



Achievement certificates

Congratulations to these children who received their certificate in class on Friday 11th December 2015

Scholar of the Week Certificate

Max	India Class
Katrin	Mexico Class
Amira	France Class
Ludwig	Italy Class
Yusuf	Barbados Class
Yasin	China Class
Farahe	Belgium Class
Lucca	Norway Class
Zinedine	Brazil Class
Mya D	Ghana Class

Values Certificate: Enthusiasm

Guillermo	India Class
Maya	Mexico Class
Ridhwan	France Class
Myron	Italy Class
Haris	Barbados Class
Freddie	China Class
Raimi	Belgium Class
Soufyen	Norway Class
Sadhiya	Brazil Class
Maelo	Ghana Class

End of Term/Beginning of Term

School closes for the Christmas break next **Friday (18th December)** at **2pm**. There is no playcentre.

The spring term commences at **8.30am** on **Wednesday 6th January**.

This Week's Attendance

Reception

India	94.8%
Mexico	91.3%

Year 1

France	91.3%
Italy	92.9%

Year 2

Barbados	97.9%
China	96.3%

Year 3

Belgium	94.2%
Norway	96.9%

Year 4

Brazil	92.9%
Ghana	93.3%

Congratulations to Barbados Class again!

Late Arrivals

Punctuality has really improved and we are delighted that the number of children arriving late into school in the mornings is reducing. Thank you for all your efforts.

Class	Rank	Points
India	1	42
Mexico	2	37
France	=3	2
Italy	=6	0
Barbados	=3	7
China	=6	2
Belgium	=3	4
Norway	=6	6
Brazil	=3	12
Ghana	10	2

Next Week @ Atwood

NO CLUBS THIS WEEK

Monday 14th

Christmas Lunch for children

No booking needed

Tuesday 15th

9:15 Year R Christmas Show: Nativity

14:30 Year R Christmas Show: Nativity

Wednesday 16th

11am Nursery Christmas Performance

15:30 Nursery Christmas Performance

Year 4 Brazil Class visit Maida Vale library

Year 2 Trip to the pantomime: Cinderella

15:20 Street Dance performance

For Year 4 Parents

Thursday 17th

9:15 Y1&2 Christmas performance

Year R and Year 2 Fire Safety workshops

14:30 Year 1&2 Christmas performance

18:30 Year 3&4 Carol Concert

SCHOOL HALL

Last day of term

NON UNIFORM DAY/CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Children do not need to have a Christmas jumper – if they want, they can decorate a normal jumper with tinsel or snowflakes etc.

Friday 18th

Year 1 trip to the ballet.

14:00 TERM ENDS

No playcentre

The staff wish you all a very happy and restful holiday!

Book Club

The Atwood Book Club's next book is The Year of the Runaways by Sunjeev Sahota. Our next meeting is Monday 8th February 2016 so plenty of time to read over the Xmas holidays. Please do come along. Everyone is welcome!

Library

The library is now closed until the new year for the issuing of books, but there will still be some of the team in next week to deal with any returns and administrative tasks if you need to speak to someone. We would like to say a HUGE thank you for the support from everyone. The children are so excited when they come to the library and really strive to return their books on time. Our returns box has been full to the brim! It is wonderful to see everyone so positive and supporting all the work the team puts in. We are still adding to our stock every week, but obviously want to increase our library not just replace missing, lost and damaged items. Remember to keep an eye out for any books at home, especially those with a green dot on the spine. We even had books proudly brought back by students that we had removed from our system as these were assumed to have been lost. Amazing!

All of the book suggestions we receive are read and while some are ordered straight away, some are added to our wishlist. The wishlist is available to view on Amazon by searching for ARK Atwood on the wishlist box at the side or

ARK Atwood Library Wishlist

Link:

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/registry/wishlist/23BV26F4K0AW3>

There are over 300 titles on the ever changing list which is there as a guide for those parents who wish to donate new books to our library. There is no obligation to buy from the site, you are free to shop and buy from wherever you please. Thank you to all the families who have already donated books, new and old as well as those who have replaced lost books.

As a new way to encourage the children to be responsible for returning their books we will be implementing a prize draw in the new year. Every week when children take a book out or renew their book, and the system shows they do not currently have any overdue books their name will be entered in a draw. At the end of every half term we will draw a name out and the winner will receive a book token. The more they return or renew their books on time the more entries they will have.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fiona, Mai, Emma, Shannon, Rita, Amal and Paul –
Your library team.

