



## Message from Mr Upfield

Recently, we have enjoyed spells of bright sunshine, interspersed with periods of intense rain and a few days ago, hailstones. Please ensure your child dresses for the changeable weather. It is difficult to comprehend that with only eight weeks of the school year remaining, we are now, contextually, closer to the end than the beginning. This is particularly the case for the Year 6 children, who we will say farewell to in July.

School closes for the half-term break next Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> May. The final term of the year begins on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

We wish you all a lovely weekend together.

With warm regards,



Daniel Upfield  
Principal

## Eid Celebration



An annual tradition at Ark Swift is the wonderful Eid celebration and sharing of delicious food. Despite the current Covid restrictions, we can still make this work albeit that we can't all come together.

Next Friday afternoon (28<sup>th</sup> May) we will prepare food packages for every child to take home and enjoy with their families offsite.

If you would like to contribute, please bring food to the school office on Friday morning. If you are preparing hot dishes, these can be delivered to the school from 1pm on the day. If you would like to help prepare the take-away food packages, please speak to Nuro. To maintain distancing, we can accommodate 5 parent volunteers to help with this.

Please ensure that no nuts are used in any food preparation as we are a nut-free school. We will ask parents to complete a food allergy ingredients checklist when dropping off any dishes. A copy of this is on the final page of today's newsletter for you reference.

This will be a lovely way to end the half-term. Hopefully in 2022, we will be back to enjoying a whole-school celebration in the playground.

## Cautious Return to Normality

Ark Swift pupils have finally been able to get out and about! These are the first trips since the outbreak of the pandemic last year. During the last couple of weeks, the following visits have taken place:

- Year 1 to Wormholt Park
- Year 3 to Phoenix City Farm
- Year 5 & 6 Football event at QPR

Report from Ahmed and Bess in Year 5 about the QPR event:

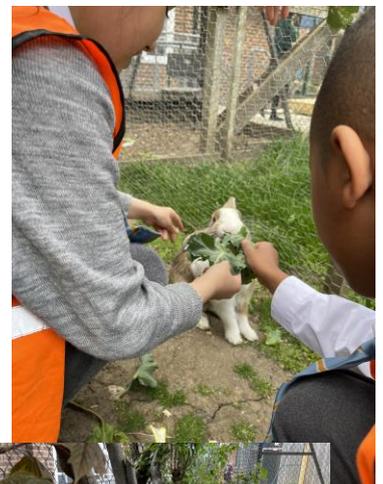
*On Monday 17th May, a group of children from years 5 & 6 represented Ark Swift at our first QPR Football Tournament at Loftus Road Stadium.*

*This was a special occasion because the children got to play on the pitch where Queens Park Rangers play! Ark Swift were joined by other local school teams and luckily it was awesome weather throughout.*

*Ark Swift had two teams. Team 1 finished 3rd, and Team 2 finished 6th.*

*Overall, everyone played really well and were a credit to our school.*

*Well done to all players who took part!*



## RE Day

Our programme of half-termly RE days continues and next week, children will be learning about Islam.

### Ark Swift R.E Islam

At Ark Swift this year, we will deliver the R.E curriculum in the form of 6 immersion days. We believe that a whole day experience can lead to excellent learning and provide real opportunities for spiritual development for pupils.

Each day will involve students stepping out of the normal timetable and spending a whole day, every half-term, on a particular RE theme.

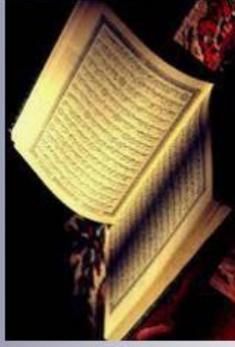
Our next R.E day will be on **Islam** and will take place the **week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> May**. Below outlines topics that will be covered in each year group...

Year 3



- Ideas of God
- Allah as the creator

Year 4



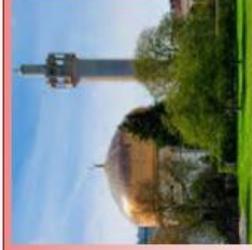
The Qur'an and guidance

Year 5



- Islamic values
- The Five Pillars of Islam

Year 6



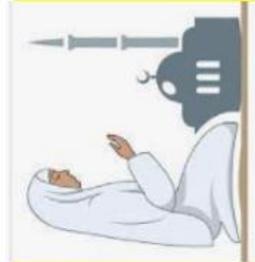
- Family and social life
- The Mosque (or masjid)

Year 1



- Ideas of God
- The Qur'an
- Islamic Values

Year 2



- Salat (prayer)
- Festivals and celebrations

## Looking for Something to do in Half-Term?

Sessions will take place in [The Invention Rooms](#) where you can explore science in our bespoke activities made for White City and North Ken families. These will be run on a small scale and in a socially distanced way to ensure the safety of all the attendees.

