



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

**Achieving
Success**

Newsletter, Friday 24th May 2019

Message from Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers

It was lovely to officially open our brand new Roof Garden on Tuesday. Lots of conversations are already happening about how and when it is going to be used so be in no doubt that your children will be spending time there! There are a few photos further down and on Atwood's Twitter page – do take a look.



A number of parents have asked about staffing next year so I felt it was a good time to tell you, very sadly, that Stephanie Lester and Jo Rees will be leaving us in July. You don't need me to tell you just what an enormous part they have played in the success of our school over many years and, as someone who used to work across the Ark network, just how highly they are thought of away from Atwood. Theirs are big shoes to fill. I hope you will join me in wishing them all the very best for the future and our very best wishes.

Enjoy the half term holiday. Wherever you are going and whatever you are doing, I do hope you have a great time and look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 3rd June – gates open at 8.25am

Best Wishes

James Evelyn

Head of School, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Atwood Attendance

It is important that children are at school every day. Every lesson and every session matters and children should only be off school in exceptional circumstances. Our attendance target is to **exceed 96%**. Below are the attendance figures for this week.

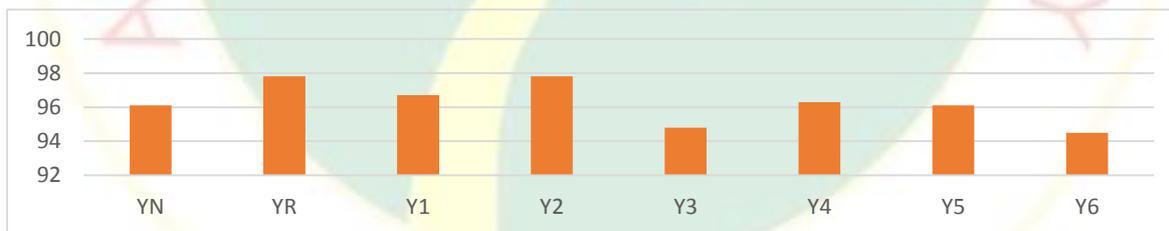
The whole school attendance figure for this week is: **96.36%**

The Key Stage **One** class with the highest attendance this week is: **BARBADOS**

The Key Stage **Two** class with the highest attendance this week is: **SPAIN**



Year group attendance numbers for this week:



Roof Garden Official Opening

Tuesday saw the official opening of our new Roof Garden. Mr Upfield made a speech before Karen Buck MP, with the help of some former pupils, cut the ribbon to declare the garden open! The sun shone on this wonderful new space that really is an exciting addition of our school environment. All classes had a chance to visit the Roof Garden and to share their thoughts on how we will look after it. An enormous thank you to the parents, families, sponsors and everyone who have worked so tirelessly to make it happen.



We would like to thank the following people and organisations for their support in making this wonderful Roof Garden a reality.

- Parents, children and staff of Ark Atwood
- Friends of Ark Atwood
- The Greener City Fund Community Grant Scheme
- BlowUp Media – London Community Foundation
- Westminster City Council
- Rose Foundation
- School Food Matters
- Tesco Bags of Help
- GoodGym Westminster
- Clinch Designs Clinch Architects

Parent Forum

Our next Parent Forum is taking place on **Thursday 6th June at 8.45am** in the School Hall. All parents are invited. You are welcome to submit any questions you may have in advance - these can be emailed to one of our parent governors, Alisa Hall, who can be contacted at p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org. The Parent Governor positions sit on the school's governing body and represent the views and interests of parents. They therefore act as a conduit between the school and the parents. They therefore won't be answering your parent forum questions but will be sharing them with the Headteacher.

A Day in the Life of Ghana Class

Yesterday was Ghana class' turn to perform their assembly during which they took everyone through a day in their life at school. Through the school day, the children in Ghana engage in a wide breadth range of learning. The children represented all of this learning through a musical extravaganza. They also were keen for the audience to know that while they take their learning seriously, they also know how to have lots of fun! The assembly truly embodied the spirit of Ghana class - a strong community of enthusiastic learners who love and care for each other.



Big Battery Hunt



Although we have already filled six tubs of batteries for recycling, the deadline for collecting expired batteries is our first week back after half-term break. It would be great if we could have one final push to collect as many batteries as we can and stop them reaching landfill. Remember to search every drawer, under every sofa and behind every cabinet this half-term. Children have had great success in asking family members – even asking parents to check with work places and colleagues! Now it's time to make sure you collect every last battery!

