



# Ark Swift Primary Academy

Australia Road, London W12 7PT

Tel: 020 8743 2514



Friday 16 September 2016

## Message from the Principal

It is a pleasure to write to you as your new principal of Ark Swift Primary Academy, and to have had the opportunity to meet so many of you on the gate and in the playground before and after school.

I am delighted to tell you that the staff and I have been working extremely hard at making sure that this year is a productive and enjoyable one for your children. We have been working on ensuring that the culture in school is positive and enjoyable for all.

This includes making some changes to our behaviour policy including ensuring that children understand **THE SWIFT WAY** of doing things and receiving Dojo points in return. Children enjoy privileges when they earn Dojo points. Some will even earn the right to have Tea with me.

I look forward to an exciting year ahead.



## EID PARTY THIS MONDAY

We are delighted to invite all parents/carers and pupils to Eid Party on **Monday 19 September 2016 at 3:30pm in the lower hall**. Thank you to everyone who has agreed to prepare for this special event.

## ATTENDANCE NEWS

### Winners of this week's attendance awards were:

1 <sup>st</sup> place:	<b>BRISTOL</b>	<b>99.2%</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> place:	<b>IMPERIAL (nursery)</b>	<b>98%</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> place:	<b>GOLDSMITHS</b>	<b>97.9%</b>

### Our whole school attendance for this week was:

# 95.3%

Our target for this year is **96%** and we need to get closer to this quickly.

Our teachers have been working hard at ensuring that class time is used well and that every minute counts.

We want your children to make great progress this year and we can only do this if you send your children to school, **every day and on time**



School success starts with attendance

*Dream, Believe, Achieve*

# TALK FOR WRITING

Talk for Writing is a fantastic new writing scheme that Ark Swift have launched across the whole school this academic year. It is a programme with proven success in improving the standard of not just writing, but reading and spoken language too.

Talk for writing allows us to adopt a more creative approach to writing with the adults and children learning a common language and actions for retelling stories to support independent creative writing. The process starts with an exciting hook to capture the interest of the children and engage them. This week our hooks included bread making for the Little Red Hen, aliens invading the school for Alien Landing and air raid simulations for Goodnight Mr Tom. Once the children are 'hooked' the story mapping and verbal retelling begins, so expect the children to come home keen to show you their story and actions!

Once the story has been learnt and language developed, the writing process can start, and we know that the quality of writing will significantly improve.



# DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Monday 19 Sept – Eid Party**

**Tuesday 20 Sept – Clubs Begin**  
*Please note that £5 deposits are no longer needed but it is still essential for all children to attend clubs.*

**Friday 14 Oct – Meet the Principal**  
from 2:30 to 3:30 featuring pupils highlighting some of the changes

**Monday 24 Oct – Half Term Begins**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT 31 OCTOBER IS NOW A SCHOOL DAY AND NOT A TRAINING DAY**

**Monday 14 November – Staff Training Day (NEW)**

**Wednesday 21 Dec – Last Day of Term**



## Road Closure – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

As part of World Car Free Day, the Council is planning to **close Australia Road** at some point during the day in order to run activities.

We don't know when the road is going to be closed but expect it to **be closed at the end of the school day**, and possibly the morning.

## How to raise a concern

If you have a concern about teaching and learning, or class behaviour, please see your child's teacher in the first instance as they are often in the best position to deal with something directly and quickly. If you still have concerns, then please contact the appropriate assistant headteacher.

On days when it is raining families should wait under the pillars. School doors will open at 8:45. Foundation Stage and KS1 children should enter through their classroom doors. KS2 enter through the side doors under the pillars.