



Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 7th October

Dear Parents,

End of Day From Monday, we are going to make a change to our end of day arrangements. I know there have been some concerns about the collection of children in years 1, 2 and 3 from the Hall and just how busy it gets. From Monday, this will change to collection direct from the classroom – parents will go up the back stairs, walk down the lower corridor collecting their child direct from the classroom and then come down the main stairs. It is essential that parents go up the back stairs to help with the flow of people. Buggies should be left in the covered area at the bottom of the yellow stairs.

Friends of Ark Atwood It is lovely to have the Friends of Ark Atwood back up and running following the meeting this week – thank you to everyone who came along. We are hitting the ground running and starting with an International Day next Friday – see the poster on the right and details further down.

Children can come to school in traditional clothes.

We are also looking for parents to contribute food dishes for the children to taste in the afternoon and after school. If you would like to contribute, please get in touch with either myself or Ishraf – email info@arkatwoodprimary.org. Food should be labelled with allergies and also the recipe's country of origin. Looking forward to it!

Enjoy the weekend,

Best Wishes

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Parent / Teacher Book Club

Book club for parents and teachers will recommence again this term on Monday 10th October. We will meet in the cellar room of The Prince Alfred on Formosa Street from 6.30pm.

Bring a book – suggestion for the next meet, the theme is 'Children's classics'. All parents are warmly invited!

International Day



Date: Friday 14th October 2022
Dress code: Children to come in their traditional clothes – £1 donation
Venue: Ark Atwood
Time: After school

Come and join the diversity and enjoy FREE food freshly prepared by our very own parents!

Friends of Ark Atwood



Secret Readers

Secret Readers is coming back! This is a great way to bring excitement and joy to the classroom and add an air of mystery and **we need the help of parents!**

The way it works is that the children are told they have a secret reader coming to read to the class later in the week. They know it is one of the parents but they do not know which one. The excitement builds over the course of the week with the big reveal on Friday when the nominated parent comes in to read.

If you are interested in putting your name forward, please contact Mr Evelyn and you will be allocated a date!

Year 6 Egyptian Day

On Wednesday, Year 6 dressed up as ancient Egyptians to help us to imagine what life would have been like back then. Firstly, we learned all about modern Egypt and its geography...also its food! We then travelled back in time where we learned all about the Egyptian gods and goddesses comparing their different powers. Next, we took a trip to the afterlife investigating the 'book of the dead' before taking part in the mummification process. Finally, we put on our 'archaeologist hats' and explored an Egyptian tomb that had laid undisturbed for thousands of years. When we were in the tomb, some strange things started to happen...was there really a curse? Look out for our descriptive writing soon!



Parent Governor Update

Update from Parent Governor, Jess Lipson, from the September LGB meeting. Key points as follows:

- Governors considering recruiting a Fundraising Governor to help the Academy locate businesses and potential grants, to find sponsors and raise considerable funds for large school initiatives. This would be as well as the Friends of Ark Atwood fundraising work.
- The school is trialling a different SEN model to see if students with greater learning needs can be supported differently. This model is to be reviewed.
- Attendance is being monitored closely with a return to pre-pandemic levels set as a target.
- There are still some school places to be filled due to high mobility in the area. There are significant issues across the borough with a surplus of school places. The Nursery also has places available.
- Atwood KS2 SATs were well above national and local authority averages.
- The school has been creative with staffing due to a slightly slimmer staffing structure, but no classes have been impacted. Staff retention has meant that there is consistency throughout the school, making for a strong teaching body. All year groups have settled in well this academic year.

If you want to contact Jess, please email her at p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org.

Achievement Assembly

As always on Friday, we celebrated two wonderful scholars from each class who have either personified the Atwood Values or been true Atwood scholars producing great work. Congratulations to these children (we are switching each week between Upper School and Lower School).

Class	Children
Italy	Karena & Charley
France	Emaan & Junayd
Barbados	Hana & Thomas
China	Adam & Reina
Norway	Leena & Seena
Belgium	Ludwig & Benji



Friends of Ark Atwood

On Wednesday, we hosted our first Friends of Ark Atwood meeting of the year with our new Chair, Ishraf. The purpose of the meeting was to schedule events for this term and to agree our fundraising priorities. Lots happening!



Events

Friday 14th October – International Day – NEXT WEEK! This will be a non-uniform day where children should wear traditional clothes for a donation of £1 to mark International Day. During the afternoon both in school and after school, there will be a range of international food stalls for children and families to sample. **If you would like to contribute and support this event, please contact Ishraf at info@arkatwoodprimary.org.**

November (exact date tbc) – Quiz Night Details and date to follow

Thursday 8th December – Winter Fair Taking place during the afternoon/after school. Details to be circulated soon

December (exact date tbc) – Parent Support Session We will be joined by various professionals to provide support to parents at home. We are looking to invite some professionals working in school and those externally – details and date tbc.

This feels like a nice set of events over the next few months and we will be in touch with further details in due course. A reminder that if you are looking to support with International Day next week, please get in touch with Ishraf.

Fundraising Targets

Proposed new fundraising areas for this academic year:

1. To provide additional PE and Sports equipment
2. To provide additional funding for possible residentials in additional year group(s)
3. To provide additional funds to support staff wellbeing activities
4. To purchase more classroom wet play resources

We will also be investigating the possibility of installing a renewable energy source at the school to support with costs. If it is possible to proceed with this, we will be in touch with proposed plans and costs.

Finally, for those who want to donate to support our library, we will now be sharing links to our reading lists where you can purchase books for the school. Links:

Amazon Wishlist: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/23BV26F4K0AW3?ref_=wl_share

Amazon Wishlist (specifically Graphic Novels which the children love):
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2Y8B9UHPO20JD?ref_=wl_share

Lots happening and lots to come with the Friends of Atwood – do get in touch with Ishraf or Mr Evelyn if you would like to support and help run Atwood community events.

