



Training day on Monday

Reminder: School is closed to pupils on Monday 26th November for an Ark training day.

Enjoy the long weekend and we'll look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday morning.

Education City

The meeting scheduled for Tuesday 27th November at 9.00am has been postponed. Instead, a consultation/update meeting is being arranged for Tuesday 11th December. This will most likely take place from 3.00-4.30pm. I will write to you with more details as soon as possible.

Place 2 Be

Ark Swift works with Place2Be, the UK's leading children's mental health charity providing in-school support and expert training to help improve the emotional wellbeing of pupils, families, teachers and school staff.



How Place2Be helps pupils

Pupils can find help with friendship issues and other worries by choosing to visit Place2Talk. Children can book to see a counsellor on their lunch or break time and attend on their own or in a group.

Place2Be also works with children individually and in small groups, offering regular time-tabled support for those who will benefit most, working closely with parents and school staff.

There is a dedicated Place2Be room inside the school where children can go to express and think about their worries, through talking, creative work and play. This helps children to find new ways of coping with difficulties so they don't get in the way of friendships or learning.

Other support from Place2Be

Place2Be also offers support and advice for parents and carers, as well as teachers and school staff. Please do get in touch with our School Project Manager, Emily, to find out more.

Any questions?

Our Place2Be School Project Manager is Emily, who works on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. You can contact her via email, telephone or face-to-face:

- **0208 7432514**
- **e.bruton@arkswiftprimary.org**

You can also find out more about Place2Be at: www.place2be.org.uk

"Oh she has definitely changed...in the way she feels about her school life, her home life, and just the way she is in herself – she is a lot happier" – Parent

"Place2Be helps you feel less angry, make friends, get more confident, sort out your problems, make you feel special, make everything better." – Year 5 pupil

Year R Bake Sale – Tuesday 27th November @ 3.30pm

Bake Sale



When: Tuesday 27 November

Time: 3.30

Where: Play ground

Money raised will go towards the EYFS Winter Show.

Year 6 Students Mascots at England Rugby!

Report from Armand and Jericho, Year 6

On Saturday 17th November, we travelled to Twickenham Stadium to be mascots for the England rugby team for their match against Japan. When we arrived, we watched the players arrive and walk to their changing rooms. We watched them from a room that people aren't usually allowed into unless they're mascots. After that, we were taken to our very own changing room. The RFU gave us the full England kit (and trainers!). Once we had changed, we got to run onto the England pitch before anyone else was there. Miss Mowbray's mum (who works for the RFU) showed us where we would stand during the National Anthem. Then, a cameraman interviewed us as the side of the pitch. We told him that we attend Ark Swift in Shepherd's Bush and that we were feeling a bit shy (there were 81,000 people in the stadium). In the player's tunnel, just before the match, all the England players shook our hands. We were each given a player to stand next to – they were huge! We told them 'you guys are going to win and even if you are losing, you still have to keep trying.' As we ran onto the pitch the crowd were cheering like lions. During the National Anthem, we stood proudly like soldiers and sang as loud as we could. All the England players said that were the best mascots they have ever had (and it's true).



What's been happening at Swift?

Hyde Park Barracks Trip:

On Tuesday, Year 6 visited The Queen's Lifeguard at Hyde Park Barracks to consolidate their learning about World War 1. During the day, the children were given the chance to try ration packs, watch the farrier put shoes on the horses, interact and feed the horses as well as dress up in ceremonial uniform. The children were able to ask the soldiers all about life in the army and the regiment were very impressed by the level of questioning from the students.



Ancient Greece Day

On Monday, Year 5 learnt all about Ancient Greece from their Greek soldier visitor – democracy, medicine, Olympic games, theatre, myths, legends and heroes – all in one day!



And a selection of other recent events: *It's been a busy few weeks...*

- Nursery firefighter visit
- Year R Bath Class visited the local library
- Microsoft Education spent the day filming with groups of Year 4 and 5 students
- Children that moved to Year 7 at Fulham Cross Girls' School invited Swift staff to visit
- Year 5 York Class Skyped the Intrepid Museum in New York to learn all about forces and aviation science. Highlights included seeing the Empire State Building from the flight deck of the Intrepid aircraft carrier and learning about jet engines.
- We raised £80 from the recent Macmillan Coffee morning

House Points

Running total of house points so far this term. 3 weeks to go until the victorious house for the autumn term is announced!