Uniform and jewellery

We have had numerous requests to help find lost uniform and recently, lost earrings. Please please name your child's jumpers and coats!

With regard to jewellery – we ask for safety reasons that earrings for children are simple gold studs only. There should be no other jewellery at all please.

Thank you

Christmas Jumper Day

Next Friday (18th December) we're inviting pupils to take part in Text Santa Christmas Jumper/non-uniform day.

Children get to wear their silliest, sparkliest or cosiest Christmas sweaters and make a **donation of £1** (or whatever they can give) to help Macmillan Cancer Support, Make-A-Wish® UK and Save the Children give hope to families in difficulty at Christmas.



They don't even need to splash out on a snazzy sweater to take part – just get them to decorate an old or plain jumper with tinsel, baubles or homemade snowflakes to create unique crafty crackers.



FREE Christmas events for children and families at Maida Vale Library, Sutherland Avenue

Take a Chance this Christmas

Are you willing to "Take a Chance" by borrowing a mystery wrapped library book from under the tree? Pick a small lucky dip present each time you visit the library and take out an extra book.

Monday 7th - Thursday 24th December

For children aged 5+

Santa's Lost and Found

Santa has lost some Christmassy things around the library. Find them all for a chance to win a cuddly reindeer toy.

Monday 14th - Thursday 24th December

Santa's Reindeer Hunt

Rudolph is hiding somewhere in the library. Answer questions and follow clues to find Santa's missing reindeer for a chance to win a delicious chocolate Christmas gift.

Monday 14th - Thursday 24th December

TWO Under 5s Christmas parties

With Christmas songs and rhymes, and a visit from Santa, plus a free photograph taken by local studio Imagethirst. Admission by advance ticket only, £3.00 each. One ticket per child.

Friday 18th December or Tuesday 22nd December 10.30 - 12.00.

Due to high demand for places please book for one party only.

Over 5s Christmas party

Stories, games, presents, prizes and much much more...! Admission by advance ticket only, £3.00 each. One ticket per child.

Friday 18th December 4.00 – 5.30 pm

Saturday Under 5s rhyme time

With Christmas songs and rhymes.

Saturday 19th December 11.00 am

Upcycled Christmas Tree Decorations

Come to our festive craft event and give items destined for the dustbin a new life! Some materials can be provided but we encourage you to bring any old ribbons, cards or wrapping paper.

Monday 21st December 10.30 am - 12 noon and 2.30 - 4.00 pm

For children aged 5+

Christmas Cards and Crafts

Make your own pop-up Christmas cards and Christmas characters.

Wednesday 23rd December 10.30 am - 12 noon and 2.30 - 4.00 pm

For children aged 5+

ATWOOD CHRISTMAS MARKET

What an event!

We raised in excess of £1900! Well done, everyone!

But at least as importantly as the fundraiser was the FUN! There was such a great atmosphere, lots of smiling people and oh those carols! It is definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Thank you all again for your untiring efforts to make all this happen!

A few 'new' volunteers were even over-heard saying that a school event like this is a lot more fun for parents when they are lending a hand. Now that's the spirit!

Y3 CAKE SALE: this event has been **postponed** until after the holidays. Watch out for a 'frosty wintery' theme.

Christmas Tree Competition



Winner: Best Tree
Albert, Year R



Runner-Up: Best Tree
Sophie, Year I



Winner: Craziest
Tree
Maelo, Year 4



Runner-Up: Craziest
Tree
Leon, Year R



The competition was independently judged by our sponsor **Coo Social App**. Prizes can be collected from the school office.

Thank you for a great Christmas Market – fun, action-packed, great atmosphere, community feel and lots of money raised...! As always, a superb effort from our super supportive parents and sterling work from the Friends of Atwood led by Anne-Sophie.

Christmas Shows

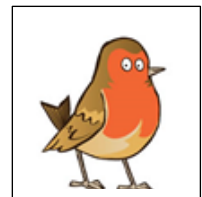
Ark Atwood presents:

Tuesday 15th December – Reception (The Little Red Robin) - Hall
9.15am and 2.30pm

Wednesday 16th December – Nursery (Christmas Medley) – Nursery Classroom
Mon/Tues/Weds Group at 11.00am; Weds/Thurs/Fri Group @ 3.30pm

Thursday 17th December – Years 1 & 2 (Christmas around the World) - Hall
9.15am and 2.30pm

Thursday 17th December – Years 3 & 4 (Sing-along-a-Christmas) - Hall
6.30pm



For **Years 3 & 4**, children will sing some Christmas songs as well as a couple of well-known carols which we'd love parents to join-in with (song sheets will be provided)! There will also be readings/lessons to retell the Nativity story. Please bring your child to school for **6.20pm** – children will assemble in the hall. Hot drinks and mince pies (donations please!) will be served after the performance in the studio. School uniform not required.