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)

During the week beginning 10th June we will be teaching our annual programme of Sex and Relationships (SRE) lessons. Our policy on SRE can be found on our school website under the policies tab.

At Atwood we use the programme *Teaching SRE with Confidence in Primary Schools*. Developed extensively with primary schools, the resource provides tried and tested, well-structured lesson plans and accompanying materials. A letter containing more information is being sent out today.

There will be a parent workshop outlining the year 5 and 6 syllabus on **Tuesday 11th June at 8.45am** for any parents that would like to attend, with Miss Rees and Miss Lester. This will look at the details of the curriculum for year 5 and 6, the details discussed and how this will be taught.

Any questions in regards to the content for year R-6, please see class teachers or email:

Miss Lester (s.lester@arkatwoodprimary.org) or
Miss Rees (j.rees@arkatwoodprimary.org).

End of Day Collection

Parents are reminded that the class teacher must be notified in advance if a different family member is coming to collect children at the end of the school day. Parents should tell the office or the class teacher in advance.

For safeguarding reasons, teachers will **never** release children to unknown adults unless advance notification has been received.

Finally, verbal abuse of any kind will **not** be tolerated. Adults who verbally abuse staff will not be allowed back on the premises.

If you have any questions regarding the end of day arrangements, please speak to Mr Evelyn.

Friends of Ark Atwood: Update

I hope everyone is looking forward to the Eco Summer Fair, on **Saturday 15th June between 12pm and 4pm**. All the money raised goes directly to school enhancements initiatives. This year, we are trying to be as green as possible; you'll see eco arts activities, gardening, upcycling workshops and more green initiatives. We also have many new games for the children and fantastic prizes up for grabs! See below for more info on the day, including stalls and donations. If you want to get in touch about the Fair or anything else, please feel free to email us at atwoodfriends@gmail.com



What is a Jolly Jam Jar?

1. Use any size jar, making sure it is clean and the labels have been taken off
2. Try to make your jar appeal to either a girl or a boy. Fill your jar with small items that you think children would like to win, like the list on the right – anything that fits in the jar.
3. Decorate your jar to a summer theme i.e. with stickers, ribbons, glitter, and so on.

Jolly Jam Jars are back! Half term project

At our summer fair we will be running a Jolly Jam Jar stall. Over the half term we would like you to decorate 1 or 2 jam jars in a summer theme and fill it with small toys or wrapped sweets (no chocolate or nuts). Please bring in your decorated Jam Jar in to school by the 7th June. There will be a prize for the 3 best decorated Jam Jars so don't forget to put your name and class on it. You can find ideas here: www.vickymyerscreations.co.uk. We look forward to seeing your creations!

DONATIONS

TOMBOLA - We need donations for the Tombola stall, please bring donations such as new toiletries, toys, stationary, bottles of wine etc. Preloved Books and Uniform Sales - Please drop of used books (in good condition) and any of the Green uniform clothing, in good condition. All donations can be dropped off daily as of the 4th of June, in the SUMMER FAIR boxes near the lost property.

FOOD AND DRINKS - We really need people to bake cakes or biscuits, healthy snacks for selling on the refreshment stall. If you are able to help, please bring along your yummy treats on the day of the Fair. We also need refreshments and ice cream/lolly donations. Entertainment - We are still looking for a face painter and a dj ! Please get in touch if you can help.

STALL VOLUNTEERS - Class representatives will soon be canvassing in the playground to gain help for your class stall – your help in giving an hour of your time, will ensure that we are able to run the stall and stops the same parent(s) manning it all day – so please volunteer. Helping is easy and fun (we promise!). Below is the list of stalls that still require volunteers. Sign up sheets can be found outside the class room. Happy Half term! Your FoAA team.

STALL	CLASS	STALL	CLASS	STALL	CLASS
Cakes and Hot drinks	China	Seeds bombs and guerrilla gardening	Nursery	Biscuit Decorating	Italy
Lemonade Stand	Y6 students	Father's day card	France	Sumo Wrestling	Brazil
Cold Drinks	Norway	Potato block painting	Ghana	Jolly Jam Jar	Mexico
Hook the duck	Barbados	Boat Race game	India		
Luckytree	Spain	Lollypop tree	Belgium		