



Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 15th October

*** Upcoming Inset Days ***

Please do not forget that next Friday 22nd October is an Ark network inset day and school will be closed to all children. School reopens to children after half term on Tuesday 2nd November.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am able to confirm some dates that are coming up after half term:

Parents Evenings These will take place from 3pm to 6pm on Tuesday 30th November and Thursday 2nd December. These will take place in person on site unless there are new restrictions in place at that time. School will finish an hour early on these days. The window for signing up will be opening in early November.

End of Term Performances These will be returning to the pre Covid setup. Dates as follows (times tbc):

- Nursery Nativity: 15th December
- Reception Nativity: 13th December
- Key Stage One: 15th December
- Lower Key Stage Two (Year 3 & 4): 14th December
- Upper Key Stage Two (Year 5 & 6): 16th December

Swimming I know that the situation with swimming in Year 3 has been a source of some frustration for parents. Moberley Sports Centre have been having difficulties with Covid amongst their staff along with recruitment issues. They have also been giving us very late notice when cancelling sessions.

The sessions will be moving to a new day and we will confirm these when they are finalised.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Show Racism the Red Card

A reminder that on Thursday 21st October, we will have a drop down day where for £1, children can come dressed in red to 'show racism the red card'. The drop down day was a great success last year and allowed us to purchase a huge variety of diverse books from the black-owned bookstore, Round Table Books

Office Update

Some reminders from the Office Team:

- **Payments** For lunch, trips, clubs and the residential, these should be made via Wisepay. If you do not have your login details, please email info@arkatwoodprimary.org. Lunch payments must be made two weeks in advance.
- **Absence** This should be reported to the school office by 8am. Phone, email to info@arkatwoodprimary.org or Parent Mail can be used.
- **Lunches** Children in Years 3 to 6 either have a school lunch or packed lunch and not a combination of both. This is to support the kitchen team in ordering sufficient food. Your child should bring their packed lunch with them at the start of the day.
- **Appointment** Please ensure the office given a minimum 24 hours notice if children are required to attend appointments out of school



Update from Atwood Governors

Governor Introduction I'm Jess Lipson and I have a son in Y5 and another son who left the school a year ago. I'm the school's parent governor and go to governor meetings to represent the parent community. Please feel free to grab me at the gate/email me to discuss anything you think should be brought to the governor meetings for discussion. I do not replace the usual lines of communication with the Headteacher, your child's teacher or the support staff at school. Email: p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org

Governor Update from Meeting on 7th October 2021 Miss Schofield-Newton (Phonics and Reading Lead) presented the Ark Atwood Reading Model to all governors which was incredibly informative. She illustrated how the reading model is being implemented in school, supporting all the children from learning Phonics in the Early Years to fluent reading and beyond. There is an increased focus on children's ability to read fluently with a new paring system implemented to improve participation and engagement which is going well. However, any pupil struggling with reading is receiving the extra support needed to catch them up as quickly as possible. Each class has an improved book corner with a new labelling system to encourage children to read for pleasure and help those who need more help find suitable books.

There was a 3-day summer school to help some of the year 6 children catch up with Maths and Literacy. The curriculum has been extended to capture some of the work missed during the lockdowns and the children are doing a lot of handwriting practice, spelling, and grammar to improve this. In addition, the school is trialling the grammar element of Ark's 'English Mastery' to help them quickly improve their skills. There has been the introduction of 2 PE leads this year as well as a new company employed to enable the school to offer a better sports provision for all the children.

Finally, it is the 10th year of Ark Atwood; there will be further discussions on how we will celebrate this.

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:



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 KS2 and KS1/Early Years):

