



Ark John Archer Primary Academy

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Monday 16th May 2022

Attendance... Latest Updates

Dear Parents, Carers & AJA Families

I hope you all had a good weekend and are ready for the final two weeks of this half term.

I just wanted to give you an update on our latest attendance figures across the school and to share with you something that I have made reference to before...

Attendance, generally, is good. Considering what we have had to deal with over the past 2 years, I am impressed with how well we have all worked together to ensure that there is regular attendance of children in school every day and more children are on time. We need to keep this up as regular attendance means we can ensure your child learns well, that they are taught sequences of lessons, and they can retain more information that they can build on every year.

My biggest concern are Fridays... After healthy daily attendance all week – 95%+ every day – there is a big dip on a Friday as you can see from the table below (this half term's figures).

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Monday	Easter Mon.	97.1%	Bank Holiday	95.7%
Tuesday	INSET Day	96.2%	73.8% (Eid)	95.5%
Wednesday	96.7%	95.9%	96.4%	97.2%
Thursday	96.2%	95%	97.2%	96.4%
Friday	96.5%	93.3%	95.2%	94.1%

If your child is genuinely ill, then of course they need to be absent from school and we are always at the end of the phone to give you advice and guidance. I understand children get tired, I understand that the changes over the past 2+ years have been challenging and I acknowledge this. My concern is that we may be instilling a habit that school is only on for 4 days of the week... this habit will be very difficult to break the more it continues so please do work with the school to ensure this dip is short term.

By law all Children of school age (5-16) must receive full time education and as a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens.

The Education Act 1996 Sec. 444 states: "If a child of compulsory school age fails to attend school regularly his/her parent is guilty of an offence."

Thank you for your continued support and I know that we will continue to work together to get this right... As always, you know where I am if you would like to discuss this or any other matter further.

Best wishes

Moira Cruddas
Principal

Together As One