



Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 26th June

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week, we welcome back our Year 5 children which is fantastic news. Westminster Adult Education Service has kindly lent us their classrooms which has allowed this to happen – a big thank you to them. The children based in these bubbles will still follow the same protocols as other year groups such as lunch in their classroom and the various other hygiene measures that are in place. The increase in numbers from the surveys this week has also meant that we now have three Year 6 bubbles rather than two.

In order to facilitate the expansion into Year 5, we have also had to obtain final numbers from families so we could plan out staffing and rooms accordingly. As a result there will be no more weekly surveys and we expect to continue with the same groupings and numbers through to the end of term. For those children not at school, they should be continuing with home learning; weekly phone calls will continue from the teaching team.

Finally, a number of children were collected late today. Please pay close attention to the timings so we can maintain the integrity of the bubble system – there is no late collection option available.

It was lovely to see lots of you on Wednesday at the pop up library run by our librarian, Fiona. We will be looking to repeat this in a couple of weeks so that children can keep on reading and reading.

Have a lovely weekend and be careful in the sunshine.

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

Ark Sports Day



You should have received details from your child's teacher regarding the plans for Atwood's participation in the Ark Sports Day Challenge.

A reminder that Atwood is taking part in the Ark Sports Day Challenge - to get the schools across the Ark network to collectively cycle, run and walk the distance around the world. It is 40,000km!

To take on this challenge, alongside our teachers we are calling upon our students and their families to do an activity that add to our kilometre count and helps us reach our target.

Let's inspire each other with what we can achieve together – doing something fun, healthy and positive along the way. Be part of a sports day with a difference.

Some staff members have been setting out their plans:

- Miss Bernstein: I will continue to walk to and from school each day which is approximately 5km each way. I will also be logging in my morning runs/ cycling trips!
- Miss Harris: For the Ark Sports day, I am going to complete the last few runs I have left on the 'couch to 5k app' and will record my runs on 'strava'. In addition I will record my walks to and from school every day!

To sign up, all you need to do is visit: www.arksportsdaychallenge.com

Uniform



Our uniform providers have been in touch again to say that **Wednesday 15th July** is the final day for orders that come with a guarantee of delivery for September.

Uniform details can be found on our website at:
<https://arkatwoodprimary.org/uniform>

Contact details for our uniform suppliers:
Urban Apparel, 373 Harrow Road, London, W9 3NA. Tel: 020 8964 2743
(Open 9am to 6pm – Monday to Saturday)

Children's Work

From 'Touching the Void'

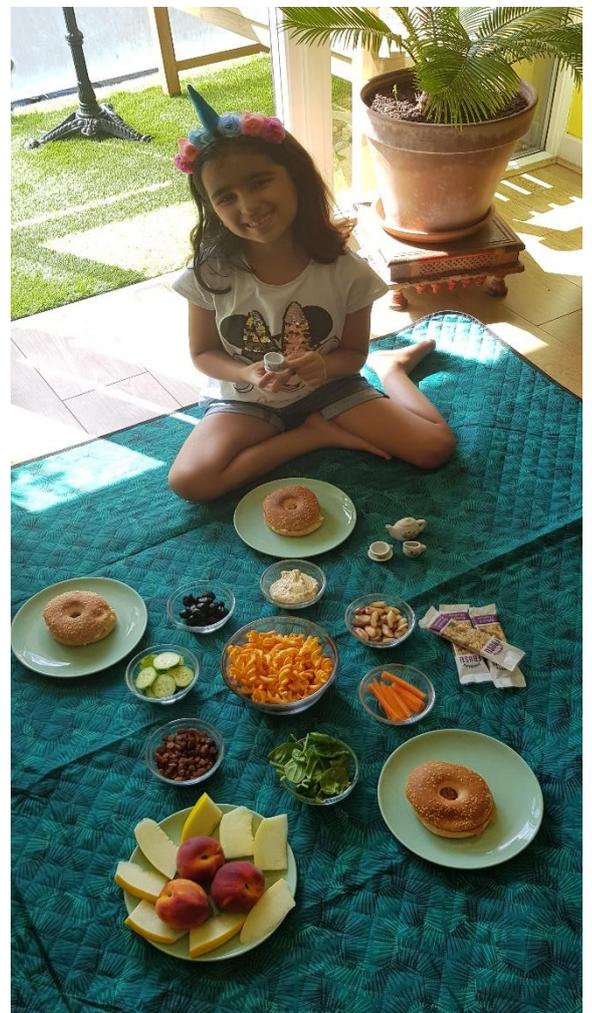
Re-imagined by Gabriel Ffinch

The wind swept across the mountain, toying with the snow and moulding it as if it were putty. I was already covered by a thin layer of ice and the cold had begun slowly biting its way through the gloves and onto my hands. The landscape that had once looked beautiful now seemed malign and vindictive. The mountain was torturing me as if I was an ant that would be played with and eventually squashed.

I gave two tugs on the rope, our sign for Joe to stand on one leg so I could lower him further. No result, I shouted "Joe!" Silly me, of course he couldn't hear, no one could. The wind snatched my voice away before it had gone a metre. We were going to die here. It wouldn't be long. Time was passing, quickly. I could feel my hands freezing and the rope cutting into my hips. How much longer Joe? My body frozen, time running out, I began to think the unthinkable...

Should I? Should I cut the rope? Doing so would mean condemning Joe to death. I couldn't, that would be the most wicked, selfish thing. But night was coming on and I could feel the temperature dropping fast. I began to imagine Christmas, roasted turkey, still hot, sitting on the clothed table, the tree glowing by candlelight and the soft warm bed - all these pleasures of life that could be slipping away from me at this very moment. I felt my hand reaching for the knife. No, I mustn't. Too late... I'd done it.

