



MPS Head's Newsletter

Reflecting the Kingdom of God by Enriching and Transforming Lives

Welcome back everyone to another MPS academic year! We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to seeing you all on Monday at 8.30am.

Autumn Term 2026

September	
7th	Year 1-6 Children back to school summer uniform may be worn No after school clubs this week accept early birds and night owls is available to Reception to year 6
9th	Nursery in staggered start Reception in staggered start Father Michael to take Collective Worship
14th	After school clubs start
	Heritage Week at St John's Old Malden school will visit parents needed to walk to church
18th	Jeans for Genes day. Children wear jeans and school jumpers £1 donation on the gate, QR code available for easy donation 4.30-7.30 PTA Back to School Disco
Sunday 20th	9.45am Sunday at St John's for the Blessing of the Backpacks – all children invited to sing
23rd	Dance workshop in school all classes paid for by the PTA – performance to parents at 2.45pm in playground
25th	9am Sarah Brooks ADHD parents' workshop in school
30th	PTA Happy Bags Collection Rev Lesley Charlton taking Collective Worship
October Black History Month	
2nd	2027 Reception and Nursery Open Morning refreshments in the hall
Sunday 4th	Harvest Festival celebration at St John's – children invited to sing
5th	Year 1-6 Assessment Week
7th	Harvest Service in school non-perishable donations please, Volunteers needed with cars to transport goods to Tolworth Gym club or New Malden Tesco
12th - 16th	Year 5 Bikeability (a.m and p.m. sessions)
13th	Drama4All Workshop - R,1,2,3
16th	2027 Reception and Nursery Open Morning refreshments in the hall Wear Red for Anti-racism 8.15-9.15 Share my Learning – parents welcome in class
19th	Nasal Flu Immunisation Spray (Rec-Y6)
19th - 23rd	Year 4 Learn to Ride (a.m and p.m. sessions)
Tuesday 20th	Parent Consultations (in-school) 3.45pm - 6.45pm
Thursday 22nd	Parent Consultations (in-school) 3.45pm - 6.45pm
23rd	PTA Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser
	26th - 30th October - Half Term

Reminders:

NO toys, key rings, squishies, Pokémon cards, lip balm, tradable items, fidget toys to be brought in.

Consequences

- 1. Put in bag and take home**
 - 2. Give to office until the end of the week**
 - 3. Leave in office to be given back at headteachers discretion**
- Concentration aids will be provided by school if children are on a support plan due to a specific learning need, in consultation with Mrs Whiteside.
 - PE days TBC
 - MPS book bag for Nursery reception and year 1
 - Own choice of bag for year 2 to 6. Smaller is preferred as space is limited. Club clothes in a small draw string labelled bag is preferred. No key rings attached.
 - Nursery need a packed lunch from home each day. Reception need a packed lunch from home on their first day
 - Earrings must be covered with a plaster at home or taken out at home on PE days. PE days TBC.
 - Bring in your summer reading journal.
 - Y6 hoodies only on Mondays please.

For parents to know

- Looking forward to seeing everyone at 8.30am on Monday morning (staggered starts for Reception and Nursery).
- Book Early birds at 7.30am and Night Owls as there are no after school clubs until week beginning 14 September.
- School gates will close, as before, at 8.40am - let's start the term on time. The end of the day is 3.15pm for all pupils (2.30pm for Nursery, unless extended provision requested).
- Children can wear winter or summer uniform, whichever is most comfortable, coats will be needed as they will go outside for break and lunch.
- No phones in school.
- Changes to class names. We have chosen individuals whose lives have had a positive influence on the lives of others, we call these people courageous advocates, this year:

Y6 Steve Irwin, Year 5 Alan Turing, Year 3 Dolly Parton, Nursery David Attenborough

Other classes remain the same Year 4 Benjamin Zephaniah, Year 2 Emmeline Pankhurst, Year 1 Ada Lovelace, Reception Florence Nightingale.

