



## **Ark Atwood: Newsletter, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Every week brings more children back into school and this week, we welcomed our Year 5s onto the newly acquired, albeit temporarily, top floor. They have settled back into a slightly adapted routine and it has been lovely to have them at school – another step on the road back to normality.

Following discussions with colleagues within the Ark network, we have taken the decision to **close for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July** for all year groups attending the school including the Community Classroom. Friday finishing times will apply as normal. We have made this decision to give us time to reorder the school, for staff to hold handover meetings ahead of next term and to ensure other work can take place ahead of the summer holidays. In line with our risk assessment we have been minimising meetings since the phased reopening to ensure that staff can travel out of peak times as far as possible. **The last day of home learning will also be Friday 17th July.**

The final day of term for children in all year groups, the Community Classroom and Home Learning has been revised and is now **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.**

Before the end of term we will be:

1. Sharing your child's end of term report. Any questions arising from the report can be discussed in the weekly phone call during w/c 13th July
2. Holding another pop up library session on Wednesday 8th July (10.30am – 12.00pm) where families can take out and return books
3. Sharing holiday homework for each year group. We will share dedicated pick up times with you in due course.

As some of you may know, Karen Stack, our Office Manager, will be leaving Atwood next Friday (10<sup>th</sup> July). Karen has been at Atwood since 2013 and has played a major role in the school's success over many years. From a personal perspective, I lean on Karen for support and guidance every single day and value her help enormously. Please join me in wishing Karen all the very best in her new role; we thank her enormously for everything she has done. I am hoping to announce her successor in the next week or so.

Finally, I am sure you will have seen the government's announcement yesterday regarding the arrangements for September. We will be looking at these in detail and making decisions next week in line with additional guidelines from Ark Schools. These will be shared with families by the end of term. If you have any questions or queries, do catch me on the gate.

Have a wonderful weekend.

James Evelyn  
*Headteacher, Ark Atwood Primary Academy*

## E-Safety

At this time, we are all using our devices more and relying on the internet to communicate with friends and family. It is important to be able to maintain connections and continue to socialise, however we must remember that the same expectations and manners in real life apply to our voices online. At Ark Atwood, we would encourage you to have conversations with your children to ensure that their online time is positive.

We use our same values online as we do in person:

- We only use kind words and share content that makes ourselves and others happy. If we wouldn't say it in the playground, we shouldn't say it online.
- We ask consent before sharing another person's picture or personal message with others.
- We show or ask trusted adults when we feel uncomfortable about something we have seen or done online.

As a community, we must ensure your child's online content continues to be monitored. Online messaging and gaming may be an important part of your child's social life at this time and so it is important that conversations are happening regularly to ensure they are able to navigate the challenges that come with a growing online presence. Next week in our community bubbles, each year group will have a focused e-safety PSHE session to help our children navigate their online use.

**WhatsApp** is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an Internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.

**AGE RESTRICTION 16+**

**What parents need to know about WhatsApp**

**AGE LIMIT CHANGE**  
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

**FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES**  
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

**CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**  
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with someone they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

**THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING**  
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

**LIVE LOCATION SHARING**  
WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to follow their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.

**National Online Safety**

**Top Tips for Parents**

**CREATE A SAFE PROFILE**  
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

**REPORT SCAM MESSAGES**  
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam'.

**DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES**  
If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

**EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE**  
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list—they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

**LEAVE A GROUP**  
If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once. If they leave again, they cannot be added again.

**SET TIME LIMITS**  
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

**USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY**  
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/apr/20/whatsapp-places-16-bar-against-the-mystery-is-how>; <https://whatsapp.com>; <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/technology/whatsapp-update-banned-india-blocks-forward-messages-84648421.html>

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This is not a definitive guide. Please always check with the app's support information to see if your security and privacy concerns are addressed.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

## Free School Meals Vouchers

The government recently confirmed that those families who have been receiving Free School Meals vouchers over the past few months will continue to receive this financial support over the summer holidays. Families will receive the full amount for the 6 weeks during w/c 21<sup>st</sup> July. This amount, totalling £90, will be for the whole of the summer holidays. This will be the final payment following the announcement of a full school return in September.

## Uniform



Our uniform providers have been in touch again to say that **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 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>

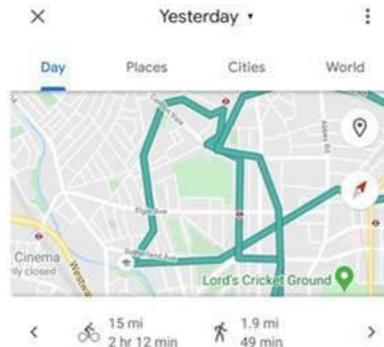
Contact details for our uniform suppliers:  
Urban Apparel, 373 Harrow Road, London, W9 3NA. Tel: 020 8964 2743  
(Open 9am to 6pm – Monday to Saturday)

## Sports Day



We are so excited that the Sports Day Challenge has started! Track your distances and support your house here: <https://www.arksportsdaychallenge.com/>

Sabira has an inspirational message for Scholarship House: “Come on, let’s win!” Yesterday Sabira walked and ran around her house, totalling an amazing 6929 steps! = 5km! What an absolute inspiration to our Year 2 team! Miss Sew (Integrity House) has also been clocking up her kilometres for the teacher challenge and did a big cycle to and around Atwood to kick off the challenge. She has even spotted some Year 2 scholars exercising whilst on her bike so wave back if you see her! Families, your distances are all included too so join in and record your distance for your next walk, run, scoot or cycle! Inside and outside both count – can you try walking 1km at home with this video?



## Fundraising

Yasemi (Brazil class) and Sama (Norway class) have been growing their hair for donation to the Little Princess Trust. You may already know that this organisation provides wigs to children with cancer who have lost their hair. The girls have been growing their hair for two years and with their hair-cut on 4th July, we want to them to know how immensely proud we are of them.

August Pullmans's principal in the book 'Wonder' asks his students to think about how our world could be if we were all 'kinder than is necessary'. Yasemi and Sama, thank you for your kindness and for thinking of others. Please visit their JustGiving page to pledge your support:

Link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/thegirlshaircut/>

## Children's Work



We have been enjoying the lovely roof garden and using our outdoor classroom as an opportunity for fruit and story time.



Rayanna (Brazil class) and her brother Aboudi have been carefully nurturing seeds! They were delighted when the seeds produced a shoot – their careful work has paid off! As well as flowers, the children have also been growing tomatoes and beans. Keep us updated – we might draw on your expertise for the Roof Garden!

Year 5 are back and straight into origami. Here they are racing their origami frogs!