Enjoy this lovely writing from
Gabriel Ffinch



Sofia loved preparing and enjoying her food as an "indoor picnic" as part of KSI Playtime.

The darkening sky was a giant net, casting itself over me sinisterly. Sharp, jagged rocks jutting out randomly, almost impaling me. Scratching at the palms of my hands, the rough rocks and snow were as hard as stone and as cold as ice. Like a giant mouth, a deep crevasse gaped below me. The icy wind howled past me like an injured wolf on the brink of death, whipping minute ice crystals into my already numb, frost-bitten face.

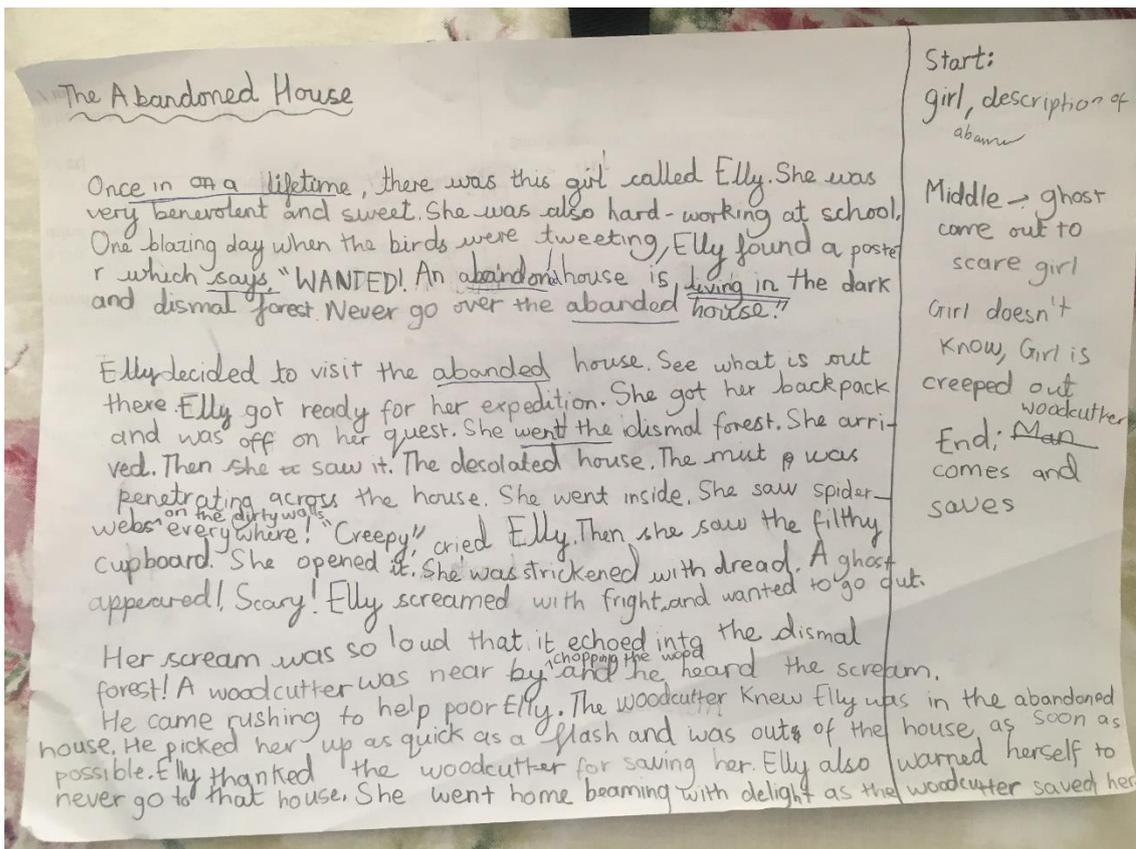


How have we even managed to get this far? Who knows if we'll get to the other side? The weight of my friend pulled me down into the void below me. I knew I must do this. Taking a deep breath, the cold mountain air suddenly cleared up my chaotic brain. I was shocked and disgusted at my own thoughts. How on earth could I have thought like that? Joe is my climbing partner, my ally, my brother, and if I murder him like this to save own life, my conscience would not allow me to live on the face of the earth for another day. But wait. If I don't do this soon, not only will he

die, but I will also lose my own life for nothing. No-one will know that I made this pointless sacrifice, not even a soul. My conscience fought with the animal instinct to fight for survival, and the latter won...

Did I have any choice? I doubt it. Every inch I lowered him, I could also feel the empty abyss below pulling me an inch closer. We were both going to vanish from this world secretly and silently. But should, could and would I betray him like this? So cowardly and inhumanely? "No, don't think like this," I told myself. Save myself or condemn us both? Save myself or condemn us both? Save myself or condemn us both... That thought whirled round and round my head like the storm around me. Finally, I had made my decision. Slowly but steadily, I took out my knife and hung it above the rope, but suddenly, I saw the faint, shimmering reflection of Joe in my crystal-clear, snow-white blade that was twinkling menacingly...

Henry's creative writing piece inspired by Joe Simpson and Simon Yates' disastrous, near-fatal climb of the Peruvian Andes



Aanya wanted to share her story telling about an abandoned house which she made up, we are both trying to work on her creative writing skills.

Our Atwood scholars have been show-casing their love of reading and creativity by recreating book covers! Whilst it's usually the words inside a book that impact us, children have been using everyday things around them to highlight the covers too! Scholars, you absolutely smashed it - these look fantastic!



Ark Atwood Book Cover Challenge

