A message from the principal, Jason Marantz

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to what will be another great term at Ark Swift.

As we know, and we have said many times in this newsletter, attendance is key to children achieving the best possible outcomes. Great attendance is rewarded in assemblies on a weekly basis and in our end of term 100% Attendance Parties.

Any holidays or leaves of absence taken during term time without the agreement of the Principal, or is in excess of what has been agreed, will be marked as unauthorised and will result in a referral to the Local Authority for a fine in accordance with school policy.

In addition to this, any child’s attendance which is of a concern and we do not see an improvement; will also be referred to the Local Authority Education Welfare Service for a fine.

I sincerely hope that Ark Swift does not have to refer many families for fines. The most important thing to remember is that being in school everyday and on time gives children the best chance of long term academic success in school.

Thank you for your support.

Jason Marantz, Principal

Attendance News
17th April to the 20th April

Winners of this week’s attendance awards are:

1st place: Cambridge Y5 99.49%
2nd place: Manchester Y2 99.05%
3rd place: Exeter Y3 96.75%

Well done to all of the winning class.

Our whole school attendance for this week was: 95.74% which is an improvement.

Our attendance for the year to date is 94.7%.

Thank you to our parents and carers for ensuring children are not ill when they come to school. This has helped the school rid itself of a sickness bug.

Come on Ark Swift, we can keep getting better.

Congratulations to Miss Victoria Burton who won £500 worth of school furniture at the Birmingham Education show!
Warm Weather

The warm weather is finally with us. Please help us keep your children safe and well in the warm weather.

Please help with the following:
1. Ensure your children come to school with sun cream on.
2. Wear a sun hat.
3. Send your child with a water bottle. This should be refillable. It must be labelled with your child’s name.

School Shoes

Please make sure that your children come to school wearing **black school shoes**.

On PE days children can come to school wearing trainers, but only on PE days.

Parents’ evening

Its parents evening next **Tuesday and Wednesday** and you are asked to come along and meet your child’s teacher. You will find out valuable information about your child’s progress and how you can help them at home.

Nursery parents’ evening is happening at a different time. Please refer to the separate letter. Thanks.

Welcome to the Chicks!

Ark Swift nursery and reception have some very special visitors. The children are really engaged in learning about the lifecycle of the hen and are waiting for the egg to hatch.

Dates for your diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23rd April</td>
<td>Clubs begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th and 25th April</td>
<td>Parents’ Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>Bank holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th May</td>
<td>SATs begin for Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st May</td>
<td>SATs begin for Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>28th May-1st June</strong></td>
<td><strong>Half Term</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th June</td>
<td>School Resumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6th June</td>
<td>Year 6 residential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th June</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th-15th June</td>
<td>Year 1 Phonics Screen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th July</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>