Owls	Hawks	Eagles	Falcons	Kestrels
3071	2025	2537	2428	2263

This week, **Falcons** were the winning house. There is still very much everything to play for.

Lunches

To ensure that the school kitchen is preparing the correct number of lunches, please can we ask that children don't switch between packed lunch and school dinners midway through a week or term. If children switch, it makes it very difficult to cater for the correct number and to charge you correctly if you pay for school meals. Children may switch between packed lunch and school dinners on a termly basis but please ensure you inform the school office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Recent Visit to Check Progress at Swift

We recently had a monitoring visit from two of the Regional Directors at Ark as well as a school inspector. These are some of the positive comments that were made:

A clear and consistent behaviour policy has been developed. This policy is consistently adhered to by all staff and as a result, children have a very clear framework of expectations.

Observations of the start of the day served to demonstrate the successful impact of the focus on climate for learning. Children were polite to all unfamiliar adults visiting the school, they entered school calmly and were greeted individually by their teachers on the thresholds of the classroom. Children were able to clearly articulate the expectations for 'do now' tasks and response to marking as the introductory activities of the day and there was strong consistency across classes.

An Achievement Assembly was observed as an opportunity to emphasise the school values and the importance of the focus on learning.

Children's behaviour in transitions around the school, at playtime and lunchtime play was exemplary as a result of the clear instructions and expectations provided by all staff.

Lunchtime behaviour in the dining halls showed a marked improvement, especially in KS1 and EYFS.

The House System has been implemented to good effect and is being used to give swift and positive rewards and motivating feedback to pupils.

Books were reviewed across the school and overall showed a high level of consistency of the agreed school systems and expectations. Progress from the beginning of term was evident in the book scrutiny. Marking and feedback adhered to the school approach and there was good evidence of children responding to marking. There was good evidence of cross-curricular opportunities for writing.

The leadership team has had excellent impact on climate for learning during this first term, which will ensure the teaching can move forward to accelerate learning.

Teaching was observed across the school from Nursery to year 6 and the teaching profile was agreed based on lesson observations and book scrutiny.

The key focus for this term has been on improving the climate for learning to excellent effect with calm and purposeful learning environments evident in all classes.

In Nursery there was a calm learning environment, which was organized purposefully with defined areas, and children were able to demonstrate their independence in the setting.

Staff in Nursery demonstrate good relationships with children and routines have been well established in this first half term.

Teaching in Reception provided strong modelling to children who responded well to this approach

Opportunities to extend children's language were created effectively by adults both in whole class modelling and in individual interactions with children.

Attendance continues to be an issue for improvement in the school having finished the year on 94.7 % which was well below national. Attendance is improving in the autumn term currently at 95.5%

Diary for the Remainder of Term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26 November	27	28	29	30
TRAINING DAY <i>School closed to Pupils</i>	15:30 EYFS Fundraising Bake Sale			PM Mayor's Cup (TBC)
3 December	4	5	6	7
Assessment Week Dentist Visiting (EYFS)				
10	11	12	13	14
Year 5 Trip to Museum of London Scholastic Book Fair in Lower Hall (all week)	15:00 Ed City Event for Parents	Christmas Lunch 14:30 EYFS Winter Show to Parents	9.30-12.00 Flu Vaccinations 14:00 KS1 & 2 'Winter Extravaganza' to Parents 18:30 Community Advent Service 'Hope in White City' @ Our Lady of Fatima Church, Commonwealth Avenue – <i>All Swift families welcome</i>	Non-Uniform/Christmas Jumper Day End of term class celebrations 13.30 End of Autumn Term 2

- Tuesday 8th January 2019 Start of Spring 1 (all year groups except for Nursery)
- Thursday 10th January 2019 Start of Spring 1 for Nursery