



Ark Newsletter Autumn 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



We hope you had a great Summer holiday and are gearing up for an exciting Autumn Term. We are very pleased at how well your children have settled in and are excited to learn.

Communication with parents

Please continue to use emails to promote home-school links. If you have any news about your child, concerns, appointments or exciting achievements please email us at one of the following addresses: **cknapman1.315@lgflmail.org** or **cnicholas7.315@lgflmail.org** or pop a note in the reading diary. We also love to hear and receive photos of things your child has done out of school.

Arriving and leaving school grounds

Arrivals and drop off are now back to normal. Please use any entrance and exit to enter and leave the school. Just to remind you that the school day is now **8.50am – 3.25pm**. Please ensure your child arrives **no earlier than 8.45am** as there is not always adult supervision.

Mainstream

The children are enjoying joining their mainstream classes learning in the afternoons, we will continue to monitor this. We will send home timetables for your child soon so you know where they are at what lessons they access.

Weekend News

Every Monday the children share their weekend news; it is really helpful if you can email a very brief sentence about what they have done. If you have photos you can share please do, don't feel you have to always send pictures though.

There are some changes to the school day that we would like to make you aware of:

Cooking will now take place on **Fridays**. Please can you send in a £10 donation to cover the cost of ingredients and a pot for your children to bring their creations home. After half term, each child will have the opportunity to be the cooking teacher and teach a recipe of their choice to the rest of the class, further details to follow.

PE – Ark PE will now take place on **Mondays**. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on Thursday. We will also communicate individually when your child has PE with their mainstream class.

Show and tell – will be on a **Friday**, your children are encouraged to bring items in that they can talk about.

Reading – We ask that you try to read with them as often as possible and extend their learning by asking questions about what they have read; we will be sending home question prompts which you may find helpful. We ask that their reading book and reading diary are in their book bags everyday so we can read with them at school.

Trips

We plan to take the children on local trips to enhance their classroom based learning and life skills. We also hope to be able to do a theatre trip near Christmas. We will share more details with you nearer the time.

Speech and Language Therapist

Louisa O'Meara is in school on **Tuesday, Wednesday** and **Thursday** to work with the children in the ARP. If you would like to come in to observe a speech therapy session or if you have any questions or queries you can email her at louisa.omeara@merton.gov.uk

Water Bottles, Snacks, Tissues and Soap

Please ensure that your child has their water bottle in school every day. The children are also encouraged to bring a **healthy snack** to have at break time. As we are a healthy school **please do not send in sweets, chocolates, crisps or fizzy drinks for snack**. Please ensure these do not contain nuts. We always welcome any donations of tissues and antibacterial liquid soap, such as Carex.

We appreciate the support and encouragement you give to your child and hope that all this information enables you to be involved in their learning. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working together with you this year.

Kind regards, The Ark Team