Parent Governor Elections

As you know, nominations have recently been sought to fill the parent governor vacancy on the governing body of the Academy.

I am delighted to say that there has been a good response and there are six candidates for the vacancy. This means that we must now hold a secret ballot. Each candidate has provided a brief statement of why they wish to be a Parent Governor.

Ballot papers will be sent home via pupil post today. Every Atwood parent is entitled to one vote. If you do not receive a ballot paper please request one from the school office.

You can vote for one candidate. As indicated on the ballot paper, you should vote by marking an X alongside the name of parent that you support. Please do not put any other information on the ballot paper as this may invalidate your vote.

THIS BALLOT FORM SHOULD BE SEALED IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED AND PLACED IN THE BALLOT BOX IN THE ACADEMY OFFICE NO LATER THAN 4PM ON THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER. BALLOT PAPERS RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN RETURN YOUR BALLOT PAPER BY:

- **POST** (Ark Atwood Primary Academy, Amberley Road, London, W9 2JY) making sure that your vote is received before the closing date, as above. Please make sure that you use the enclosed envelope.
- **EMAIL** (info@arkatwoodprimary.org) making sure that you quote your ballot number on your message.

Votes will be counted on the first past the post system. The decision will then be reviewed by the Ark Governance Manager prior to confirmation of the appointment.

If you need any further information, please speak with me in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Upfield
Headteacher

Parent's Name	Parent of
Sara Langham	Milo (Year 4) & Joel (Year 1) McLellan



Biography

Sara Langham is a parent of two boys in years four and one at ARK Atwood and has been actively involved in the school since its inception. She thinks Atwood is a really special school, with a fantastic sense of community as well as high academic standards, and as Parent Governor she would love to help ensure the school continues to flourish. Sara believes in the importance of a high standard of education for all, and is especially passionate about literacy and the importance of reading. Professionally, she works at a literary agency and is a writer. She helps to run the parent and staff book club at school and is an active part of Friends of Atwood. Externally, she volunteers for First Story, the schools' creative writing charity.

Motivation

I would like to be a governor at ARK Atwood because I believe that Atwood is a special school which gives each child an enormous amount both educationally and pastorally. As parent governor I would love to be able to contribute to the continued success of the school as well as to help it negotiate the next few years as it continues to develop and grow.

Contribution

My particular area of expertise is literacy and in particular creative writing and reading, which I am extremely passionate about. I feel that I would offer a measured and partisan opinion, making sure that the best interests of the school are at the heart of the parent governor's decision making.

Parent Governor Elections

Parent's Name	Parent of
Fiona McKenzie Johnston	Sholto Steel (Year 1)



Biography

Fiona McKenzie Johnston is the mother of Sholto (year one) and Esmeralda (due to start in September 16), and is a freelance journalist, writing for both national and international press, and consultant. Having grown up as the daughter of two teachers, Fiona has long been exposed to matters concerning education, and has a significant interest in both the practice and details of school life - teaching and pastoral care - as well as child welfare, and ensuring that each pupil is given the support they need as individuals to reach their full potential. Fiona strongly believes in the positive impact a primary school can have on a child's life, and in the importance of supporting Ark Atwood and its staff in continuing to be one of the top performing primary schools in the country.

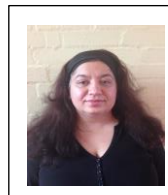
Motivation

I would like to help ensure that Ark Atwood Primary Academy remains one of the top performing primary schools in the country, that standards are only ever raised, and understand and support the headmaster and staff in the job that they are doing to meet the educational and pastoral needs of the pupils.

Contribution

Coming from a media and consultancy background, I have experience of working with the press, providing copy, and assisting with and generating ideas for marketing campaigns. I have experience in organising conferences and producing fashion shoots, and drawing up and implementing budgets. Most of all, I love and believe in the school.

Parent's Name	Parent of
Nina Gjoka	Arber Gjoka (Year 1)



Biography

This is a brief summary of myself. Coming from a big family was great fun and lots of responsibilities too, mostly to look after the youngest. That sense of care and responsibility grows with age. Being a mother and wanting the best for the child, the contribution given has to be broader; it includes schools and the community around where the child is brought up. Working in different areas such as: social care, teaching, admin and political arena, would be a lot to offer. On the other hand, the environment where is given is a great source of receiving too. It is beneficial in getting to know people and learn from their life experiences. London is the most diverse city in the world, and Ark Atwood is one of the schools that has a great mixer of these diversity. Would be a privilege to be part of it.

