



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

**Achieving  
Success**

**Newsletter, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**Message from Head of School**

Dear Parents and Carers,

A long and busy half term has come to an end. I hope your children have all had an enjoyable term and have settled well into their new classes.

At the recent Parents Forum, I was asked for more information about our Parent Governors. Please read further down where Vipul and Alisa have provided some more information about their role and how you can contact them.

Wherever you are going and whatever you are doing, I hope you have a wonderful half term and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 8.25am.

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.

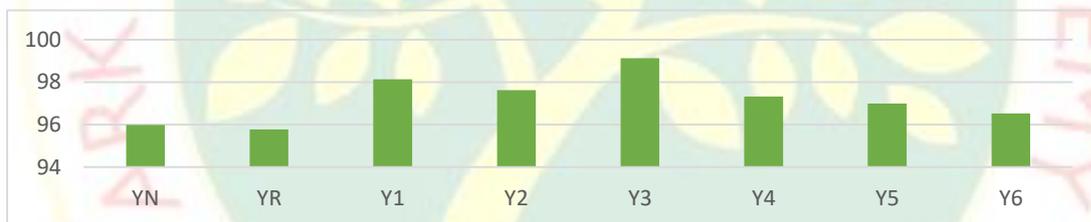
The whole school attendance figure for this week is: **97.28%**

The Key Stage **One** class with the highest attendance this week is: **ITALY**

The Key Stage **Two** classes with the highest attendance this week is: **BELGIUM**



Year group attendance numbers for this week:



**Celebrating...**

Every Friday at Achievement Assembly we celebrate our wonderful scholars who have excelled over the course of the week. We also celebrate children who have gone above and beyond in demonstrating the Atwood values. Winners this week are:



	Scholar of the Week	Atwood Values of the Week
Mexico	Georgie	Avanti
India	Lily	Alison
France	Nyla	Aadam
Italy	Sanah	Moustapha
China	Sasha	Sohaib
Barbados	Nina	Salman
Norway	Obi	Maryam
Belgium	Olaf	Iyed
Brazil	Leo	Indigo
Ghana	Mathilda	Poppy
Spain	Markus	Adam M
Greece	Ahlam	Uran
Australia	Anton	Deniro
Canada	Yahya	Adam

## Message from Atwood Parent Governors

Hello, we would like to introduce ourselves as your Parent Governors on the Ark Atwood Local Governing Body. We have been on the LGB for a few months and our role is the same as other Governors with the important addition of providing a parent perspective into discussions around key issues that affect the running of the school and of course the well being and education of our kids.

We both live locally in Maida Vale and have backgrounds working in the education field and community and health services (respectively). My daughter is in Year 1 (Italy Class) and Vipul has a daughter in Year 1 (Italy Class) and a son who spent 6 years at the school. We thought it would be useful to outline a couple of ways that you can get in touch with us:

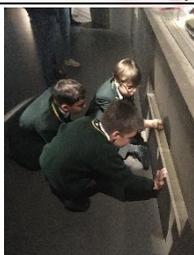
- Firstly there is a dedicated email account [p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org](mailto:p.governor@arkatwoodprimary.org) which you are able to send information / questions (etc) to anytime.
- We are also going to be putting a small update in the newsletter after each Local Governing Body meeting about key things discussed and actions to keep you informed – these meetings occur approximately every 2 months.
- We would also like to have an informal coffee catch up each term as another way to check in with other parents – we will provide info about these in the newsletter.
- Lastly, Vipul and I will be (where possible) at most school events so you can also find us there

Its useful to point out that for any issues with the school, your first port of call is your class teacher followed by a member of the senior leadership team. If however there is an ongoing issue that you feel is unresolved or something that impacts the broader school community, then please do feel free to get in touch.

We look forward to connecting with you.

With thanks,

Alisa Hall and Vipul Bhargava



### Imperial War Museum

This week, year six visited the Imperial War Museum and took part in the 'Documentary Challenge' recording mini documentaries telling the stories of World War One. Along with investigating the many objects found in the museum, they also had the opportunity to explore and experience the sights, sounds and smells of a trench reconstruction. This was a fun and exciting day to round off our World War One topic and has inspired some fantastic writing about what it would have been like as a soldier to go 'over-the-top'.

### Language Teaching

A massive thank you to all the parents who responded to our survey regarding language teaching at Atwood. We have been through the feedback and share your commitment to significantly developing this area of the curriculum and have already met with an external company to explore options going forward. We will be in touch soon with details of our plans going forward.

### Year 3 at the Floating Classroom



This past Wednesday & Thursday, Year 3 had the pleasure of visiting the Floating Classroom right here in Paddington. For many of the children, it was their first time ever on a boat. The children had the opportunity to play detective and spot differences on maps from 1834 and from today. They also discovered many human geographical features of their local area and saw several photographs of what life was like back in the day versus what life is like now.

There were many interesting discussions and hands on activities all while taking a tour on our local, narrow canal. The children were mesmerised when we went through tunnels and when we spotted dogs by the Regents Park Zoo. It was a brilliant day for Year 3 as they now have a deeper understanding of their local area and are eager to share their knowledge.



