 2.30pm

**Attachments and
promotional posters to follow**

MAKE IT WILD

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ART COMPETITION

MAKE IT WILD has invited all our **primary students** to create a sign for their rewilding area at Bank Woods, Yorkshire. They are using Belted Galloway cattle, Exmoor ponies and the Dartmoor pony to bring wildlife back to the area. Their grazing stops grass matting, helps seeds take root (in the divots left by their hooves) and spreads seeds left in their manure.

What do I need to do?

- Create a poster on **plain A4 paper** using colouring pencils and pens (no collage or paint please because entries will need to be scanned).
- Include your best illustration of the cattle or ponies (or both!).
- Warn visitors they are entering a rewilding area that is home to large herbivores.
- Write your **full name on the back** of your poster.
- You could include the site's name: Bank Woods
- Return your posters to your class teacher by **Monday 24th February** (so you could create one during half term).

Winning entries, that will be turned into signs by Make It Wild, will be announced in March. Good luck!

For more information about the organisation, please visit:

<https://www.makeitwild.co.uk/about>