### **Under Five Storytelling: Anansi the spider**

Join us for a special story about the original spider man - the West African spider god Anansi! Helen Tozer, our professional storyteller weaves amazing tales with inspiration from the natural world to create exciting sessions that explore science in a fun, friendly way! Sing songs, discover amazing science and hear stories and make something to take home during these sessions for our youngest neighbours. We're running this session as an in-person activity for under-fives as well as online – you can pick which session suits you.

**Who:** Ages 3 - 5

**When:** Tuesday 1 June 10:00 (The Invention Rooms)

Tuesday 1 June 12:00 (Zoom)

**Where:** The Invention Rooms and online via Zoom

**Register:** via Eventbrite. At The Invention Rooms [here](#) and the Zoom session [here](#)

### **Amazing Dye Workshop**

Explore the science of colour at The Invention Rooms this half term in this exciting workshop with Richard and Andreas. Join our researchers and discover how scientists can use chemistry to make new dyes to colour everything from dye to paint to clothes. You'll also be able to try your own chemical dyes by making your own t-shirt to take home.

This is a free workshop for families that allows you to explore chemistry together in a fun and creative way.

**Who:** Ages 5 -11

**When:** Tuesday 1 June 14:00 and Thursday 3 June 14:00

**Where:** The Invention Rooms

**Register:** via Eventbrite [here](#)

### **Science Communication Workshop with Laura Rodríguez**

From vaccines to new materials, finding new things is what science does best, but new discoveries don't mean much if no one knows about them! Join Laura Rodríguez and discover the interesting world of Science Communication. Learn the tricks that communicators use to make science come to life before making your own poster or podcast. Will you do a 3D poster about dinosaurs, a super space podcast or something else entirely?

This is a free workshop for families that allows you to get creative and explore science communication together in a fun and creative way.

**Who:** Ages 5 -11

**When:** Wednesday 2 June 10.00 and Thursday 3 June 10.00

**Where:** The Invention Rooms

**Register:** via Eventbrite [here](#)

### **Microscope Discoveries**

Make and keep your own microscope in this workshop all about teamwork. Scientists work together all the time, joining forces to solve some of the world's biggest challenges. Join the team of physicists, biologists and engineers to see how diverse scientists work together to help fight disease.

You'll learn about our researchers and make your own microscopes before using them to explore the amazing tiny world of cells. After the session you'll have a microscope you can take home to carry on exploring.

**Who:** Ages 5 -11

**When:** Wednesday 2 June 14:00

**Where:** The Invention Rooms

**Register:** via Eventbrite [here](#)

## Looking for Something to do in Half-Term Cntd...

### A Disastrous Day at the Movies: Science Show!

Dan loves 90s movies, particularly those full of disasters. Join him as he explores some of the surprising science behind some natural, and some not so natural, disasters. Volcanoes, earthquakes, and tornadoes all get a look in, and maybe even some alien visitors as we see what's fact and what's fiction.

In this live interactive show Dan, and some volunteers, will explore the lesser-known elements of these disasters and give you some ideas you can try at home, and a few you can't!

**Who:** Ages 5 -11

**When:** Wednesday 2 June 18:00  
Thursday 3 June 18:00

**Where:** The Invention Rooms

**Register:** via Eventbrite [here](#)

## Reading Badge Fever!

The first bronze pin badges were awarded in assembly last week and some more will be handed out today. Some children are not far off their silver badges and will likely receive these next week.

It has been fantastic to see the level of engagement in KS2 home reading since the launch of this new initiative. Current numbers of class badges awarded so far:

Year 3: 17 = 74% of the class

Year 4: 26 = 87% of the class

Year 5: 17 = 57% of the class

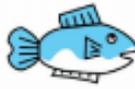
Year 6 Bristol: 9 = 41% of the class

Year 6 Sheffield: 12 = 52% of the class

**Who will we see around the school sporting the full collection of Bronze, Silver and Gold pin badges?**



## Allergens card – preparing dishes for Eid Celebration

 <p>Celery</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Cereals containing gluten</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Crustaceans</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Eggs</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Fish</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
 <p>Lupin</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Milk</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Molluscs</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Mustard</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Nuts</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
 <p>Peanuts</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Sesame seeds</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Soya</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	 <p>Sulphur dioxide</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>TICK THE ALLERGENS WHICH ARE IN THE DISH</b></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>