For parents to do

- Choose and sign up for clubs on our website [School Website - Clubs Page](#)
- Purchase stationery, pencil cases, reading planner at a cost of £13 available on ParentMail.
- Consider Kingston Music Service music lessons.
- Label everything.
- Send in a labelled water bottle.
- Encourage your child to take part in the Artwork for Kingston competition (information on p5).
- Nursery, Reception Year 1 and 2 sign up for [Cool Milk](#)
- Year 5 and 6 complete the form to walk home on their own – [Google Form](#)

**EVENTS TAKING PLACE
at
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, OLD MALDEN
during
HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2026**

Friday 11th September:

Church open 11.00 - 4.00

Saturday 12th September.

Church open 10.00 - 5.00

Between 2.00 and 4.00 Maeldune Consort will be providing music.

At 2.30 there will be a Story Walk for all the family by international storyteller Dr. Alastair K. Daniel.

Sunday 14th September

During the afternoon Maeldune Consort will be singing and playing again.

The music from Maeldune Consort are not concerts or even performances, just friends making music very informally whilst visitors explore the church.
Church open until 5.00pm.

Monday 15th September

Church open 11.00 - 4.00

During these 4 Open Days there will be old maps and pictures to view and history timeline of Church and surrounding area.

Also special flower arrangements will be in place.

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ALL THESE EVENTS

Refreshments available

If your child enjoyed trumpet lessons with Mr Cooper last year (or the year before) why not continue learning or move to trombone, baritone or French horn? Choose from 1:1 for 20 mins; paired lessons for 30 minutes (with another person from your class) or, a small group lesson (again, it has to be with children from your child's class.) Register your interest by [completing an application from from the KMS portal](#). Scroll down to select Malden Parochial and then complete the form. KMS will be in touch with a lesson offer as soon as they receive sufficient applications.

If your child is in **KS2** and interested in learning something else, KMS is delighted to announce [STARter groups](#) for these instrument: at after school locations around the borough.

- Strings - violin and cello (Kingston centre)
- Trumpet (Tolworth & Kingston centres)
- Guitar (Kingston centre)
- Saxophone (Tolworth and Kingston centres)
- Clarinet (Tolworth and Kingston centres)
- Recorder and flute (Tolworth and Kingston centres)
- Percussion (Kingston centre)



Learning in a group is great for social development and is low cost - £8.50 per class. KMS offer instrument hire, too.

Apply for these lessons in the same way as for school lessons, selecting the venue, first.

Dear Families,

As children and young people return to school for the new academic year, we would like to invite your child to take part in the Children's Commissioner's national survey, **The Big Future**. The survey can be completed here: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>.

You can support your child to take part by:

- Encouraging them to fill out the survey at home.
- Talking with them about the issues and topics that matter most to them as the new school term begins.

To help children understand the survey and why their input matters, an introductory video, FAQs, and extra information are available on the [Children's Commissioner's website](#).

Every child's voice matters, and this survey gives young people across every community the opportunity to shape the picture of childhood that will be shared directly with the Government. Thank you for your support in helping to ensure our pupils' voices are heard as we start the new school year.



ADHD Embrace offers pre-and post-diagnostic support to families.

This includes the following specialist ADHD services, which are bookable through the links:

[Post-diagnosis workshops for parents](#)

[Post diagnosis workshop for children/teens](#)

[Advice clinics](#)

[School staff training and parent awareness sessions](#)

To find out about additional services, visit www.adhdembrace.org.

The post-diagnosis event for parents will be held on September 9th from 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM. The cost is £12.50. Post-diagnosis sessions for young people are scheduled for Saturday afternoon, September 26th. Participants will be divided into three age groups: 6-10 years, 11-14 years, and 15-18 years.

Kind regards,

MHST Business Support Team

Achieving for Children: Providing Children's Services for Richmond & Kingston

From **Jonathan Haidt**

A quick overview of **#thefournorms** I propose in **#TheAnxiousGeneration** that we can implement collectively to reverse the **#phonebasedchildhood** and the youth mental health crisis that has attended it.