Motivation

First of all, I want to be a good example to my child and also to give my contribution to the society and community where I live. In addition to that I can learn more from being part of a successful institution such as Ark Atwood Primary Academy.

Contribution

I like children, I want to see closely how things are run and want to give my contribution in making the younger generation more responsible and participant on the community life through activities that both children and community will benefit.

Parent Governor Elections

Parent's Name	Parent of
Sylvia Gauthereau	Grace (Year 4) & Molly (Year 1) Nicholas



Biography

Sylvia believes schools are one of the most interesting places in the world because they impact far beyond childhood age. As a mother of two attending Ark Atwood, she has a keen interest in ensuring they receive the best education possible delivered in the best environment. Originally from France, Sylvia worked as a journalist and photographer in several countries. She currently works in London as a freelance social media analyst and content editor with clients ranging from a UK campaign group challenging indefinite immigration detention to a bicycle shop promoting family cycling and intelligent mobility. Sylvia believes she developed a set of skills that would be suited to effectively represent the parents' perspectives to the board and to assist our school make the right long-term strategic choices to ensure great learning for many generations to come. Sylvia was the Treasurer for the FofAA in 2013/14.

Motivation

I always try to take an active role in the community I live in. As a parent, the school where my children get their education from is a big part of my family life so I feel it is important to get involved. Due to the nature of their very existence and the way they operate, free schools must be above all suspicions and display excellence in governance at all times. I would like to be part of those who ensure this is the case.

Contribution

The set of skills gained throughout my professional and personal life experiences include traits which could be useful in this role such as being inquisitive, critical and analytical. I am also very independent minded and able to build a rapport whilst remaining objective with a wide range of different people and as well as showing empathy. As such I feel I would be able to bring a wider parents perspective whilst focusing

Parent's Name	Parent of
Aslam Khan	Inayat Khan (Year 3)



Biography

It would be a great honour for me to have the opportunity to serve the school community as a Parent Governor as I fully support the stated ethos and the aims that the school strives towards. The school's Ethos to "aspire" has an exception for its parents to share its commitment to learning and to work with it in close partnership and I see the role of Parent Governor as an important part of that partnership. I also care deeply about the community in which my family lives and I am keen to put something back in. I am firm believer in becoming involved with the parent bodies in my children's schools and enjoy the challenges this brings. I have been a trustee and founder member of London Tigers, a charitable organization since 1986. I won an 'Active Volunteer of the year award' from Westminster Council in 2013.

Motivation

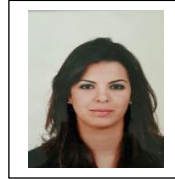
As a parent I am proud to say I have been a flag waver and support of the school since the beginning. To have the opportunity to promote and grow our school for the future is an exciting prospect. As a parent governor, I will represent the interest of all parents and children and not biased to my own child.

Contribution

I am well organised and I am able to commit both the time and the energy needed to take on the role of Parent Governor. I work for a large IT software company as a client software engineer and this has allowed me to develop a number of skills over a number of years which I could bring to the role of Parent Governor, such as data analysis, an eye for detail, excellent interpersonal skills and I am able to work with people from all walks of life.

Parent Governor Elections

Parent's Name	Parent of
Iman Sbitri	Alya Sbitri (Year 1)



Biography

Iman Sbitri's daughter is currently in year 1 at Ark Atwood and her son will hopefully join his sister in September. Being relatively new to the school makes her involvement with Atwood long term, therefore she has a strong interest in its performance and results. Iman's background is in accounting, with 9 years' experience working for a multinational company as their UK Accountant, She has dealt with budgets, forecasts, controls, governance and other aspects of finance. These skills are particularly relevant as the governing body have indicated finance expertise as a possible skill gap in the current make up - Iman's expertise can add balance to the team in offering her experience to assist in the future prosperity of the school. She enjoys contributing to developing individuals as well as supporting the learning environment for children. As a parent governor Iman would offer commitment, enthusiasm and determination to make a difference.

Motivation

I have a huge interest in developing children and making sure they have the best opportunities. I feel I could be a good link between parents and the board of governors in making sure their voices are heard.

Contribution

I could offer a great deal of enthusiasm and commitment as well as the ability to analyse numbers and assist with budget processes and cost control.