

ARK PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY ASSOCIATION

Dear Parents and Carers

As you hopefully know by now, the **New Parent Drinks** is on **Thursday 28th September at 6 pm** (note earlier time). It would be wonderful to see as many of you there as possible; both current and new parents and carers are welcome. It'll be a great chance to welcome new parents to the Priory community, as well as an opportunity to meet some new friends, relax and get to know one another. We're hoping that some of the teachers will be there too, so come early if you'd like to chat to them in a social atmosphere. And for those of you who can, we will be carrying on to The Rocket pub on Churchfield Road.

We will also be launching the **2017/18 Wishing Tree** at the social. For those of you who aren't familiar with the Wishing Tree, it is an APPAA organised fundraiser to buy things specifically for our children's classrooms. Each form teacher is invited to put together a list of items they'd like for their classroom, ranging from books to puzzles and dressing up clothes, to bean bags and cushions for reading corners to headphones, kinetic sand and mosaic sets, and lots more. Last year, we managed to raise enough money by the end of the Autumn Term to fulfill the lists! Let's see if we can do the same again for our children this year.

Come along on **Thursday 28th September** to learn more or email:
appaacommitee@gmail.com



Upcoming Events for your Diary

Priory Parent Drinks
Thursday 28th
September
6 p.m.
School Hall
(note earlier time)

APPAA AGM
Thursday 5th October
6 p.m.
School Hall

Year 3 bake sale
Friday 13th October
3 p.m.

Year 2 bake sale
Friday 3rd November
3 p.m.

Priory Social
Thursday 16th November
Evening (TBC)

Priory Christmas Fair
Saturday 2nd December
(timing TBC)

Year 1 bake sale
Friday 15th December
3 p.m.

**ARK PRIORY
PARENTS' SOCIAL**



THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

FROM **6-8** PM

AT **ARK PRIORY** IN THE MAIN HALL

ALL PARENTS / CARERS WELCOME!
ESPECIALLY THOSE NEW TO THE ACADEMY

SAVE THE DATE

Ark Priory Christmas Fair

Saturday 2nd December

More details to follow



THE MUGA IS GREEN!!!!

Please remember, if you'd like to help get the MUGA floodlit by winter so our children can really make use of this fantastic facility in the darker afternoons and evenings, then please email appaacommitee@gmail.com or donate directly at the Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/arkschools/ark-priory-muga-redevelopment>



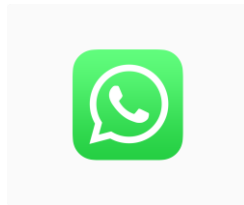
GET INVOLVED!

Would you like to be a class rep?

Firstly, a thank you to all our Reps from last year. With the new school year starting we are now looking for volunteers to be Reps or help on the wider APPAA committee. If you have always wanted to help out, do please give it a go!

We have had some wonderful responses, but there are still some gaps that need filling!

Want to find out more? Email us on:
appaacommittee@gmail.com



Now that we're starting a new term, we thought we'd remind you of the APPAA 'WhatsApp' guidelines. We'd also love to encourage any of you who would like to join your class group, to let your rep know and you can be added on.

APPAA 'WhatsApp' Usage Guidelines

APPAA maintains a 'WhatsApp' Group for the parents/carers in each year group. This is intended as a forum to ask questions about immediate issues, such as when homework is due, and for class representatives to remind parents of events and activities, as well as deflecting unnecessary questions away from the teachers. To keep everyone safe and happy on the group, the Committee has compiled some polite rules and etiquette that will be common across the school groups.

Points to note:

The group is run by parents for parents. It should not replace or substitute communication by or with school for relevant matters.

- The posts in the group chat are opinions of the individuals, not the group as a whole and not that of the school.
- The group is intended for the parents and carers of children in the specific year group only.

Please DO use the chat for:

- Immediate questions about school business, e.g. what date homework is due in.
- Reminders about school and APPAA events - e.g. meeting times, bake sale dates, donations for school fair
- Lost property notices
- Sharing and swapping relevant stuff - e.g. spare uniform, costumes for dressing up days etc.
- Relevant community notices - e.g. family events in the local area that may be of interest
- Sharing information about school that may be useful to others e.g. if you join for school lunch one Friday you may want to share the experience with others, or your child's experience at after school clubs to help others decide if it is right for them

Please DO NOT use the chat for:

- General casual chats - we are pleased that there is a lively, friendly parent community at school, but there are in excess of 60 people in some of our groups, so a little banter can soon escalate to a huge amount of messages. Then important messages get lost, which makes the group ineffective and daunting to the more infrequent users. We ask you to consider carefully what you post and how it comes across to others.
- School notices on behalf of school (unless specifically requested to help in the case of emergency or urgency e.g. school closed due to plumbing failure). Whilst the forum can be used to remind people of school events and business, it should not be used as a replacement for school communication, on behalf of the teachers or the office for example. If a teacher wishes to communicate something to all parents in a class or year group, school should communicate that via the formal channels. As a significant number of parents and carers are not represented on this group, information will not be distributed as intended.
- Posting private information about your child e.g. Medical records, school report, or comments on other peoples' children
- Posting photos/videos of the children at class events, outings etc. In order to safeguard children, and on request of the school senior management, please do not publish these sorts of photos/videos to the WhatsApps groups, however well intentioned, as some parents do not consent to images of their children being published on social media.

