



### **Ark Sports Day Round-Up**

Yesterday children from Ark Brunel went to at the [@arkschools](https://twitter.com/arkschools) Sports Day held at Linford Christie Stadium. Children competed in activities such as Vortex Howler, Egg and Spoon Race, Sack Race, 60m Sprint and many others. It was a beautiful sunny day and the children had a great time. The Year 6 children came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of all the Ark Schools in their year group. Congratulations to all for excellent behaviour and sportsmanship.



### **KSSA Athletics Round-Up by Ismail Elwahabi, York Class**

*First of all, we got into our partners and travelled to Linford Christine Stadium on foot. Once we got there, we took out our pack lunches and ate our snacks. After that, we got into formation on the bench and looked at the other schools and then the race began ...*

*First up was Y5 from all the different schools. Everyone stood up and started to cheer; the crowd went wild when the lady said "Go!". We started the day well, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> and sometimes 3<sup>rd</sup> in different races. Next was Y6 and that my turn to race. Junel and I ran to the starting line. I had to run first then it was Junel's turn. The starter said, "On your marks.... GOOO!" I immediately sprinted off but one boy managed to creep past me and despite my best efforts, I just couldn't catch him. So close but.... I came 2<sup>nd</sup>. Next was Junel, he finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and that gave us even more points. This time was the Y6 girl runners. The fastest girl runner was Ibtisam who came 2<sup>nd</sup>. Next was the Y6 relay. On your marks, go! Dawood sprinted off giving us a lead. He tapped Junel's hand and then Milad and then I took*

*the final leg. I ran like the wind. I looked behind me and the other team was far behind. I cross the finishing line. ARK Brunel went crazy! I told the team we came 1<sup>st</sup> and they were excited.*

*We sat down and took a break while watching the Y3 race. They performed amazingly, finishing 1<sup>st</sup>. Next was the special 400m race. First was the boys and I got picked. After a long wait, the race finally began. On your marks GOO! I was in the lead after the second corner, leading to the finishing line. My legs started to feel like jelly; I couldn't carry on but I had to do it for the school. A person overtook me then another. I was in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and knew if I let another one get pass me then I have failed the school so I tried my hardest. I could see the end. It felt so close! Finally I finished and dropped to the floor like a tower falling down. I got up and I got a green ticket others got red and blue, I guess green is good? I walked to my school and everyone was proud of me.*

*The day was soon over and a great time was had by all. Brunel came fourth overall, which we were really pleased about. The hardest bit was the walk home, tired but happy.*

### **Please collect children on time**

Please ensure that you are on time to collect your children at the end of the school day at 3:30pm. Staff have very busy schedules after school and are not available to look after children. Luckily, if you are unable to collect your children at 3:30pm, you can enrol with Play Centre which is very reasonably-priced and offers after-school activities daily.



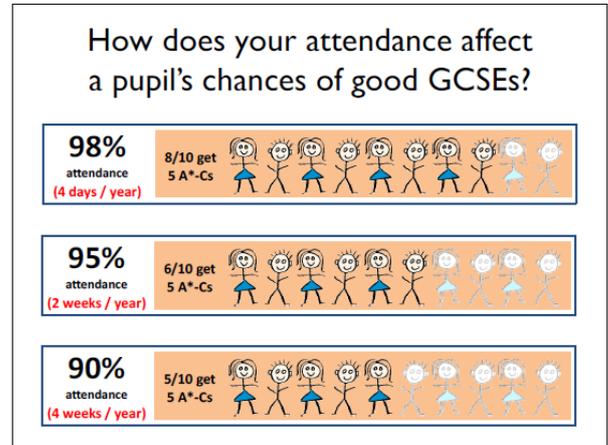
## Improving achievement by improving attendance

We are renewing our efforts to improve the attendance and punctuality of our pupils. Despite repeated efforts, our attendance continues to be below national averages. Why is this important?

*“Evidence shows that children with poor attendance are unlikely to succeed academically and they are more likely not to be in education, employment or training (NEET) when they leave school. There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.”* Improving attendance at school, Charlie Taylor, Government’s Expert Adviser on Behaviour 2012.

One of the most effective ways that we can improve achievement is by improving the attendance of all our pupils. Pupils in the Early Years with poor attendance are at an immediate disadvantage compared to their peers and often find it difficult to catch up throughout the rest of their school lives. Even the very best teachers struggle to raise the standards of children who are not in school regularly, and it is a recurring frustration amongst our teachers that the absence of a minority of pupils is having a negative impact upon attainment. Schools with good attendance also get better overall attainment and behaviour. We want that to be us but we need your help.

It is important that we are able to differentiate between minor ailments and the sort of illness that warrants a day off. Many children attend regularly when suffering from such ailments but this is clearly not the case for all. Does your child miss school when he/she could easily attend? The habits formed in early school life often stick forever. The following graphic shows the ultimate outcome of poor attendance.



Please help us to make sure that all children achieve their very best by making sure your children attend every day.