



Assembly Theme

This half-term, we are spending assembly time talking about growth mind-sets with the children. This is designed to help the children develop the attitudes to learning that will enable them to achieve their very best, both now and in their future lives. Our pupils are becoming very skilled in developing strategies that help them to overcome obstacles that they may encounter during learning activities. Ask your child what it's all about. You might be surprised.

Down On the Farm

Bristol and Durham classes have both visited Kentish Town City Farm recently. It's great to be able to take advantage of the opportunity to visit such a farm in the heart of the city. The children learned lots about the animals and made a few friends along the way.



World Book Day

Ark Brunel celebrated World Book Day in style on Thursday 5th March. Staff and children metamorphosed into their favourite literary characters with stunning effect. The day's learning activities including a focus on the Harris Burdick books. The pictures contained within provided inspiration for different genres of writing throughout the school.



As always, World Book Day provided a great opportunity to expand our learning experiences whilst having lots and lots of fun.



Eggs Factor: Design an Easter Bonnet Competition

With the Easter holidays not too far away, we will be hosting an Easter bonnet parade. Children are invited to design and make an Easter bonnet at home for our Easter Bonnet Parade. Prizes will be on offer for the most inventive designs.

We would be delighted if parents joined us for our Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 25th March at 2pm in the school hall.

Please Help With Our Easter Raffle

We will be holding an Easter raffle on Friday 27th March. Donations of Easter eggs as prizes are being gratefully received by the school office. Tickets will be on sale shortly and will cost 25p each or 5 tickets for £1. All proceeds will go to equipment and resources for the children.

Mrs Morad will be donating one of her legendary home-made cakes for the raffle too. Thanks, Debbie!

Spelling Bee

Tuesday 24th February saw Brunel host the Ark Spelling Bee. This was an opportunity for our top spellers to show off their skills and test themselves against their peers from other Ark schools.

The event started just after 10:30 when all the contestants had arrived from all over London and as far afield as Birmingham. Pencils sharpened, the contestants immersed themselves in a range of spelling activities designed to test them to their limits. After lunch, the points were tallied and the winners were announced. Brunel pupils performed very well: Bilal from Y3 won the Y3/4 prize and our team was 2nd overall. Hannah from Y6, who came 2nd in her age group, said: "It was fun. The knockout round was hard but I represented my team and came second. I won't forget how to spell 'government' again!"

Congratulations to Globe and KSA for taking the Y3/4 and Y5/6 overall prizes and to KSA for being the overall winner. It was a delight to welcome other Ark students to Brunel for this great event. We trust that everyone enjoyed it as much as we did.



The Brunel Spelling Bee team

Red Nose Day

This year's theme for Red Nose Day is 'Funny Faces.' Children are invited to come to school with a funny face and a donation on Red Nose Day this year.

Unexplained Goings-on In The Playground – Explained!

At the end of last half-term, we were puzzled by a video we came across showing some mysterious goings-on in the playground. We are pleased to let you know that we have got to the bottom of the events that day. It was a great stimulus for writing and we were thrilled with some of the ideas and imagination shown by the children. We've

displayed their work in the school as a reminder of their efforts in that day's writing activities.

Science Week

British Science Week will take place at our school from Monday 16th March - Friday 20th March. This will be a fun week of experiments and investigations! Throughout the week, some classes will have the opportunity to visit the Science Museum. On Friday 20th March, we will be having a special assembly run by a real-life Science boffin and be carrying out experiments in our classes.



Attendance & Punctuality

We need to improve our attendance. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, our attendance continues to be too low and we are in danger of not meeting our targets for the year. Children whose attendance and punctuality is poor miss vital learning, falling behind their peers and failing to fulfil their potential. Conversely, children whose attendance and punctuality is very good, have a full range of learning experiences behind them and have fewer gaps in their knowledge and understanding.

This is something that we have worked tirelessly to improve over a long period of time. Unfortunately, we are unable to improve without the backing and support of parents and carers. Please make every effort to ensure that your child attends school on time every day.

School Uniform Supplier Visit

Ace Clothing will be coming in to school on Thursday 19th March. They will be measuring the Year 2 children for the blazers they will need once they move up to Year 3. From 3:15-4pm the Ace staff will be available for parents to see, should you wish to place an order or have your child measured for uniform. Please note that any uniform required for September (*especially blazers!*) should be ordered ASAP, or you run the risk of it not arriving in time.