Etiquette

On behalf of APPAA Committee, there will be a moderator reviewing the posts for each year group (usually one or more of the Class Reps). Rude or inappropriate posts will not be tolerated. The APPAA moderator will contact anyone who uses the forum inappropriately and offenders may be removed from the group.

- Do not ask unnecessary questions that may be answered on the newsletter or school website or in the school handbook, please do check these sources first.
- Do not answer a question unless you really do know the answer as guesses just confuse, and no one needs to know if you also do not know the answer!

- If you need to privately message anyone in the group, remember that you can view the group members by tapping the group name and scrolling down. It would be helpful if all members had a meaningful name and photo on their WhatsApp profile to aid identification.
- Do no post adverts, religious or motivational 'meme's', political statements or anything that may be deemed offensive or is irrelevant to the school year group community.
- Please remember that any other 'unofficial' Priory parent WhatsApp groups are not the responsibility of APPAA
- Please remember that any messages or images etc. that are added to this group chat, like any social media, are in the public domain, so we request you are mindful of what you post.

We hope that all parents and carers who are not yet part of it will decide to join their child's year group WhatsApp group – for it to be truly successful, it should span entire parent community! Contact your Class Reps to be added to the group. Give it a try - if you are not sure, you are always free to change your mind!

**The Must Have Accessory for the 2017/2018 Season,
it's the ARK PRIORY PRIMARY TOTE BAG**



ORDER AN ARK PRIORY BAG TODAY FOR JUST £5!!

All profits go to the APPAA enrichment fund!

Email appaacommittee@gmail.com with your order, or print and fill in this form and return to the office, or the white APPAA postbox. If paying in cash or cheque please put with order form in a sealed envelope.

Name of child:

Class:

Number of bags required:

Payment (please tick):

- CASH on collection
- Cheque (to 'APPAA')
- Bank transfer

(APPAA; Acc no. 13386072; S/C 230580)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING 'STAMPTASTIC' LABELLING DISCOUNT CODE:

Stampstastic have changed their discount code from **ARK** to **W38NR**. Please see below on how to order from them and other labeling companies:

ARK PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY

Labeling Uniform Information

It is the school's policy that ALL items of uniform MUST be named. To help with this, APPAA have put together a list of tried and tested companies, which cater for all price ranges and labeling preferences! Even better, the school gets cash back from some of these companies when you order – at no extra cost to you.

1. "Stampstastic": Name stamps, ink pads and labeling pens.

www.stampstastic.co.uk

Tel: 02083329781

*Ark Priory receives 25% cash back if you use the **NEW** code **W38NR** at checkout.*

2. "Label Planet": Stick on (STIKINS) name labels for clothes and other items.

www.name-labels.com

Tel: 01270-668076

*Ark Priory receives 25% cash back if you use the Reference Number: **35676** at checkout.*

3. "Woven Labels UK": Name Tapes, stick on labels and tags.

www.wovenlabelsuk.com

sales@wovenlabelsuk.com

Tel: 03332226619



HOLD THE PRESS!!

Are you looking to buy a new scooter or swap to a bigger one?

We have some exciting news... Ark Priory have signed up with Micro Scooters so that every purchase made through their website, quoting a special code, donates 10% back to the school! This is a fantastic fundraising opportunity as we know how popular the brand is with all our kids. This amazing promotion also covers any accessories – no purchase too small!

SO... WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO?

Log on to the website: www.micro-scooters.co.uk

Quote the school code: 139699 at check out

That's it - It's really that simple!

For every order placed they give 10% back to the school - which goes directly back to provide enrichment for our children.

So if you have a birthday coming up, already planning Christmas or just a child that has suddenly shot up in size... please use the school code and help raise funds for our lovely school!



Raise money for Ark Priory for FREE!!!



Have you ever shopped online at **Sainsbury's, M&S, John Lewis, Amazon** or **Ebay**? Or booked a holiday or flight with **Expedia, Booking.com**, or **Thompson**? Maybe ordered some DIY supplies from **B&Q** or **Wickes**? Booked train tickets with **The Train Line** or airport parking with **Heathrow Airport Parking**?

If you are a regular shopper at these and hundreds of other online stores you can **raise money for Ark Priory for free!**



ARK Priory is registered with The Giving Machine to help generate on-going donations for the school. Sign up to The Giving Machine at:

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

The Giving Machine is a not-for-profit social enterprise, helping shoppers like you generate **free cash donations** for the causes they want to support, **every time they shop online!** Just create an account, add Ark Priory as your cause and then start shopping and earning donations!

You can also download the App to access The Giving Machine on your phone or tablet. **Please do not delay - sign up today and start generating free donations for our school, with no cost to you!! Happy Shopping!**

