



Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 29th January

Dear Parents,

As you may have seen in the news this week, the Prime Minister said it was his hope that schools would begin to re-open from Monday 8th March with two weeks' notice given in order to provide sufficient time to prepare. Clearly this date is an ambition that is dependent on a number of factors and we are crossing our fingers this date is realised.

Once the date is confirmed, we will begin planning our re-opening and share with you all the details when they are confirmed. The government has also confirmed that onsite provision will be closed during the upcoming half term – please also note that Friday 12th February and Monday 22nd February are inset days and there will therefore be no remote learning provision or onsite Community Classroom on these days.

Atwood Devices I am now able to confirm that in the coming week, we will be able to provide laptops to Key Stage One families. If you require the loan of an Atwood device for your child, please complete the survey via the link below. Please note these are for families who do not have sufficient devices so please only apply if you need one. We will be in touch next week with further information about distribution.

Survey:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=dBTLADSIjUaCn2NuzjLCTBS1zwkdkZ1Mh19Njqsj_WxUQzNPUjhJU0w2TkVHQ1g2WFMzUEQzVUZYNs4u

Parent Forum It was lovely to see many of you at the Parent Forums that took place earlier in the week. If you were unable to attend, the slides which I talked through in both sessions are on the Atwood website here: <https://arkatwoodprimary.org/sites/default/files/Parent%20Forum%20%28January%202021%29.pdf>.

Some further information in response to questions from parents:

- Exercise books: we will be providing more exercise books next week. Will confirm the collection day on Monday.
- Earlier uploading of work: work is currently being uploaded at 9am. This is so that teachers have time in the morning, as in normal times, to prepare lessons and finish creating resources. I recognise that some working parents would appreciate resources earlier in the day so they can set their child/children off but I do need to give teachers time to complete their preparation work.
- Some Nursery were asking about Free School Meal vouchers. Please contact Sherina Sinclair in the office who will be able to let you know if you are eligible for these.
- Assessments: As mentioned in previous newsletters, external examinations have been cancelled and some parents were keen to know about our internal assessment processes. Ark Schools has published a revised internal assessment schedule that assumes an 8th March return date. We will be re-assessing children shortly after school returns and will share these outcomes at subsequent parents evening sessions so you have a good understanding of where your child is in their learning.

I introduced our new parent governor, Jess Lipson, at the parent forums. If you would like to contact Jess, please email her at p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org. Our next governing body meeting is taking place next week and Jess will provide an update for parents following this meeting.

Parents may also be interest in a lockdown research project run by the Teacher Tapp website where they are seeking feedback from parents. Click on the link to find out more: <https://teachertapp.co.uk/the-big-lockdown-learning-parent-survey/>

Careers Survey A massive thank you to all of you who have kindly provided information for our developing careers programme. Some of you have submitted information but have not sent over a photo – please could you send me a photo this can be included in the profiles we will be creating in due course.

I am still keen to receive more submissions so if you are happy to submit information, please click on the link below. We really want a wide range of jobs and career paths so please participate if you are able to. <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=dBTLADSljUaCn2NuzjLCTNsN54d3ox9GgCyFZJT0uFZUQTRJUEVVNTg1SkIUUE9KVUcwMTZFQU41Vy4u>



Virtual Achievement Assemblies Congratulations to all our superb scholars who received certificates at today's virtual assemblies.

| | Scholar of the Week | Headteacher's Values | | Scholar of the Week | Headteacher's Values |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|
| India | Sam | Thomas | Belgium | Mohamed | Kayla |
| Mexico | Sophie | Daniel | Ghana | Kensie | Almour |
| Italy | Amani | Eneo | Brazil | Ishaq | Vesa |
| France | Maryam | Donnie | Greece | Poppy | Eric |
| China | Yusuke | Seher | Spain | Rayanna | Saan |
| Barbados | Dylan | Kai | Canada | Rosabella | Kimiya |
| Norway | Eli | Sasha | Australia | Manel | Ilias |

External Events

During this period, we are very happy to share external events/opportunities that children can participate in. Please submit these to Mr Evelyn to be included.

Online Drama Classes

My name is Teri and I run an organisation called Speak Up, Speak Up is a drama workshop organisation helping children build their confidence through creativity! Since the outbreak of Covid we have successfully transferred all our Drama Club classes online. Our mission this lockdown is to continue to boost children's wellbeing, keep them creative and of course to have fun!

At Speak Up we pride ourselves in creating bespoke workshops for children, some of the skills we would explore in our lessons are performance skills, approaching new scripts, exploring physicality through space, using our voice properly and much more! We believe in introducing a safe space where students can share their ideas in a constructive and fun filled environment, which then allows the students to build their confidence and self-esteem. We want to continue to play our part in keeping the children entertained, connected and creative with other children!

ONLINE DRAMA CLASSES SCHEDULE

Monday
 Junior School - 4.30pm - 5.00pm
 Infant School - 5.00pm - 5.30pm

Tuesday
 Junior School - 4.30pm - 5.00pm
 Infant School - 5.00pm - 5.30pm

Thursday
 Junior School - 4.30pm - 5.00pm
 Infant School - 5.00pm - 5.30pm

Cost
 £4.00 a class

CONFIDENCE THROUGH
SPEAK UP
 CREATIVITY

🐦 📷 📺 SPEAKUPEUK.CO.UK INFO@SPEAKUPEUK.CO.UK

All drama clubs run via Zoom after school or at lunch time. The cost for the drama club is £4 for 30 minutes, running on a termly basis. All liaising with parents and payments would go directly through me, as I am highly aware how busy schools are at the moment.