



Ark Franklin Newsletter

8th January 2016

Dear Parents

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you had an enjoyable break and are ready for an exciting and enriching 2016.

As a staff we started the term on Monday with a day devoted to using the great outdoors as a learning resource, with hands-on workshops led by a group of experts from a diverse range of backgrounds including gardening, storytelling, sculpting, landscape architecture and teaching. Our aim is to use our local environment much more creatively within our curriculum, alongside the ongoing development of our own school garden; as you can see from the photograph below there was much enthusiasm.



Thank you to everyone who completed our parent questionnaire before the holidays, 45% of parents responded. Results reveal that an overwhelming 99% of parents agree that their children like school and are making good progress, while 98% agree that their child is taught well, teachers are approachable, they are kept informed and that their child is helped to learn to communicate, read, write and do maths. The lowest agreement was 91% for Ark Franklin provides a good range of experiences for my child, hopefully the workshop described above, and the ensuing learning activities that will flow from it, will reassure you all that we are very committed to ensuring your children have a variety of experiences during their time with us.

Have a good weekend and we look forward to seeing you from 8.30am on Monday.

Warmest regards
Janine Ryan
Headteacher



Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi



My trip to India during the Christmas holidays was an amazing experience and the pupils at Lajpat Nagar really appreciated the postcards written by many of our Reception and Year 1 children. As you can see from the pictures, phonics is a part of the curriculum in Delhi just like at Ark Franklin, while breakfast and lunch are taken in the classrooms, the school currently has no dining hall, but hopes to expand in 2016.

Headteacher's thought for the week

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.



Year 6 Parents

A note for your diaries, SATs week will be the week beginning the 9th May, please ensure you avoid all appointments in this week, as children can only sit their examinations on the appointed day. We will have a meeting to discuss in further detail what the week entails nearer the time.

Attendance

Don't forget our target is to get above 96% and that term time holidays cannot be authorised.

Parking on Kempe Road...

A plea from local residents: **please do not double-park** on Kempe Road when dropping off or collecting children from school. Parking wardens were issuing tickets at the end of last term and are likely to continue doing so.

Clubs

Letters confirming places in the enrichment clubs have gone out this week. Please ensure that you pay for your child's club before they start next week. We still have spaces in some of the clubs. If your child did not sign up for a club but would be interested in joining one please ask them to come to the school office to write their name on the waiting list. The signing up sheets are on the club information board located in the main school office.

Parent Association Meeting

The second Parents' Association meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 13th January at 7.30pm. Your newly elected committee: Sally Heale, Ted Sandling, Charlie Hay and Nic Baker will be hosting the evening, which will take place in the Nursery, so please use the nursery entrance. All are welcome, including children, if childcare is an issue.

Key Dates

Wednesday 10 th Feb	Parent's Evening
Thursday 11 th Feb	Parent's Evening & last day of this half term
Half term holiday: Friday 12 th Feb until Friday 19 th Feb inclusive	
Monday 22 nd Feb	Children return to school
Thursday 24 th March	Last day of Spring term
Easter holiday: Friday 25 th March until Monday 11 th April inclusive	
Tuesday 12 th April	Children return to school

Our lunchtime HUB for Year 6 opened this week and is proving very popular...



Stretch Project Update

We wish to apologise to Renee Johnson who was not mentioned in our final newsletter of last term as the joint winner of the Stretch Project.

Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for a site premises assistant and for a lunchtime supervisor. If you are interested in applying for these posts please drop an up to date CV off at the school office along with a letter of application.