



Message from the Principal

The month of December is upon us, 'frost spins white lines' and there is a definite chill in the air. Please make sure children are dressed appropriately for outdoor play and all belongings are marked with names. Although we are unable to come together as a school community as we usually do at this time of the year (performances, Christmas fair etc.) there is lots going on in school.

Today, Jessica from the school office is leaving Swift as she has a new role as Office Manager at Northolt High School. This is a fantastic promotion for Jessica and I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best for a very successful future career. Thank you, Jessica, for all your hard work and the commitment you have shown to Ark Swift.

Katie from the Pastoral Support Team will be taking on the role of Attendance Officer as part of her wider role and will manage all aspects of attendance including liaison with parents.

Warm regards, Daniel Upfield, Principal

What's On?

Friday 11th December



Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform)

Please bring a donation for the two fantastic charities we are supporting:



Save the Children
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

And



Lots of information about Save the Children and the day and the importance of this fundraising effort can be found here: www.christmasjumperday.org. **You could recycle/upcycle rather than buy a jumper for just one day – go green in 2020!** Ideas here:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day/about/sustainability-and-inclusivity>

The Greggs Foundation has been wonderfully supportive to many of our families providing food, household goods and uniform especially this year during lockdown.

Week beginning 14th December RE Drop-down Day 2: Judaism

Wednesday 16th December Christmas Lunch (*details overleaf*)

Friday 18th December **School closes for the Christmas Holiday at the following times:**

13:15 Year 5 & 6

13:20 Years 3 & 4

13:25 Years 1 & 2

13:30 Years Nursery and Reception

Wednesday 6th January

Start of Spring Term

Attendance

Attendance statistics for this week. Some impressive data especially considering all that is happening right now. Two classes have even managed 100% and some other classes are not far behind. Well done!

Class	Attendance
Nursery	100%
Year R Bath	93.3%
Year 1 York	100%
Year 2 London	94.7%
Year 3 Warwick	96%
Year 4 Worcester	99.1%
Year 5 Oxford	95.4%
Year 6 Bristol	93.8%
Year 6 Sheffield	97.7%

Whole-school attendance for this week is **96.4%**

Laptops for Home Use – YEARS 5 & 6

We are excited to share with you our developing digital strategy. We now have a number of Google Chromebooks that can be provided to pupils to support learning at home. This is the first stage of our strategy that will see all children in an Ark School from Year 4 upwards having a 1:1 device from September 2022

We have a limited number of Chromebooks available and a clear criterion for how these will be allocated:

- Children in Year 5 and 6 who are shielding
- Year 6 children eligible for Pupil Premium with no device at home
- Year 5 children eligible for Pupil Premium with no device at home
- Year 6 children with no device at home
- Year 5 children with no device at home



If you have a child in Year 5 or 6 and your child **DOES NOT** have access to a suitable device at home, please let us know by Friday 11th December. You can do this by:

- Calling the school office on 020 8743 2514
- Emailing info@arkswiftprimary.org using the subject: **Laptops for Home Use**

Please also inform us if you have access to the Internet.

After the 11th December, we will work through the criterion above and inform you of the next stage for allocating devices for loan.

In addition, we now have a number of devices from the DfE that can be loaned to pupils from Year 3 upwards if we have to close any bubbles due to COVID-19.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch Menu

Wednesday 16th December 2020

Non-Halal

Roast Turkey

Served with a Chipolata Chicken Sausage, Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy

Halal

Roast Turkey

Served with a Chipolata Chicken Sausage, Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy

Vegetarian

Vegetarian Parcel

Accompaniments

Golden Roast Potatoes

Carrots

Garden Peas

Dessert

Ice Cream Christmas Tree

Drink

Apple & Blackcurrant



If your child usually has a packed lunch, Jackie will be in touch next week to find out if they would like Christmas lunch. **The cost for this will be £1.80 unless your child is Year 2 or below or entitled to free school meals.**

Children in Need



Thanks to the generosity of our school community we raised the fantastic sum of £131.16 from our recent Children in Need day.

Random Acts of Kindness

Our current assemblies have focused on kindness with the central message being that that if just one person does a kind thing, then kindness can spread around the world and make it a better place. It would be great if you could discuss this with your child.

You might enjoy watching these clips together:

The Science of Kindness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9UByLyOjBM>

Give a Little Love: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUMpzwLNiMk>



H & F Foodbank – Giving Something Back

Would you like to help the H & F Foodbank for Christmas?

