



Message from the Principal

It's been another busy couple of weeks at Ark Swift. Unbelievably, we are almost at the half-term break – a chance to pause and have a refresh before the busyness of autumn 2.

This week we have marked world mental health day. As a school community we focus on how we can support the mental health and wellbeing of the children in our care. This starts with talking openly about our feelings.

The Young Minds site provides some excellent resources to help parents start conversations with your child:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/take20/starting-the-conversation/>

This week saw the launch of the R & R Room (**Restore and Reflect**). Previously The Zone, the rebrand of the room is associated with a changing focus here at Ark Swift towards a more **restorative and reflective way of managing behaviour and emotions**. The School Council will have a small budget to spend on the room and all classes will soon be enjoying PSHE lessons in the space. Nabil, Zakaria, Marcelo & Hashim in Year 6 came up with the final name for the room following a competition.



Have a lovely weekend,

Daniel Upfield
Principal



How are you feeling today?

happy anxious sad angry excited calm

6 things you can do to help you feel good

Talk to someone you trust about how you're feeling

Go outside and get some fresh air

Listen to your favourite music

Keep active - run around or play games

Eat lots of healthy food

Have a good night's sleep

Attendance

Attendance statistics for the last **2-weeks (27th September – 11th October)**

Class	Attendance
Nursery	95.2%
Year R Bath	95.4%
Year 1 Bristol	90.2%
Year 2 Manchester	96% On Target – well done!
Year 3 Exeter	98.2% Above Target – well done!
Year 4 Sheffield	96.3% Above Target – well done!
Year 5 Warwick	96.8% Above Target – well done!
Year 5 Worcester	93.9%
Year 6 Durham	98.4% Above Target – well done!
Year 6 Loughborough	97.1% Above Target – well done!

Overall school attendance for the academic year to date: **95.3%**

Our aim is for **all** classes and the whole school to be 96% and above. We are **nearly** on target.

Secondary Applications

Year 6 parents please note that the deadline for secondary admissions is **31st October.**

Please visit this page of the Hammersmith and Fulham website for full details:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/secondary-school-admissions>

The e-admissions website is located here:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>

If you require any help with secondary applications including making your online application, please speak to the school office who will book you a time to see Shineade or Katie from the Pastoral Support Team.

New Lunch Menu

The School Council have been working with Karen, our Chef, to design a new menu that will be in operation from Autumn 2. School Council representatives sought feedback from their classes and discussed ideas in a very mature and open manner. New menus will be published on the website in preparation for next half-term.

Extra Funding for Ark Swift

Did you know that with some basic information from every parent, we can get extra funding for Ark Swift?

This funding is used to pay for (amongst other things):

- Free breakfast club and after school clubs
- Subsidised trips and activities
- Additional adults supporting in class
- Specialists visiting the school, e.g. QPR, African drumming etc.
- Educational resources to support learning



In times of reduced school budgets, this funding is essential for us to continue offering a broad and engaging experience here at Swift.

At parents' evening next week, you will be given a simple form to complete and return to the school office. The only information we will need is:

- Parent's name, address, phone number, Date of Birth & National Insurance Number
- Names and DOB of all children

As a thank you for completing the form you will receive a £10 voucher of your choice (chosen from Amazon, Marks & Spencer or Westfield) for every child you have in the school!



Upcoming Dates

There will be NO CLUBS next week (14th – 18th October) due to Parents' evenings except for Taekwondo (Monday) and Reclaimed (Wednesday)

Next week we have parent & teacher meetings. These are an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher, discuss their progress and how they are working towards their targets. You will also be able to ask any questions you may currently have about your child's learning. It is therefore very important that you make every effort to attend an appointment so that we can work in partnership to ensure the best for your child.

Monday 14th October Parents' evening (Nursery, Year 1, 2, 3 4 5 and 6)

Tuesday 15th October 14.30 Year 6 Parent Workshop (Maths)

Parents' evening (Nursery, Year R, 1, 3, 4 5 and 6)

Wednesday 16th October Year 2 trip to Hampton Court Palace

9.00 Open morning for Year R entry September 2020

If you have a child in Nursery and will be applying for a **Reception place for September 2020**, please come along to find out more. You will have the chance to hear from the Headteacher and Miss Venzal (Early Years Lead); visit our current Year R class and ask any questions you may have.

14.30 Year 6 Parent Workshop (Reading)

Parents' evening (Year 1 and 2)

Thursday 17th October

9:00 Year 6 Loughborough Class Assembly – parents of Loughborough Class please come along to watch

We are introducing class assemblies this year. Look out for when your child's class will be presenting their showcase.

Parents' evening (Year R)

Friday 18th October

Swift will be taking part in **Wear Red Day**

Wear Red Day is all about spreading the message to **'show racism the red card'**. On this day, children can come to school in **non-uniform and preferably wearing something red**. It would be great to raise some money for the work of this important organization and your child can hand this to their teacher in the morning - **£1 is a suggested donation**.

Education is the key to challenging racism in society. By working with the next generation in schools, we can have a big impact towards creating a better world in the future. If you are interested, you can find full details of **Wear Red Day** and links to their work at www.theredcard.org

15.30 Close for half-term

Tuesday 29th October

8.40 Start of Autumn Term 2nd Half