



Back to school

We trust you had a restful half-term. The children will have been assessed at the end of the first half-term and their progress towards their targets will be noted in our school data systems. Maybe your child's target has been increased after the last round of assessments. If so, this is because they have achieved even more than hoped for and are being pushed to go even further. This is a crucial term as it sets the standard for the whole year. We always try to ensure that by the end of the term, all children have made good progress towards their end-of-year targets.

Be curious!

This is our assembly theme for this half-term. We want all the children at Ark Brunel to be curious about the world around them. We want them to question things and to develop the thirst for learning that will see them achieve their very best in the future. The question 'why?' is one that we value incredibly highly. When we ask for answers in Maths, we don't just want the children to be able to answer it – we want them to be able to explain why. If they can explain why to us, we want them to explain why to their peers. It's by developing this deep understanding that we can lay the foundations for future success.

Children In Need

We were pleased to be able to support Children In Need this year with our Superheroes Day. We'll tweet the amount raised as soon as it's counted and details will follow in the next newsletter.



On Wed 5th November, we were visited by one of our founding partners, Michael Alen-Buckley. Mr Alen-Buckley kindly donated the outdoor table tennis tables which have been installed in the playground and which are proving incredibly popular. There were some serious skills on show and we are very grateful for this equipment which enhances our playground even further.

Ukulele

Children in KS2 are learning to play the ukulele! We are pleased to have weekly sessions for some of the children in KS2 this half-term. With regular singing and African drumming also going on, we are making efforts to improve our musicianship.

School Council

School Council elections took place recently and the school council has met for discussion. Members are meeting staff to discuss issues such as school lunches, recycling and special focus days for the future. It's impressive to see our pupils taking an interest and endeavouring to improve things for the school community.

Y6 Boys Football

Our Y6 team has been playing regularly against other local schools. After winning the RBKC tournament last year, they are up against it this year as the team to beat. However, they're coping with the pressure admirably and have won all 5 of their matches so far. Thanks to Mr Ghafar who is managing them and accompanying them after school.

Attendance

The school's attendance target is now 96%. The class attendance since we returned after the half term is:-

Bath	93.9%	Bristol	90.7%
Durham	90.1%		
Exeter	94.8%	Imperial	94.2%
Kings	93.4%		
Lancaster	92.9%	Loughborough	95.3%
Oxford	98.3%	Warwick	95.9%
York	97.85%		

Overall attendance during this period was 94.5% - that's not so good. But well done to the classes that got at least 96%.