Thank you for all the donations received so far – the box of goodies is growing every day. There are still a couple of weeks to go – see the calendar below – and donations can be brought to the school office.

We will make sure we deliver any goods collected by Ark Swift to the foodbank in time for the Christmas period.

Your donations so far!



Foodbank Christmas Calendar

Each day add an item into a box for H&F Foodbank

- November 23rd - Box of Cereal
- November 24th - Peanut Butter
- November 25th - Stuffing Mix
- November 26th - Long Life Milk
- November 27th - Canned Fruit
- November 28th - Cranberry Sauce
- November 29th - Shower Gel
- November 30th - Short bread Biscuits
- December 1st - Dried Fruit
- December 2nd- Ritz Biscuits
- December 3rd- Small Box Of Chocolate's
- December 4th - Pickled Onions
- December 5th - Jam
- December 6th - Bottle of Juice (NOT FRESH)
- December 7th - Branston Pickle
- December 8th - Tomato Soup
- December 9th - Tin of Sweetcorn
- December 10th - Tin of tuna
- December 11th - Pasta
- December 12th - Gravy Granules
- December 13th - Hot Chocolate
- December 14th - Tea
- December 15th - Coffee
- December 16th - Christmas Crackers
- December 17th- Chocolate Biscuits

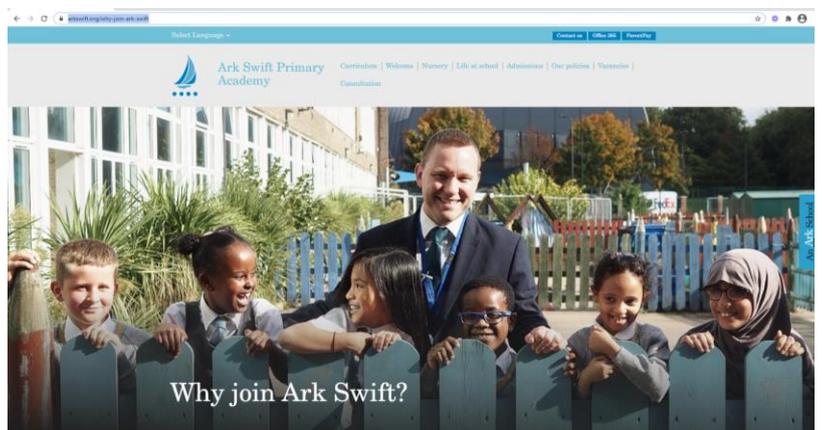


Thank you for your support.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Why Join Ark Swift?

<https://arkswift.org/why-join-ark-swift>

Do you know someone looking for a Reception place for their child for September 2021? If so, please direct them to this new page on our website which is full of useful information. There is also the option to book a virtual tour. Our Early Years department has so much to offer and it would be great to increase our numbers.



If you have a child in Nursery and you are applying for a Reception place for next September, please make sure you visit <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/starting-school-reception-2021> to begin the process. The deadline for applications is 15 January 2021.

If you require any help, please arrange a time to meet with Katie from our Pastoral Team.

Sports Leaders

A massive congratulations to the pupils from year 5 & 6 who were chosen as Sports Leaders for this academic year.

From Year 5 - Ahmed, Khalid, Krishna, and Shaun

From Year 6 - Faris, Marco, Kiyah, Belal, and Ishwaaq

As Sports Leaders, these children will help in running of events and competitions, support in PE lessons and organise equipment.



Year 5 & 6 in the Swift Recording Studio!

The children in years 5 and 6 have been working with Mr Camilo to learn a festive song, which they will sing virtually with other schools in the tri-borough. In order to record the children's voices, we created our own 'Swift Studio', so the children's singing could be properly recorded. They truly enjoyed being recording artists for the afternoon and loved hearing their voices back through their own headphones.



Christmas Cards

We know that some children like to send Christmas cards to their friends and teachers at this time of year. In order to keep this COVID secure, we ask that cards be brought to school on either:

Monday 7th December
Or
Monday 14th December

Cards will be stored in the classroom and distributed at the end of the week they are brought in.



Year 2 Recreate George's Marvellous Medicine!

Year 2 have been enjoying following instructions to recreate some weird and wonderful potions linking to their work on the class text: **George's Marvellous Medicine**.

You could hear the shrieks of excitement throughout the school!

