



**Achieving
Success**

Ark Atwood Primary Academy
Amberley Road, London W9 2JY
www.arkatwoodprimary.org / @ArkAtwood

Newsletter, Friday 13th March 2020

Message from Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We continue to follow the latest guidance on Coronavirus which is being updated daily.

As I'm sure you'll understand, this is a continually evolving situation. The guidance announced yesterday by the Prime Minister states that anyone with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature (lasting more than four hours) or who lives with anyone displaying these symptoms should stay at home for a period of seven days in order to self isolate and reduce the spread of infection.

Ongoing Precautions As a school we continue to take the following precautions to ensure the cleanliness of the site:

- Pausing the start of day handshake
- Making extra time for regular handwashing throughout the day
- Frequent sanitising by site staff of key 'touch' areas like door handles, taps, banisters etc

Trips The government has said all overseas school trips should be cancelled. As a precaution, in order to reduce our student's exposure to highly populated public spaces, we are pausing all upcoming trips including Year One swimming. We will ensure this is made up for, as much as possible, later in the school year. I am sure you will understand that this is a sensible measure to take at this time.

School Remaining Open The government has stated that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England. In the event of a school closure, teachers will provide work for children to do at home so that they can continue with their learning as far as possible. We have a working model of what this will look like. Please be aware, by necessity, this will involve internet access. Communication with families during any school closure will be via Parent Mail with updates posted on Atwood's Twitter page and on the school website. If your contact details have recently changed, please inform the office as soon as possible so these can be updated. (It is a good idea to check with the office just in case.)

NHS Coronavirus guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you for your support. We realise that this is an unsettling period but together as a community, we will support each other.

James Evelyn

Head of School, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

As part of our ongoing curriculum development work, we needed to ensure that the teaching of a modern foreign language was brought back onto the Atwood curriculum. We were keen to have a Spanish speaker teaching the subject and for it to be an immersive experience rather than rote teaching of vocabulary and spoken Spanish.

Having looked at a variety of options, we decided to join with Ark Priory and use the language specialists, 'Speak like a Native', to support us in delivering this. From January, children in all Key Stage Two classes now have a weekly Spanish lesson with clubs provided for children in Key Stage One. Given that children are at a very different starting points, we are continuing to work on the curriculum structure and how this will progress up the school.

More information about our approach to MFL can be found on the Atwood website at

<https://arkatwoodprimary.org/curriculum/modern-foreign-languages-0>



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

As you may be aware, the government is introducing a multiplication tables check from this June. This check will be taken by all Year 4 pupils over a three-week period in June and is designed to assess their knowledge of times tables up to 12×12 (the National Curriculum expectation is for all children to know their times tables up to 12×12 by the end of Year 4). Year 4 teachers will have the flexibility to complete the test as a whole class, individually or in small groups. A 'try it out' area will be available for children to practice in late March. In the meantime, there are lots of online options for children to practice on – this one looks good so please encourage your children to practice:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

More information for parents about the Multiplication Tables Check can be found [here](#).

Ark Cycling Event

Ark Schools is running a large scale cycling event this summer to raise funds. The event takes place on **Saturday 20th June** and goes from Ark Bolingbroke (near Clapham Junction) all the way to Ark Alexandra (in Hastings).

If you are interested in taking part, please email James Evelyn (j.evelyn@arkatwoodprimary.org) by 20th April. There is a £40 participation fee with a fundraising target of £250. An optional coach return is available for £25.

Italy Class Assembly

Italy did themselves proud on Thursday showcasing their class assembly all about transport – the topic they have been studying this term. They said their lines clearly and sang and danced their hearts out whilst telling the funny story 'Mrs Armitage on Wheels'. They even showcased a bit of rapping.

Well done Italy class for a superstar performance.



Upcoming Dates

Date	Time	Event
19 th March	9.00am	France Class Assembly
23 rd March	8.45am	Parent Forum
26 th March	9.00am	Spain Class Assembly
30 th March	3.15pm	Parents Evening
2 nd April	9.00am	Belgium Class Assembly
2 nd April	3.15pm	Parents Evening
3 rd April	2.00pm	End of Term
w/c 22 nd April		Earth Week
30 th April	9.00am	Brazil Class Assembly
7 th May	9.00am	Mexico Class Assembly
14 th May	9.00am	Greece Class Assembly
21 st May	9.00am	Ghana Class Assembly
24 th May		Westminster Mile
1 st / 2 nd June		Y2 Residential
4 th June	9.00am	Barbados Class Assembly
11 th June	9.00am	China Class Assembly
18 th June	9.00am	India Class Assembly
20 th June		Summer Fair (provisional date)
22 nd – 26 th June		Y6 Residential
13 th July	tbc	KS1 Sports Day
14 th July	tbc	KS2 Sports Day