



Ark Priory Primary Academy

Explore

Endeavour

Excel

Courage to
fly!

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Christmas holidays are almost upon us. I would like to remind you that our last day of term is **Thursday 19th December**. The school day will finish at **1.30pm** so please be prompt for collection. Children will have a school lunch as normal before collection.

Please may I ask that parents/carers taking home any bikes and scooters over the holidays. There are several scooters that have been left in the bike shelter for over a year. The site team are clearing this area over the holidays and any bikes or scooters left will be removed and given to charity.

Our final two weeks at school are filled with Christmas themed events- please check the school 'Key Dates' for further information. We look forward to welcoming you!

Miss Grasso

Christmas Extravaganza!

I would like to say a huge congratulations to our Year 2 pupils who performed this week in their Christmas show. I was very impressed by the songs and dances- what a great performance.

Next week, we have our Reception and Nursery Nativity. On Thursday, we have our wonderful event 'Carols Around the Tree'. Please make sure you stay after school on that day to join us for some winter fun! On Friday, it is our special Christmas Jumper Day as well as our Christmas lunch.

What an exciting week it is going to be!



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

**Friday 13th
December**
Swap, jazz up and recycle
your old jumpers!
£1 Donation

Attendance

Our whole school attendance for the week is: **96.8%**

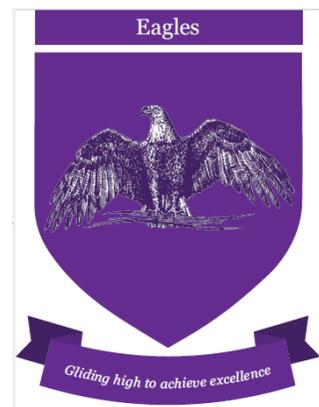
Class Attendance:

- 1. Sharman 98.2%**
2. Fleming 98.1%
3. Curie 97.6%

Well done to Sharman class again!

House Points

Our winning team this week was:



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Homework links

Year 1	https://www.turtlediary.com/game/sentence-unscramble-first-grade.html
Year 2	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882hv/articles/z96vb9q
Year 3	Which currencies are used in other European countries? https://www.triviaplaza.com/european-currencies-3-quiz/
Year 4	https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?e=spelling-grammar01
Year 5	https://uk.ixl.com/ela/year-5/identify-base-words-prefixes-and-suffixes
Year 6	https://uk.ixl.com/ela/year-6 (E.6-E.10) Mathletics practice (algebra)

Donations:

Please donate any clean spare underwear to the school if you have them, especially for boys, which we have none at the moment. All ages and all sizes wanted!

The Toy Project

We are collecting used toys to donate to the charity 'The Toy Project' (more information below). Please bring your used toys with you to the 'Carols Around the Tree' event where our prefects will be collecting them to put under our tree, ready to be collected to send to children who are less fortunate.

Thank you in advance for your support



Volunteers Needed!

We have our school pet tortoise Sir Tobias Priory Royce (but he prefers to be called Toby the Tortoise), and we are looking for willing parents to look after him over the Christmas holidays.

This can be one family or a few families who want to share the load (**but you must arrange transportation and arrange change-overs**).

To help you make your decision I have put some basic care requirements but I will be able to meet with the confirmed parents.

Every day

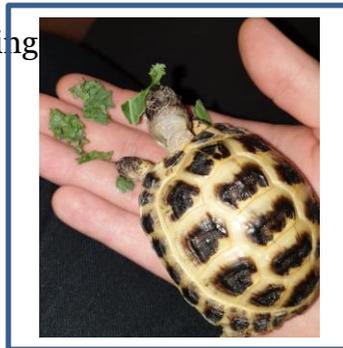
Ensure the light is switch on in the morning and off in the night.
Put Toby under the light in the morning
A shallow warm bath
Allow him to roam outside of his housing

Every other day

Feed with vegetables

Equipment

You will be provided with housing
Lamp
Lamp timer
Water bowl



You will need to provide a small portion of vegetables.

If you would like to take the tortoise please email Miss Terry on s.terry@arkprioryprimary.org by the **9th of December** when names will be drawn out of a hat.

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The Felix Project- please help!

I received a letter from two of our pupils, Noah and Eve, asking if our community could support 'The Felix Project' which helps those in England that are hungry. The children said in their letter that they think it is important to help people in this cold time of year and at Christmas- I agree wholeheartedly!

Please bring any fresh food donations to the playground after school on **Friday 13th December.**

<https://thefelixproject.org/about/our-story>

The Toy Project: please donate a toy if you can!

This year, Ark Priory are supporting the amazing charity, The Toy Project. We are NOT asking you to donate money, but instead - with the help of your children - to choose a new or used (in good condition) toy to donate to a child in need. We will be collecting the toys under our Christmas tree from now until our Carols event on 12th December, to deliver to the Islington based charity HQ on the 13th December in time for their Christmas deliveries all over London (and beyond).

The Toy project is an inspirational London-based charity. This Christmas they are giving presents to hundreds of children in care, to the children at the Grenfell Tower nursery; to children attending safe spaces for women who have escaped domestic violence; to children of ever father in Wormwood Scrubs and Pentoville prisons on the festive visiting days; and to many low income families who simply cannot afford to buy their children a gift. No gift is too small. They do not need to be wrapped or labelled (but can be if you wish).

