



Message from the Principal

This week has seen Year 6 visit Knightsbridge barracks and a group of Year 5 children enter a dodgeball competition with success. Several of our teachers have been out and about moderating the quality of children's writing with both Ark and local schools. The quality of our writing is showing real signs of improvement. A small group of our Year 5 pupils have started an exciting extension programme with Godolphin and Latymer school and we look forward to hearing about their success in the coming months. We have been spending a lot of time in classrooms these past few weeks and I must say the quality of education your children are receiving, and the dedication shown by the staff here at Ark Swift is of such high quality.

Now the cold weather is upon us please ensure your child is wearing a coat to school as we do go outside in all weathers!

Have a lovely weekend,

Daniel Upfield, Principal

Attendance

Attendance statistics for **Friday 15th – Friday 29th November**

Class	Attendance
Nursery	91.1%
Year R Bath	92.1%
Year 1 Bristol	89.8%
Year 2 Manchester	93.4%
Year 3 Exeter	97.6%
Year 4 Sheffield	94.7%
Year 5 Warwick	93.8%
Year 5 Worcester	93.5%
Year 6 Durham	93.6%
Year 6 Loughborough	97.1%

Overall school attendance for the academic year to date: **95.7%**

We're -0.3% below our target of 96%. There has been lots of sickness this week and we continue to follow our policy of 48-hours absence from school to try and avoid the spread of illness. We hope that everyone will be feeling better next week.

Steve McQueen's Year 3 Exhibition

Artist and filmmaker Steve McQueen's Year 3 Exhibition is now on display at **Tate Britain**. For this project, the Turner Prize-winning artist has arranged photographs of 1,504 primaries in London, including several Ark schools (Ark Swift included), in order to put together an epic class portrait of the entire city.

Explored through the vehicle of the traditional school class photograph, this vast new artwork is one of the most ambitious portraits of children ever undertaken in the UK. It offers us a glimpse of the capital's future, a hopeful portrait of a generation to come.

The photos were taken last academic year, so it is our current Year 4 class that features. We are planning a class trip to the exhibition for Year 4 Sheffield in the spring term. The photos are arranged at random, so if you visit and find the Ark Swift photo, be sure to let us know!

The exhibition runs until 3rd May 2020. For more details please visit: <https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/exhibition/steve-mcqueen-year-3>



Playground Hoarding

We have engaged an artist to work with us to transform the plain white hoarding into a piece of artwork. The plan is to create a mural/cityscape and the children will be engaging in workshops and generating ideas early next term in preparation for the hoarding to be painted during February half-term.

We want to include **local London landmarks** on the mural to represent our local area and community. If you have any ideas for what you think should be included in the design, please speak to a member of the team or email info@arkswiftprimary.org using the Subject: **Playground Hoarding**. It would be great to have some parental input at the ideas stage.



We are still expecting that work will start on the other side of the hoarding early in the New Year. Until that time, the pitch on the other side of the playground remains in use at break and lunch times. We are very pleased with the way that your children have adapted to the new playground with such maturity. We are also grateful to our families for your cooperation in ensuring smooth drop-off and pick-up routines.

Next week @ Ark Swift

Tuesday 3rd December

Year R Trip to the London Transport Museum

Karl Tearney (ex-soldier turned poet!) performance/workshop with Year 6

Wednesday 4th December

9.00 Year 4 Sheffield Class Assembly - parents of Sheffield Class please come along to watch

Thursday 5th December

Year 5 at Godolphin and Latymer to watch Year 7 performance of 'Wonka'

Friday 6th December

3.30-5.00pm Christmas Fair (*details overleaf*)

New House Points Board

We have a new (very large!) House Points board in the Lower Hall! Weekly scores will be recorded for all to see. Children's enthusiasm for collecting points and working together in their house teams continues to be very encouraging. Only a few weeks to go until the winning house for this term will be announced.



Well done to the **Eagles House** for their win this week.





When: Friday 6th December

Time: 3.30-5.00pm

Stalls/Events

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Santa | Hot dogs and candy floss | DJ | Biscuit Decorating |
| Cake stall | Crafts | Bring and Buy | Lucky Dip |
| Face painting | | | |

Raffle Prizes

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|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Amazon Fire Tablets (5 to be won) | £50 Nando's voucher | £50 Vue Cinema voucher |
| Bowling family ticket | Tesco voucher | The Entertainer (toy shop) voucher |
| Steam train experience | Greene King Restaurant voucher | |
| £100-star first prize  | + other prizes still to be confirmed | |

Raffle tickets will be sold in the playground from next Wednesday

If you'd like to sign-up to help on the day, please give your name to Jane or Jackie in the school office. We'll need people from 1.30pm to set-up as well as help during the fair itself. We've had very few people come forward so far – please do consider if you can help out at this community event to ensure it is a success!

Please think about any donations you might be able to give:

- Food and drink
- Toys and books – *good condition please!*
- Cakes and biscuits

Please bring any donations into school from Monday onwards

All proceeds from the fair will go towards improving computer facilities