



**Ark Atwood
Reception Open Days**

Tuesday 12th October (9.30am)
Tuesday 23rd November (9.30am)
Tuesday 11th January (9.30am)

Email the Office to book your place
info@arkatwoodprimary.org

Reception Open Days

If you know any families who are looking for a Reception place for their child for September 2022, please let them know about our Open Days. These sessions will be an opportunity to find out more about the school and to meet the Headteacher and Early Years Lead.

Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 1st October

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had some Covid issues this week in Year 3 and it is therefore a good time to remind everyone of the importance of regular testing. I have been in touch with Westminster Public Health today and they have shared the following advice:

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but do not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be ordered here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

If you have any questions about Covid, the controls the school has in place or any concerns, do let me know. We will continue to review our controls and make changes if needed.

It was nice to see lots of you at the Parent Forum earlier in the week and especially nice that we were able to do it in person. I hope the updates provided proved useful and that all your questions were answered. If you were not able to make it to the meeting, you can find the slides that I shared on the Atwood website here: <https://arkatwoodprimary.org/page-strips/parent-workshops> (scroll down).

As Viv Paxinos mentioned at the meeting, the Friends of Atwood are really keen to recruit more parents to their team. **The next meeting is on Thursday 7th October at 8.45am.** If you are interested in joining up and helping out, please come along.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Clubs

Clubs are starting next week. If your child has secured a place in a club, you will have received a Parent Mail today with further information and details of how to pay. There has been exceptionally high demand so not every child has been successful. However, these children will be given first priority at the next round of clubs.

The following clubs are taking place this term:

Day	Year Group	Club
Monday	Year One	Spanish
Monday	Year One/Two	Multi Skills
Tuesday	Year Two/Three	Creative
Tuesday	Year Five/Six	Jewellery
Tuesday	Reception	Arts and Crafts
Tuesday	Year Three	Football
Wednesday	Year Five	Coding
Wednesday	Year Two/Three	French
Wednesday	Year Five/Six	Football
Wednesday	Year Three/Four/Five/Six	Baking
Thursday	Year One/Two	Arabic
Thursday	Year Four	Arts
Thursday	Year Three/Four	Multi Skills
Thursday	Year Three/Four/Five/Six	Science
Friday	Year Four/Five/Six	Chess

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	Aadam and Malak
Belgium	Firass and Asia
Brazil	Koray and Kanon
Ghana	Zahra and Emily
Spain	Malak and Jvaughn
Greece	Sama and Lamar
Canada	Zayd and Amira
Australia	Kamali and Atticus



Year 6 Residential

This week we held a Parent Forum this week to provide Year 6 parents with more information about the residential taking place later in this academic year. Key points:

- Dates: Monday 13th June to Friday 17th June 2022
- Venue: Kingswood Isle of Wight: The centre covers 100 acres of fields and woodlands in a



cliff top location overlooking Whitecliff Bay with direct beach access. We will be taking part in an programme of activities to develop children's teamwork, communication and cooperation skills.

- Website: <http://www.kingswood.co.uk/locations/isle-of-wight/>
- Deposit: To secure your child's place on the residential, we require a £40 deposit to be paid by 5th November 2021. (The full breakdown of costs is in the letter that went home this week)

If you have any questions about the residential, please speak to Mr Evelyn, Miss Helliwell or Miss Brown.

House Points

House Points totals this week:



Congratulations to **Perseverance House**
for topping the table this week.
The trophy was presented to House Captain, Robin, this morning.



Traffic Management Proposals

Westminster City Council has published proposals for a traffic management scheme which will affect Amberley Road, Downfield Close, Foscoate Mews and Harrow Road. These particular proposals affect the top end of the road and include the introduction of a one way system. The proposals are published for consultation. If you would like to respond, you have until 20th October.

The documents are here:

http://westminstertransportationservices.co.uk/tmo/tmo_details.php?tt=2&id=1839&cid=1

We Are Recruiting – Premises Assistant

We are still looking to appoint a Premises Assistant to join the team. This is an exciting opportunity to join the team and help look after our site. Full details are on the Atwood website here:

<https://arkatwoodprimary.org/vacancies>.

If you know anyone who would be interested, do let them know. If you or they have any questions, please contact Mr Evelyn.

Parent/Teacher Book Club

The Book Club for parents and teachers will recommence again this term on Tuesday 12th October. The Venue is The Prince Alfred on Formosa Street from 6.30pm.

