



**Achieving  
Success**

**Ark Atwood Primary Academy**  
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[www.arkatwoodprimary.org](http://www.arkatwoodprimary.org) / @ArkAtwood

**Newsletter, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

### Message from Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I know lots of parents are concerned about the Coronavirus and the impact on schools. Like other schools, we continue to receive guidance from Public Health England, the Department for Education, Westminster City Council and Ark Schools on a regular basis. At present, the guidance is that schools should continue to operate as normal but with a specific focus on handwashing and keeping clean. As a precaution, we have made the following changes:

- We have temporarily paused the start of day handshake. To keep children's arrival warm and welcoming, staff have been asked to greet children with, perhaps, a touching of elbows to inject some humour.
- Time has been set aside for all children to wash their hands before lunch
- Frequent sanitising of key 'touch' areas like door handles, taps, banisters etc

You are welcome to send your child to school with their own hand sanitiser – please make sure it is named as school cannot be held responsible for any mislaid items.

Next week, the Y3 children are scheduled to go to the British Museum on Friday. I know some parents are concerned about this but, again, the guidance from the various authorities is that trips should go ahead. We will review this and make a final decision next week based upon the latest advice.

The Department for Education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about Coronavirus related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687
- Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)
- Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Further advice is available from the NHS at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Do let me know if you have any questions.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn

Head of School, Ark Atwood Primary Academy

### Parent Forum

All parents are invited to our Spring term parent forum at **8.45am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

#### 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%**.

**Whole School  
Attendance this  
week:**

**96.51%**

**Best Class  
Attendance this  
week:**

**BRAZIL**

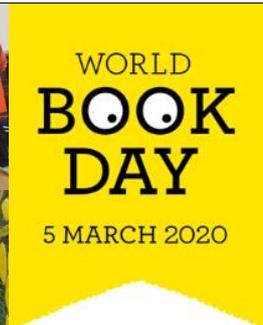


<b>Globe</b> 97.5%	<b>Mexico</b> 97%	<b>India</b> 96.3%	<b>Italy</b> 97%	<b>France</b> 97.3%	<b>China</b> 95%	<b>Barbados</b> 95%	<b>Norway</b> 94.6%
<b>Belgium</b> 96.9%	<b>Ghana</b> 99%	<b>Brazil</b> 99.67%	<b>Greece</b> 94%	<b>Spain</b> 93%	<b>Canada</b> 97.24%	<b>Australia</b> 97.93%	

## Online Safety

We know that children enjoy playing on devices and accessing content on the internet. We also know it is very important that children are only able to access appropriate content and are safe online. Most devices come with parent controls that enable adults to filter out content and control what their child/children can see (please use these). Our local Safer Schools police officer has shared a number of websites that you may find useful in ensuring your child is safe online:

- <https://hollieguard.com/> An App which promotes personal safety
- <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> This website allows you to enter the name of an app, or social media platform, and it will give detailed information about it, and tips on staying safe and safe user practices.
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> NSPCC – info on online safety, how to talk to your child about it, and how to set up parental controls, and help them understand how to have a safe online presence



## World Book Day

Yesterday was World Book Day and, as always, the Atwood children went 'all in' with wonderful costumes of their favourite book-based characters. Activities took place across the school including readings in both assemblies, a KSI cat walk with children showing off their fantastic costumes and a whole host of other activities. A large scale Book Swap also took place with all children visiting the library to swap books – many thanks for all the donations and also to Fiona and her dedicated library team for their hard work throughout the day. We didn't see them stop all day!



## Roof Garden

Many parents have been asking about the Roof Garden and when this lovely area will be fully open to all. In last week's newsletter, we reported that due to structural issues, the roof garden was 'unfit to use'. This is not correct – we are waiting for confirmation and for various administrative and compliance requirements to be completed so that it can be fully signed off and this seems to be taking a lot of time. Apologies for the incorrect information last week but please be reassured that discussions are ongoing between all parties in the hope of a speedy resolution.

## Ark Cycling Event

Ark Schools is running a large scale cycling event this summer to raise funds. The event takes place on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June** and goes from Ark Bolingbroke (near Clapham Junction) all the way to Ark Alexandra (in Hastings).

If you are interested in taking part, please email James Evelyn ([j.evelyn@arkatwoodprimary.org](mailto:j.evelyn@arkatwoodprimary.org)) by 20<sup>th</sup> April. There is a £40 participation fee with a fundraising target of £250. An optional coach return is available for £25.

## Y5/6 Road Safety Assembly

This morning, children in years 5 and 6 attended a special road safety workshop. The session promoted essential road safety information, equipped students with essential skills to stay safe when travelling on and around roads, and also highlighted the negative impact of excessive traffic and vehicle 'idling' outside of schools.



## Friends of Ark Atwood Update

Reminder we have a Bake Sale coming up today after school!

We've got lots of exciting fundraising activities coming up over the next few months. Whilst we are still finalising dates - below is a snapshot. As always, please feel free to contact us to get involved or if you have ideas you'd like to suggest.

**Easter Festivities** Easter Decorating is back! After last year's success we look forward to seeing how creative the children will be this year. All eggs will be displayed outside the classrooms, and every child will receive an Easter goody for participation. Suggested donation of £1 per child. All eggs must be brought in by the Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**Earth Day** We will be extending Earth Day to Earth Week this year! This will take place the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. We will launch our Earth Day Arts Initiative during assembly 3<sup>rd</sup> April, where we will ask students to source items during the Easter Break, in order to create a piece of art representing one of the UN Sustainability Goals.

During Earth Week we will have various activities like a non-uniform day on Earth Day (21<sup>st</sup> April), where we will ask the children to come in dressed in Earth colours and money raised on this day will go to Just One Tree, a global tree planting initiative. Every child will create a piece of art which will be on display in our Earth Day exhibition on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April, parents will be able to purchase the art work. All funds raised from the art exhibition will support buying indoor Green walls, which the children will help plant and also improve the air circulation.

**Westminster Mile** We will be organising an Atwood team to run the Westminster mile on 24<sup>th</sup> May – more info coming soon!

**Summer Fair** Yes it's that time already! We have a provisional date of 20<sup>th</sup> June. This year the theme will be "Summer of Sport" celebrating all the amazing sporting events taking place this summer.

These are just a few of the events we've started planning, but more are coming soon and we will keep you all updated. We'd love to hear your suggestions and get as many parents involved, you can email us on [atwoodfriends@gmail.com](mailto:atwoodfriends@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Dates

Date	Time	Event
12 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Italy Class Assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> March		Y3 British Museum Trip
19 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	France Class Assembly
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	8.45am	Parent Forum
26 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Spain Class Assembly
30 <sup>th</sup> March	3.15pm	Parents Evening
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	9.00am	Belgium Class Assembly
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	3.15pm	Parents Evening
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	2.00pm	End of Term
w/c 22 <sup>nd</sup> April		Earth Week
30 <sup>th</sup> April	9.00am	Brazil Class Assembly
7 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am	Mexico Class Assembly
14 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am	Greece Class Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup> May	9.00am	Ghana Class Assembly
24 <sup>th</sup> May		Westminster Mile
1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		Y2 Residential
4 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am	Barbados Class Assembly
11 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am	China Class Assembly
18 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am	India Class Assembly
20 <sup>th</sup> June		Summer Fair (provisional date)
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> June		Y6 Residential
13 <sup>th</sup> July	tbc	KS1 Sports Day
14 <sup>th</sup> July	tbc	KS2 Sports Day

