



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

**Achieving
 Success**

Newsletter, Friday 26th April 2019

Message from Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wishing you all a very warm welcome to the summer term. I hope you had a great Easter break wherever you went and whatever you did. At the start of this term, I would like to introduce a couple of new members of staff to the Atwood team. As you all know, David Venters left us at the end of last term to enjoy a very well earned retirement. Vitor Hugo Rodrigues, who was David's Assistant, has now become the new Premises Manager and we have also been joined by Leiam Courtney who will assist Vitor. Secondly, we have also appointed a permanent Chef, Angela McCurry. Angela has worked in many different settings including, most recently, a primary school in Finchley. This is really exciting news for the school and follows a long period without a permanent chef.

At the start of the week, I sent out a letter setting out some changes to our Attendance Policy. Attendance is an area that we need to improve in our school and the changes that we have made now bring us into line with other schools in Westminster. Do please come and see me if you have any questions.

Thanks for your support and have a great weekend.

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 class with the highest attendance this week is:

CANADA (Y6) & FRANCE (Y1)

School	YN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.34%	88.3%	93.3%	98.1%	95.7%	95.7%	92.4%	95.3%	94.9%

Message from David Venters

Dear Ark Community and Friends of Atwood

I am writing to say a big thank you to everyone for your generous gifts. I have been very moved by all of your kind words and appreciation of my work in and around the school over the years. It has been a privilege to work in such a happy and friendly environment and I have enjoyed getting to know many of you on a daily basis. I shall of course miss this feeling of belonging to one big happy Atwood family and the daily interaction with the children but I believe the time is right to hand over the reins to a fresh pair of hands to take it to the next level. I shall of course keep in touch and it would be a privilege to return from time to time to catch up with everyone.

Many thanks once again and I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Kind Regards

David

Year One Safari Day

To launch Year 1's new topic, 'Amazing Africa', the children arrived on the first day back dressed as their favourite African animal. They then went on an expedition to save the endangered black rhino, which they succeeded in brilliantly, ending in an African safari wild party. Next week we will be writing persuasive letters to help save the black rhino so watch this space.

Radio 2500 word Challenge

At the beginning of March, Year 4 writers entered their stories into the BBC Radio 2's 500 word challenge. This is a nation-wide competition open to all children who wrote a story of up to 500 words (but not one word over!). We're delighted to announce that three children have had their stories entered to the second stage of judging: Manel Ghalem's 'My Letter to Brexit', Cairo-Grace Huskisson Caesar's 'The Pound Coin' and Arber Gjoka's 'The Adventure of Jane and I'. The next stage will be finding out who has made the final 50 stories in May – please keep everything crossed



Y2 Residential



Wednesday and Thursday saw our intrepid Year 2 students set off on their residential to Kingswood, Grosvenor Hall in Ashford, Kent. It was our first year visiting this centre with Key Stage 1. The parents saw us depart by coach from Shirland Road and there may have been a few tears, or was that the rain? Kingswood is a large, busy centre with huge outdoor space and great facilities. We tackled a towering climbing activity called High-equilibrium (so proud of our fearless pupils!); played group games on the open field; built impressive woodland shelters collaboratively; shot arrows through the air in archery... and of course, made our own beds! Students demonstrated great maturity organising their rooms, helping each other and practicing independent skills. Our day was jam packed with excitement and fun! We were shattered by the evening and the students slept soundly... eventually. In fact, they even needed waking up in the morning... "breakfast!" The Atwood team worked tirelessly and the children were excellent. Well done all. Time for a weekend recharge. Back into the swing of studying next week, SATs are scheduled for week beginning 20th May.



Friends of Ark Atwood: Update

Welcome back, below is this weeks' FoAA update!

APRIL WRAP UP

We had a lot going during the last week of school. In addition to the egg decorating competition we had an incredible Bake Sale which raised £302! We had so many delicious entries, here is the winning cake! Thank you for buying so many cakes!



FUNDRAISING UPDATE

As a reminder our target is £12,000.

We have already **achieved 20%** of our target. Thank you for your support and let's KEEP IT UP!

You can also donate via your online shopping at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/foarkatwoodpa

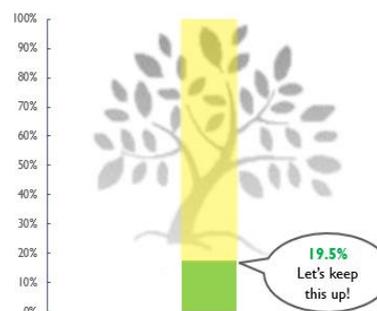
How does it work?

Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations for our school.

How?

Just start your online shopping first at easyfundraising, then shop as normal. Our retailers will then make a small donation to say "thank you". They have 3,642 retailers to choose from and so far we've raised over £27 million for thousands of community groups, schools, sports clubs, small and large charities across the UK. Easy!

Friends of Ark Atwood Fundraising Target 2018 / 2019



CLASS REPS NEEDED!

The role of a class rep is super easy but very important one! There are no meetings for the reps, we communicate via whatsapp and your role is to pass on the communication to your class. We are currently in need of class reps for the following classes: Nursery (globe 1), Year 1 (Italy), Year 3 (Belgium & Norway), Year 4 (Brazil), Year 6 (Australia and Canada).

ACTIVITIES THIS TERM

We will be creating an Ark Atwood team to run the **Westminster mile on the 26th May**. Stay tuned for more info! We're excited about a non-uniform **Wacky Hair day!** With a prize for the most creative hairstyle! (date tbc). This was an idea suggested by a student!

We will be finishing the term with our usual **Spring Bake Sale on the 23rd May**

Most of our time will be dedicated to planning an amazing **Summer fair!** The Summer Fair will take place **15th June** - our theme will be an eco/sustainable fair and we would love new ideas and volunteers. Ideas/Suggestions are always welcome, please email: atwoodfriends@gmail.com