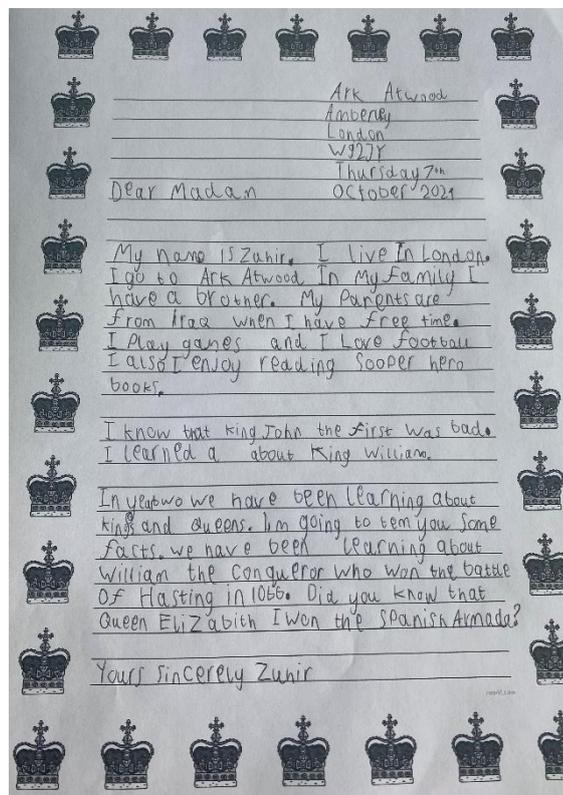
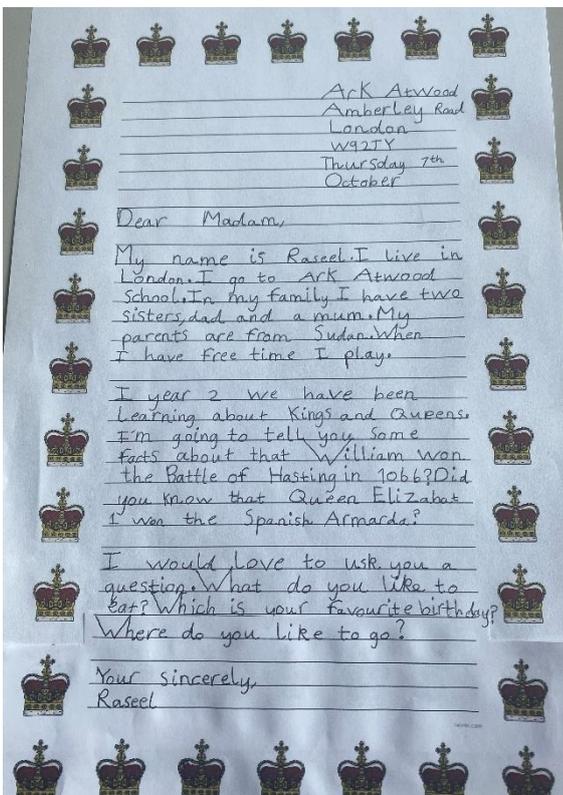
Class	Children
Norway	Hamza & Poppy
Belgium	Porsha & Kai
Brazil	Samira & Nathanael
Ghana	Sofia & Sohaib
Spain	Saja & Mason
Greece	Maryam & Santa
Australia	Atticus, Mourad & Retaj
Canada	Jas & Shorouk



Spotlight



Year Two have been learning about Kings and Queens. This week, the children have written letters to the Queen which tell her about us, our school and what we have been learning about. We have also asked her questions which we would like to have answered! Here are two letters from **Raseel and Zuhir**.



Climate Action Classrooms Competition

Westminster has launched its Climate Action Classrooms Competition which is open to all primary schools in the borough. Full details and guidance can be found online here:

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/climate-emergency/classroom-competition>. The competition is open until 19th November for all pupils in Key Stage 2.



Climate action classrooms competition

House Points

House Points totals this week:



373



351



402



422



1204



803

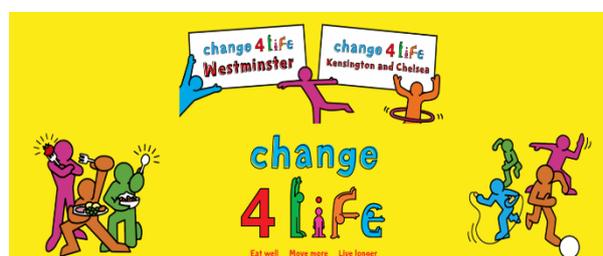


Congratulations to Respect & Responsibility for topping the table this week. Respect and Responsibility House Captain, Zayd, collected the trophy.



Change for Life Clubs

Next month, the Change 4 Life Service will be running a free 6-week clubs programme for children aged 5- 11 and their parents or carers in Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster, aimed at exploring healthier eating, physical activity and emotional wellbeing through fun games, practical activities and interactive discussions, and we'd love to invite your families to take part.