The book for discussion this time is 'Piranesi' by Susan Clarke - all are very welcome even if you haven't gotten round to reading it. Contact for any queries is Evelyn Hayes at hayes_evelyn@yahoo.co.uk.



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 game 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 Need to Know about POKÉMON GO

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 7

Pokémon GO has been among the world's most popular mobile games since its spectacular release in 2016. It's recently enjoyed a resurgence, thanks partly to people combining entertainment and exercise during lockdown. In Pokémon GO – like the Pokémon TV show, trading card series and other video games – players capture, train and battle with their Pokémon creatures: physically exploring locations while using augmented reality via their phone's screen. The game generally provides a positive experience, but there are still some safety concerns to consider.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Pokémon GO requires players to visit in-game landmarks like Pokéstops and Gyms. These are often situated at public real-world locations such as churches or post offices. Sometimes, however, they can inadvertently end up being placed in dangerous areas which are unsuitable for children, even when accompanied by an adult: near a construction site or a main road, for example.

STRANGERS & MEETING OFFLINE

Players often cooperate with friends in the game, and there are many online discussion hangouts. As well as sharing tips and info, these groups may arrange to meet offline to catch Pokémon or attend raids (communal events where players flock to the same real-world place for a mass battle). This can put children at risk of being messaged and invited to meet by strangers under the pretence of talking about the game.

DATA COLLECTION

When a player logs into their Pokémon GO account, the game collects personal data about the user and their device. Locations, emails, names, ages and even camera images can all be accessed. What then happens to this information is open to debate. Niantic, the game's developers, maintain that they do not sell user information to third parties – but the fact that they have it at all is a concern, nonetheless.

VISIBLE PROFILES & LOCATION

Pokémon GO players can add each other as 'friends' in the game by sharing their trainer codes. Two trainers who do this can then view each other's information, such as their username. If a username gives any clues to the player's real name or personal details, a stranger may then be able to look them up online. The game also lets users upload images to social media, which could publicly disclose a child's exact location.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game uses a currency called Pokécoins, which can be bought for real money (in bundles between £0.79 and £99.99) and exchanged for in-game items such as Pokéballs and berries. It's extremely easy for a child to purchase Pokécoins (even accidentally) if there's a payment method connected to their mobile phone – and possibly rack up a sizeable bill without realising it!

Advice for Parents & Carers

PLAY ALONGSIDE YOUR CHILD

Finding and catching Pokémon with young ones could turn into a great mutual hobby. At 25 years old, it's one of the few games franchises that spans two generations. Enjoying the game together will give you plenty of new things to talk about with your child – and if you played Pokémon in your own childhood, you might impress them with your knowledge of the digital critters!

ENCOURAGE AWARENESS

Remind your child of the physical dangers they could face while catching Pokémon and emphasise staying aware of their surroundings. The game will often alert children (through their phone) when they are close to an interesting Pokémon item – usually sending them excitedly rushing off to find it – so they should never play Pokémon GO near busy roads or in places they don't know well.

DISGUISE THE EXERCISE

One of Pokémon GO's benefits is that it encourages young (and not-so-young!) ones to get exercise outdoors. Some parts of the game can be completed from home, but it's best experienced while walking around your local area. Certain tasks (like visiting Pokéstops) can be repeated every day – and an hour outside having fun catching Pokémon will hardly feel like exercise at all!

USE AN OLDER PHONE

If children use an older phone to play Pokémon GO, then they won't be walking around with their own new device, which could get broken or stolen. Parents are also less likely to have left a credit card linked to the old mobile. It also means that you can limit the amount of information used to set up an account, and what companies who gain access to your data can do with it.

AGREE PLAY BOUNDARIES

Ensure your child knows where they are (and aren't) allowed to go searching for Pokémon, when they have to be home, and how often they can play the game. Talk to other young Pokémon GO fans' parents or carers to see what boundaries they set for their children. Lunchtimes (if allowed by the school) or after school are ideal times for getting some exercise and catching all those Pokémon!

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UKiAD Gaming and GAMINGible. Having started gaming at a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work – but, more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES: <https://heimdatasecurity.com/blog/is-pokemon-go-safe/>
<https://bleedingcool.com/games/pokemon-go-announces-quality-of-life-updates-for-february-2021/>

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