House Points



The House Points for this week have been counted. Totals for this week:

Aspiration & Achievement	Scholarship	Perseverance	Integrity	Respect & Responsibility	Enthusiasm
230	320	276	198	455	385

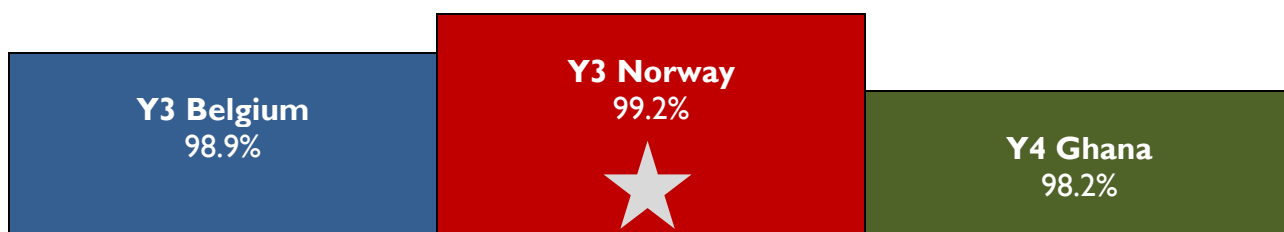
This week's winner is Respect and Responsibility with a brilliant 455 points!

Attendance

Excellent attendance is vital to success at school. We track attendance closely and celebrate excellent attendance.

Congratulations to our classes with the best attendance over the last five days:

Class Breakdown			
Globe	88.9	Belgium	96.2
Mexico	94.4	Ghana	98.6
India	91.2	Brazil	97.7
Italy	95.7	Greece	96.1
France	97.8	Spain	88.9
China	96.4	Canada	95.9
Barbados	98.3	Australia	87.3
Norway	98.1	Whole School	95.1



E-Safety

We share E-Safety information with parents in the Atwood newsletter. This is to help you in ensuring that your child can use technology safely. Please read the following information.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about BEREAL

BeReal is the latest trending social media app. The concept is that people see others in their authentic day-to-day lives, sharing candid photos without editing or applying filters. Each day at a random time, users are simultaneously notified to take a picture of what they're doing at that exact moment. The two-minute window to submit an image means there's no time to select a particularly glamorous or exciting activity. BeReal shares two pictures: a selfie, and an image of the immediate surroundings. Users can only view and react to their friends' photos once they upload their own.

AGGRATING
13+
from the App Store & Google Play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTINUOUS NOTIFICATIONS

Like any social media app, BeReal's developers want users to be on it regularly and scrolling for long periods. BeReal only sends one notification to post a picture each day, but there are other alerts for events such as mentions, comments, friend requests and reactions to your photo. This can cause young users to feel pressure to open the app and respond, distracting them from other activities.

EASY LOCATION

BeReal's default setting is to share the exact location of where a post was sent from. Given that images are usually shared within the two-minute window, anyone your child is friends with on the app will know exactly where they are (or at least, where they were two minutes earlier). As we've noted, this could include strangers who are intending to use this geographical information for malicious purposes.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

When someone signs up to BeReal, it highlights anyone in their phone's contacts list who already has the app – so users can connect with friends, or invite others from their contacts. The 'Discovery' feed, meanwhile, shows posts from strangers and gives users the option to add them as friends, too. This means your child could potentially connect with – and communicate with – a stranger.

VISIBLE PERSONAL DATA

As with any other form of social media, it's important that your child doesn't share too much personal information on their profile. BeReal allows for a photo, full name, approximate location and a short bio. It's safest to make sure that your child's profile doesn't display anything which could identify where they go to school or exactly where they live.

PUBLIC SHARING

As well as sharing posts with friends in the moment, the app also allows posts to be shared publicly and public content to be viewed. Before a user can see this public content, they must post their own photo first. Unfortunately, there currently seems to be a lack of moderation on the content that's being uploaded, so a young user could be exposed to posts which aren't suitable for their age.

REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE

What your child says and does online – their digital footprint – shapes the way that other people see them. It's essential that young people understand that when they post something online, they are giving the app in question the right to do whatever they wish with that image or content, including sharing it elsewhere. This form of permission is explicitly referenced in BeReal's terms of use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

LIMIT NOTIFICATIONS

BeReal offers the option to turn off individual types of notification. Doing this will significantly reduce the number of times your child is tempted to open the app by incoming comments, uploads, friend requests and so on. Ironically, it will allow them to actually 'be real' by being present in the moment and their current environment as opposed to being engrossed on social media.

KEEP IT AMONG FRIENDS

Remind your child why adding strangers to their contacts isn't a good idea, and advise them to decline any friend requests from people they don't know in real life. If something your child sees on BeReal makes them feel uncomfortable, they can report it by clicking on the three dots in the top right. The reporting tool allows them to state the reason that they're flagging up the post.

STOP AND THINK

BeReal's goal is for users to be authentic with friends, removing the pressure of that flawless photo or perfectly worded post. It's still vital, though, that children stop and think rather than uploading something risky just to meet the two-minute deadline. Point out to them what kind of information strangers could extract from an image: school crests, street names or local landmarks, for example.

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Remind your child to use an avatar as their profile pic (as opposed to a photo of themselves) and use a nickname or just their first name, not their full name. Any information they add to their bio (which is optional) should be kept vague, and personal details should remain private. It's also worth turning off the geolocation feature either through the device's settings or in BeReal itself.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-56844444> | <https://www.bereal.com/>
<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents-carers/ber-real> | <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents-carers/ber-real> | <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents-carers/ber-real>

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