More in my first pinned tweet, in the book, and at **anxiousgeneration.com** (links in bio). Thank you **The Wall Street Journal Christopher Mims**

It can seem impossible to delay giving your child or teen a smartphone or social media. The most effective argument a kid can make is "But I'm the only one without it."

Yet if even a few parents per class say no, that empowers others to join in. Go to **anxiousgeneration.com** for resources & guides on how to implement the four norms. We can do this if we act together 🙋🏻🙋🏻🙋🏻

#anxiousgeneration #theanxiousgeneration
 freetheanxiousgeneration GenZ
 smartphonefreechildhood phonefreechildhood
 GenZmentalhealth GenAlpha parenting
 mentalhealth kidsmentalhealth
 teenagersmentalhealth anxiety depression
 kidswithanxiety phonebasedchildhood
 anxietysupport anxietyawareness smartphones
 socialmedia wsj JonathanHaidt
 JonathanHaidtbooks

Tall Tales and Storied Steps

A free event for all the family
 Saturday 12 September: 2.30-3.30pm



With local storyteller **Alastair K Daniel**



St John the Baptist
 Old Malden



heritage open days



LONDON SQUARE AND SQUARE ROOTS PRESENT

KINGSTON THROUGH YOUR EYES

Photography & Art Competition 2026

KINGSTON IS FULL OF STORIES, COLOURS, CHARACTERS AND MEMORIES

Now it's your turn to tell its story.

Pick up your camera. Grab your sketchbook. Unleash your imagination.

Show us Kingston Through Your Eyes.

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WHAT DOES KINGSTON MEAN TO YOU?

This summer, London Square and Square Roots are inviting students from Tiffin School and participating feeder primary schools to share their unique view of Kingston through art and photography.

Whether you love drawing, painting, taking photographs, creating collages or building sculptures, this is your chance to show us Kingston Through Your Eyes.



EXHIBITION

Selected artworks will be displayed at special public exhibitions in Kingston.

Primary school exhibition:
Square Roots Kingston KTL
Hawks Road, Kingston KT1 3EW

Secondary school exhibition:
County Hall Kingston,
Penrhyn Road, Kingston KT1 2DN

Up to 10 artworks from each school will be shortlisted and displayed.



GET CREATIVE

WHO CAN ENTER?

Students from:

- Tiffin School
- Participating Tiffin feeder primary schools

You can enter with:

- Drawings
- Paintings
- Photography
- Illustrations
- Mixed media artwork
- 3D creations and sculptures

There are no limits to your imagination. Show us the places, people, culture, colours and everyday moments that make Kingston special to you.

HOW TO ENTER

- Create your artwork during the summer holidays
 - Take a clear photograph or scan of your finished piece
 - Submit entries to kingstonart@londonsquare.co.uk
- For primary school students, a parent or guardian should submit the entry on their behalf. Please include the entrant's name, school year, and a parent or guardian's name and email address.

Please keep your original artwork in case you are shortlisted for the Kingston Through Your Eyes exhibition.

KEY DATES

Competition opens: 1 July 2026
Submission deadline: 7 September 2026
Shortlist announcement: 11 September 2026
Exhibition weekend: 3 & 4 October 2026



WIN EXCITING PRIZES

Winning artists will be able to choose from a selection of creative prizes, including:

- Polaroid cameras
- Art supply bundles
- Creative and arts experience vouchers

Prizes will be awarded across different age categories to give everyone a fair chance to shine.

AGE CATEGORIES

Primary

- Key Stage 1
- Key Stage 2

Secondary

- Key Stage 3
- Key Stage 4

WHY TAKE PART?

- Share your creativity
- Celebrate your local community
- Inspire others with your unique perspective
- Potential to see your work displayed in a public exhibition
- Win fantastic prizes