



Have a safe and healthy half term.

School is closed next week for half term and a staff training day and re-opens on **Tuesday 20th February.**

Dear Parent and Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and enjoyable half term.

Parent/Carers are reminded to ensure their children read daily and complete any homework they may have whilst they are not in school.

We look forward to greater partnership and team work with you to support your children's learning.

Have a good weekend and a great half term.

Mr Marantz

Reception visit to London Zoo



This half term Reception have been learning about Africa. This week, they went to the zoo to meet the animals from the stories Handa's Surprise and Giraffe's can't dance!

First, Reception went to 'Africa' where they met hippos, okapis, monkey's hyenas and zebras. And most importantly, they met the giraffes! One child exclaimed "Look, it's like Gerald from our story." Another noticed the giraffe eating leaves and said "giraffes are my favourite because they have long necks to reach the leaves."

Then, they visited the aquarium where they met lots of different fish. The children used brilliant language to describe the fish. "That fish is so bright it looks like it has lights." "This one is enormous, it's so slow!" "Look at his spikes, that one is dangerous!"

Next, the children were brave enough to watch the tigers being fed. They learnt that tigers eat meat but hippos and giraffes only eat plants.

After the success of the Winter Show, the children were really excited to finally meet some penguins! They asked some brilliant questions about them. "Why do they live in cold places?" "Why do they walk funny?" "What do the penguins eat?"

Before returning to the coach the children had a wonderful time exploring the park. Their climbing was almost as good as that of the monkeys!

Miss Burton, EYFS lead, said, 'It was a pleasure to join Reception on their trip today. The children learnt so much about animals and their habitats. Their behaviour was excellent and they showed the Swift Way throughout the day! Well done Reception.'

Attendance News

5th February to the 9th February

Winners of this week's attendance awards are:

1st place: Leeds Y5 99.46%
2nd place: York Y6 98.68%
3rd place: Exeter Y3 97.16%

Our whole school attendance for this week was: **93.44%**.

Our attendance for the year to date is **94.07%**.

Our target for this year is still **96%**, so we need to keep working towards this.

School Uniform



This term there are a few areas of the **uniform** we want to focus on to get right:

- 1) Black school shoes must be worn at all times. This **does not** include boots or trainers.
- 2) Children must wear **ties** with their uniform.
- 3) Children should come to school with **jumpers/Cardigan**.

For PE, children must ensure that they wear the following:

- 1) The Academy's yellow PE shirt
- 2) Black school shorts **or plain black trousers**.
- 3) Children should not wear track suits.

Please ensure that your children wear the correct uniform.

Sports and Fitness News

Last Saturday, several children from Ark Swift attended the QPR community football match as special representatives of their school. They enjoyed the QPR match and were invited on to the pitch as part of the community recognition programme. They were invited to wave flags on the pitch and perform some activities with the professional players.



Dates for the Diary

12th -16th February

19th February

20th February

13th March

14th March

16th March

19th – 23rd March

29th March

Half Term

Staff Training Day

School resumes

EYFS/ KS1 visits

KS2 Visits

Staff Training Day

Assessment week

Last day of term