This amazing charity is especially significant to one of our parents as it was introduced to her by a good friend, a local Acton mum, as a way to remember her baby boy Rocco, who passed away on 11th December last year. In spreading this powerful message of kindness far and wide, through random acts of kindness and giving, even the shortest of lives can have a massive, far reaching, wonderfully positive impact.

We are really hoping that the children will enjoy choosing a toy to give away, or to buy, knowing they are spreading kindness to others, as well as remembering that this time of year is about giving not just receiving gifts!

For more information, please email vicrobinson@me.com or have a look at the website thetoyproject.co.uk

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STEM Club update

STEM club's plants are still growing! It is clear that all our young scientists know the requirements a plant needs to live and grow. Well done!



From our community: Cinema For Acton

There are only 15 days left to pledge towards having a cinema on our doorstep. If you haven't pledged yet but keep meaning to, please squeeze this in to your day:

<https://www.spacehive.com/a-cinema-for-acton>

The fundraising closes in 15 days and they're about £15k short so please, if you can spare a little, do pledge to see a lovely community resource in Acton! Pledge as little as £2

Key Dates for Autumn 2:

Mon 9 Dec	Reception Nativity Play (PM)
Tue 10 Dec	Reception Nativity Play (AM)
Wed 11 Dec	Nursery Nativity Play
Thu 12 Dec	Carols Around the Tree @4:30pm
Fri 13 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
Thu 19 Dec	Last day of term finish at 1:30pm

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Notices from APPAA*

Follow us on Twitter @APPAA_ArkPriory Contact us at appaacommittee@gmail.com

*APPAA is ARK Priory's Parents' Association, run by the school's parents and carers to **raise funds, hold events, and bring our academy community together**. All Ark Priory parents and carers are **automatically members** of the association because you are members of the community.

If you want to know how you can get involved or help out at any of the upcoming events then drop us a mail at the email above. We are all busy people, but working together as a team of carers, dads and mums we can make great things happen for our school and our children.

Carol's around the tree - NEXT THURSDAY - YOUR HELP NEEDED

DATE FOR THE DIARY - 12th December 4-6pm

There will be festive singing, performances from the children, the chance to buy Christmas gifts from the artisan stall and festive food and drink to be enjoyed.

We ask everyone to be generous with their time so that all stalls are well staffed and everyone can enjoy the event!

Help required for SANTA'S GROTTO and other stalls:

Please sign up to a timeslot using below link.

<https://volunteersignup.org/BMLLK>

ARTISAN ARK

We are running a stall selling your beautiful creations of handmade goods - jams, chutneys, packaged food items, plants, gift items, hair accessories, knitted items etcalso we will take your Pre loved CHRISTMAS JUMPERS to sell on! Pls let Charlotte know what you can make (charlottedunstan@hotmail.com) or donate Christmas Jumpers at the Grotto sign up tables at drop off and pick up

VINTAGE TEA AND CAKES

Looking for Xmas bakes - whole cakes, cupcakes, traybakes (no nuts please) contact Dek and let her know what you can bake (Dek 07775865110) Also we will appreciate if you could help with the setup, sale and/or clean up. Any help hugely appreciated.

FESTIVE FOOD

mince pies, festive savouries (no nuts please). Please contact Beatrice (blmriley27@gmail.com) and Hilary (hjcullingworth@hotmail.co.uk).

Santa's Grotto - DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR SLOT

You can book a slot for Santa's Grotto at the sign up tables in the playground before and after school. A visit to Santa costs £5 (£2 for each sibling) and includes a gift and a family photo.

The Toy Project - GIFTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Please don't forget to dig out any unwanted and good condition toys, games and books to donate to children in need of a gift this Christmas.

'What's App' Groups - PLEASE READ THE USAGE GUIDELINES

APPAA 'What's App' Groups - APPAA oversee 'What's App' groups for the parents/ carers of each year group. This is a forum for class reps to remind parents of school and APPAA events and activities, such as PE days or when to bring library books, and for parents to ask questions about immediate issues, such as when homework is due. Please do let us know if you have a child starting in one of these groups and you would like to be added if you are not already.

We would appreciate if you could take a moment to view the APPAA 'What's App' Group Usage Guidelines (polite rules and etiquette) which have been created to keep everyone safe and happy on line. These can be found on the APPAA section of the Ark Priory website at any time.

<http://arkpriory.org/sites/default/files/Whats%20App%20Usage%20Guidelines.pdf>

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The Giving Machine - EARN MONEY WHILE YOU SHOP

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/ark-priory-primary>

Do you ever shop online at big retailers like EBay, Argos, Amazon, Sainsbury's or Boots? The Giving tree is a way to donate a percentage of everything you spend (at no cost to you) to the school. Simply download the app, create an account, click 'go shopping' and shop in the way you normally do. This is one of the easiest ways to donate to the school. If you need help downloading the app drop APPAA a mail at appaacommittee@gmail.com.

As always if you want to help out or have any notices for the newsletter please contact appaacommittee@gmail.com for further information

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