



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! Your children have made an excellent start to the new term and are already well underway with their learning and new topics. I would like to wish our whole school community a very happy, healthy and successful new year – all the best for 2016!

As the new term begins we welcome the following staff to the Atwood team:

Carlotta Viguer – Nursery Teacher  
Damien Montesin – Year 3, Belgium Teacher  
Alice Hind – Year R, Mexico Teaching Assistant  
Aylin Paran – Lunchtime Supervisor

We wish our new members of staff every success in their roles.

I am delighted to announce that the Amberley Residents' Association/City West Homes have agreed to us using the sports pitch for our PE lessons from the beginning of next week. This follows a meeting Miss Baxter and I attended at the end of last half-term. The use of this facility will make such a huge difference to our teaching of sport – children will have the space they need to develop their skills and play proper games!

This is a trial period and I can guarantee if we receive complaints about parking or overrunning the adventure playground this privilege will be withdrawn. You know where you shouldn't be parking and if in doubt, ask a member of staff – we'll happily tell you! A pictorial guide was published within the newsletter dated 27.11.15 which can be found on our website. Please support the school with this. It's in your hands...

Parent Governor Ballot papers are being counted today. I hope to be able to inform you of your new parent governor in next week's newsletter. We had a fantastic voting response which demonstrates excellent engagement and commitment to the school. Thank you.

Best regards,

Daniel Upfield, Headteacher

## Diary dates

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January

- Y3 Trip to Butser's Ancient Farm
- Open Morning for Year R 2016 Entry

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January

- Friends of Ark Atwood Coffee Morning – Studio

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

- Flu Vaccinations Years 1 and 2 To be confirmed

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January

- Year 1 Trip to The Monument

### Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January

- 16:30 Governing Body meeting

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January

- 8:45 Norway Class assembly

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February

- Parent Forum meet Times TBC

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

- Maths workshop for Year 2 Parents

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

- Year 2 Maths Competition at Globe Academy

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Harry Potter – Night of Spells TBC

### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February

- 18:30 Book Club meets

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February

- Year 4 Holland Park Opera workshops in school

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

8.45 Italy Class Assembly

9.00 Tapestry (Early Years online learning journal) training for Parents (Nursery Group 1 and Year R)

15.00 Tapestry (Early Years online learning journal) for Parents (Nursery Group 2 and Year R)

16.00 Year 2 Cake Sale (Valentine's Theme)

**16.00 Close for half-term**

### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>/Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

**STAFF TRAINING DAYS NO SCHOOL**

## Applications for Year R

**\*\*REMINDER\*\***

**The closing date for applications to Year R for September 2016 entry is **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January****

**Remember that even if your child attends the Atwood Nursery an application MUST be made for Year R – there is no automatic transition.**

Even if you are thinking of deferring your child's place which is an option for summer born children (April-August) you must still complete an application for Year R.

Please visit the eAdmissions website to make your application:  
<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>

The Westminster admissions page has useful information:  
<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/apply-for-a-school-place-online>

Download '[Hints and tips: Applying for a primary school reception place](#)' and '[A guide for parents with children starting primary school from September 2016](#)' for a step-by-step guide to the admissions process.

The national offer day is 18 April 2016; this is the day when decisions on school places are announced. Your outcome will be available after 5pm if you applied online. If you applied on a paper form your outcome will be posted to you on this day.

If you have any questions regarding the admissions process please speak to Mr Upfield.

Alternatively please contact the admissions team for further information by emailing [schooladmissions@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@westminster.gov.uk) or calling 020 7745 6432 or 020 6433 6434.

## Atwood Parent Coffee Mornings: on TUESDAYS

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 8:45 in the school studio**

The coffee mornings are for ALL Atwood parents and are an opportunity to get to know other parents. Coffee and tea are provided; feel free to bring your child's younger siblings, some toys to share and biscuits ditto.

We are happy to continue to support local businesses, especially if owned by parents from the school, so if you would like to let others know about your business, please come along or email Anne-Sophie (Constance's mum - Ghana class) on [asmol5@gmail.com](mailto:asmol5@gmail.com) to discuss.

## Achievement assemblies and attendance

We are still focusing on attendance and in a recent Ark Monitoring Visit the lead inspector noted '*The attendance rate for the academy as a whole is 96.2%. An overall attendance figure which is highly creditable.*'

The number of students arriving after 8.40 is reducing and we are continuing to monitor this by Senior Leadership presence each morning by the library.

Achievement Assemblies will continue on Fridays each week and will include awarding the House Points Cup, the Transition Trophy (and the Transition Teds) and the Attendance Cup. In addition the certificates for showing our ASPIRE values and Scholar of the Week will continue to be given out. If your child has a certificate you will receive a text message and be invited to the assembly. We are always delighted to see parents and carers enjoying the children's successes.

## Clubs

Clubs will begin on the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January. All children who have been allocated a space in a club will bring a letter home with details. There will also be a payment slip which needs to be completed with a payment of £10 for the term, and given in to the office.

Clubs are an extension of the school day and behaviour is expected to be the same as in class. Please be aware that if your child receives three warnings for poor behaviour or if they are picked up later than 5.05 at the latest on three occasions then they will not be able to continue attending the club.

Please speak to Miss Sherlock if you have any concerns.

## Uniform

From time to time some children have accidents at school. To make sure they are comfortable and able to continue their learning we have purchased spare clothing. Please could you make sure that if your child comes home in some Atwood items, that you return them, washed, as promptly as possible.

Thank you

## Curriculum Newsletters & Timetables

Curriculum newsletters and timetables for the Spring Term 1<sup>st</sup> half will be published on the website next week (Curriculum > Timetables). Class assemblies are also scheduled for the next two terms: please see the diary for your child's class assembly date.