### Yoga

We have an exciting new Yoga offer available for Atwood. On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October there are two trial sessions: 8:00-8:25 will be a Children's session for Y2 to Y6. 8:45-9:45 parents session. A sign-up sheet is in the office.

Moving forward we hope to also offer a Wednesday after school club from 4:15pm to 5:00pm for children in Y2 to Y6 and a 5:00pm to 6:00pm session for staff and parents. Of course this will rely on interest and uptake so let's engage really well with this fantastic opportunity to bring Yoga back into school.

For parent sessions we would ask for a contribution of £3 and Wednesday after school Children's £2 - an amazing offer for professional instruction. (Thursday morning children session is free)

## North Paddington Food Bank

Thank you so much to all those who have brought in donations to mark this year's Harvest Festival, they are much appreciated by the Food Bank. Mr Evelyn visited them at their new premises at WECH on Elgin Avenue last week, and we're keen to find ways to work with them further, supporting them as they support our community. We'll be collecting for the Food Bank again during Advent (the annual reverse advent calendar).

In the meantime, if anybody does want to drop anything off here, we'll make sure it gets there.

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Time	Event
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Nasal Flu Jabs
1 <sup>st</sup> Nov		Friends of Atwood Bake Sale
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.00am	Admissions Morning
8 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Wacky Hair and Hat Day / End of Day Bake Sale
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Y4 British Museum Trip
22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Academy	Inset Day: School Closed
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	PM	Y6 Rhythm Studio Performance
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	PM	Y5 Rhythm Studio Performance
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	3.15pm	Parents Evening ( <i>School finishes at 3pm</i> )
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am	Admissions Morning
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Year 3 Wonderlab Trip
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.15pm	Parents Evening ( <i>School finishes at 3pm</i> )
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Atwood Winter Fair
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Save the Children Xmas Jumper Day / Bake Sale
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00pm	End of Term

## Friends of Atwood Update

We worked with the lunch staff and Mr Townsend and invested in new playground equipment which includes soft balls, giant chalk, giant noughts and crosses, a super fun Twister blanket and a giant snake and ladders.

### International Day



Last Friday we celebrated International Day, which used to be a staple of the Ark Atwood calendar; we're very pleased that we've been able to reintroduce it. It was really lovely to see so many and staff! - coming to school in clothes their heritage, and wonderful to hear proudly sharing facts about their culture, to each other about our shared values.



children - that reflect them and talking

The day finished with an International feast; who learned to cook and brought food to share - the children loved about what a typical meal might be in various different countries around the world, and trying things that they had never tasted before. We had strong representation for a number of and continents - notably Russia, East Africa, North Africa and India, as well as Australasia, the Caribbean, China, and many European countries. We'd love feedback on how we can improve on it next year. Thank you to Fiona for taking the lead in organising!

Feast; who learning countries

countries

### Coming up:

The Halloween Bake Sale is now [on 1<sup>st</sup> November](#)

Halloween Disco is [on 1<sup>st</sup> November](#) - please don't forget to buy your ticket from Iman ([iman.sbitri@gmail.com](mailto:iman.sbitri@gmail.com)) / [07962374365](tel:07962374365)

Wacky hair and crazy hat day is now on the 8<sup>th</sup> November

Winter Fair planning; we have started planning for the Winter for [on 7<sup>th</sup> December](#), we would love to have more parents join the fair committee and we'll be setting up a meeting for anyone interested after half term to continue planning.

Have a Wonderful Half term!

Your friends of Ark Atwood team



## Who is in the Spotlight this week?

This week, Year 3 have been marking Black History Month by writing about the HMT Empire Windrush, which marked the beginning of large scale migration to the UK from the Caribbean after World War Two.

The children learned about why people chose to make the long journey to start new lives in the UK, the challenges faced by people when they arrived, and the valuable contributions to British culture and society made by the Windrush generation.

We hope you enjoy the lovely writing by Filip and Chris.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019

To explain the importance of the HMT Empire Windrush in UK history.

### The HMT Empire Windrush

In 1948 after WW II Empire Windrush sailed to Britain to help rebuild it. What happened to the Jamaican people? What was Britain like? Read on to find out more...



### The long journey

Britain had sent adverts to come and live, so there fore Jamaicans came. From their home land they sailed thousands of miles across the Atlantic. Their first stop was Kingston then Tampico, and Bermuda. Mostly men were on the ship. The journey was very tricky for them.

### The journey

### Arriving in Essex



When the people arrived they faced discrimination and Racism. The weather was rainy, cold and grey. Ration books started after so they had to keep safe and be a team. Homes were very hard to find because lots were destroyed.

## How has Britan changed?

Since HMT Empire Windrush arrived there has been more types of dance and music introduced to Britan. Now we have more carnivals, celebrations and foods. Without Empire Windrush Britan wouldn't be as colourful and bright. We need to remember the Windrush generation because we can't forget how they helped and what happened so it doesn't happen again. We shouldn't treat black people like that again.