Please take a look at the website below to find our local centre, which will begin on Monday 8th November from 4.15 – 5.15pm at St Jude's Hall, 71 Ilbert Street, W10 4QH. Families can book a free place using the online form on the clubs page of our website: www.family-action.org.uk/change4lifeservice or by contacting us by phone or email (details on the flyer). If you would be able to share the flyer with your families that would be hugely appreciated.

We also offer free staff training, parent workshops, assemblies and in-class lessons to schools and community organisations, so if any of these would be of interest or we can help in any other way, please let me know.

Half Term Football Event

Harris Academy is running a football event over half term. See the poster on the right for details.

HARRIS ACADEMY BLOOMSBURY FOOTBALL

OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL ABILITIES

DATE & TIME
Monday 25th - Friday 29th OCTOBER 2021
9:30am - 3:30pm

VENUE
Harris Academy, St Johns Wood, Marlborough Hill, London NW8 0NL

NEAREST STATION
SWISS COTTAGE

AGES
7 - 14 YEARS

COST
£50 per day (financial assistance available)

WHAT TO BRING
Bottle of water, lunch and a snack, any medical instruments (such as inhaler or epi-pen)

EVENT CONTACT
Ben Gelbart - +447724608600
Cameron Gordon - +447729105596

BOOK NOW!

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 issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about APPLE GUIDED ACCESS

IPhones and iPads don't offer separate user accounts. So when you hand your Apple device to a child to play a game or watch a video, you're also handing them access to your email, the web, messaging and numerous other apps through which they could accidentally do something regrettable.

Apple Guided Access solves this potential problem by letting you restrict the iPhone or iPad to one particular app whenever your child uses the device. If they try and leave that app, they will be asked for a password or Face ID, meaning they can't access anything they shouldn't elsewhere on the device. Here, we show you how to find and set up the Guided Access feature, so you can confidently let your child borrow your iPhone or iPad.

How to set it up...

Step 1
To switch on Guided Access, open your Apple device's Settings – that's the one with the cog icon, normally found on the first of your home screen.

Step 2
In the Settings menu, scroll down and select Accessibility, then scroll down and select Guided Access.

Step 3
Enable Guided Access by tapping the toggle at the top. It should turn green, and a new series of options will appear.

Step 4
You can now customise Guided Access. Under Passcode Settings, for example, you can set a six-digit passcode that must be entered to turn Guided Access back off. You'll also find an option to quit Guided Access using Face ID if your device has that feature.

Step 5
There are audio options, such as scheduling an alert if you decide to set a time limit on Guided Access – to restrict gaming sessions to an hour, say. You can also set an alarm or spoken warning for when the time is almost up, so your child isn't suddenly kicked out of the app. It's a good way to avoid tantrums!

Step 6
Finally, you can alter the length of time before the device auto-locks. If your child is reading on the device's Kindle app, for example, you might want to stop the screen locking after only two minutes of nobody touching it – so they can read happily without interruption. You can select from pre-set time periods or disable the lock function altogether.

How to switch it on...

Step 1
When you need to start a Guided Access session, open the app your child wishes to use and then press the home/power button or side button on your device three times in quick succession.

Step 2
You can now select parts of the screen that you'd like to lock. If your child's reading on your Kindle app, for example, you could disable the icon that takes them to the main Kindle library – so they don't stumble across books written for an adult.

Step 3
The Options menu in the bottom right allows you to set a time limit for the session. Use the scrollable menu to specify the time limit in minutes or hours.

Step 4
Other options in this menu let you control access to settings such as the volume. So if your child's listening to music, you could lock the volume buttons (once it's set to a suitable level) so they can't damage their hearing by playing it too loud.

Step 5
When everything is set up how you want it, click Start. Your child will now not be able to leave that app. If they press the home button to exit, as usual, it will do nothing.

Step 6
The only way to leave Guided Access is to triple-click the home/power or side button (or double-click, if you set up the option to exit via Face ID). Without Face ID, you'll need the six-digit passcode to return to your home screen. Obviously, don't forget that code or let your child find out what it is!

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.

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National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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