

The Saint



From the Principal's Office



Dear Parents

As we head into the Christmas break, I am reflecting on the last two terms at Ark All Saints Academy. As the school continues to grow, we still have many 'firsts' and many more to look forward to.

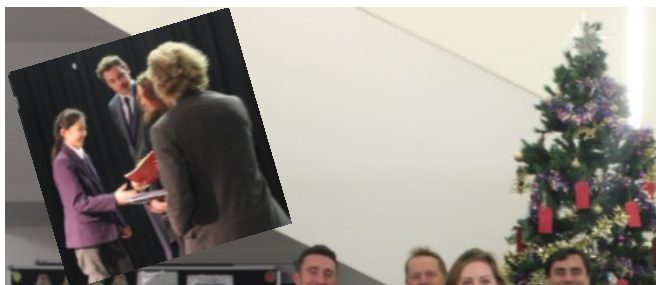
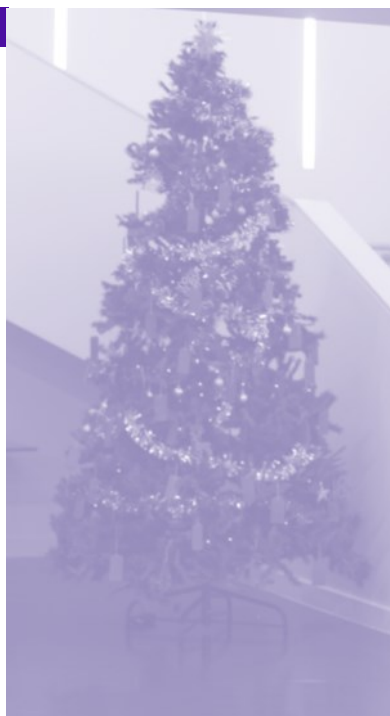
This term we have had our first Prize Giving evening, where we celebrated the achievements of so many of our Year 8 & 9 scholars from last year. Our Year 9s have already chosen their first options; where they had the chance to really think about what subjects at school excite and inspire them. This is also the first assessment period where we are using the new assessment system, which will give you more information about how your child is doing at school and where they need support.

While we are still a small school, we have the opportunity to learn from other schools around the country about new ideas and techniques, and apply these to Ark All Saints Academy. To this end, we are making a number of changes in January. These changes are really exciting, and are summarised on the back page of this newsletter.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break, with a chance to relax and have time as a family.

Thank you for all your support.

Lucy Frame
Principal



An evening of celebration and awards was held in the Great Hall at the Academy on Wednesday 9th December 2015. It was fantastic to see so many proud parents and scholars.

PRIZE GIVING 2015

Founders Day 2015

Our third annual Founders Day service on Thursday 12th November saw us back at Southwark Cathedral to formally welcome our Year 7 scholars and new staff members to the school.



Parent Soirees

On Wednesday 16th December, the local Salvation Army brass band kindly agreed to play in the Great Hall for our parents, scholars and staff at our Year 7 Parent Soiree.

Please keep an eye out for letters in the New Year about further Parent Soirees for



Medical trips

Groups of scholars from all year groups have been visiting Kings College London to learn about what a medical degree entails and get some hands-on experience of practice medical procedures.

Some scholars have been inspired by the experience to investigate what's required to take a medical degree at university.



Citizenship Days

Our termly Citizenship Days have continued with the Blue Cross returning for dog safety training, and Year 9s now taking on responsibility for leading some sessions.



SSF

Scholars rehearsing for their Shakespeare Schools Festival performance of Macbeth, which held at the RADA Theatre in central London on 12th November.

Bus Trips

Our series of Bus Training Trips has continued apace, with several groups going on the training this term, with more to come in the new year. These trips are aimed at teaching scholars how to be safe and sensible on public transport.



Sports update

Year 7

Rugby - Lost to EGA 25-20

Futsal Festival - 4th position

5 a-side football festival - D, L, L

Indoor Athletics - 5/8 - over three weeks

Year 8

Futsal Festival - 2nd position

Football - Lost to London Nautical 5-2

Indoor Athletics - 3/10 - over three weeks

Year 9

Football - Drew with Globe 6-6

Badminton - W, L, L

Rugby - EGA - game today

Upcoming fixtures next term

Year 7 football South London Cup 2nd round

Year 8 London South East Football league

Year 9 London South East Football league



All Saints After Hours

All scholars who would like to play or learn to play chess are invited to ASAH, where scholars have recently taken it upon themselves to set up a chess club.

Inter-House Football

Ramabai stormed to a resounding victory in the Year 9 Inter-House Football Championships in December.



Murals

At the beginning of the new year we were thrilled to receive a grant from the Mary Newington Foundation for a set of murals encapsulating our values. You can see these just inside the scholar entrance gate.



A Goat for Christmas

Two weeks before the end of term, Ms Frame, explained to the scholars and staff that she did not want Christmas cards to be sent to her this year - instead she asked that any money to be spent on cards be given towards the Oxfam Unwrapped charity initiative.

She then invited members of the academy to join her in this mission.

"Ms Frame doesn't want cards, she wants a goat. It sounded funny at first, but then she explained and I wanted to help!" - A scholar who donated money.

Everyone liked the idea that we could make someone's life better at the same time as us enjoying our Christmas.

We raised an amazing **£548.37** - enough to buy 43 goats through Oxfam. Thank

you to all the scholars, parents and staff members who contributed money to the campaign.



January 2016 - Welcoming the New

Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instil in us.

- Hal Borland

Staff Changes

Our very best wishes go Ms Natalie Holmes-Lewis, Maths Teacher, as she moves on to new challenges.

A warm welcome is extended to:

Ms N Patel	Assistant Principal
Ms L Treanor	English Teacher
Ms L Pellizzari	English Teacher
Ms K Holmes	Head of Music
Mr J Johnson	Cover Supervisor

We also formally welcome the following, who have started in the last term:

Ms N O'Hare	Omega Manager
Mr J Stuart	Alpha Manager
Mr P De Jonge	Science Technician
Ms P Jimenez	Teaching Partner
Ms S Pereira	School Administrator

New School Day

In order to enhance learning outcomes, and create a more focused start to the day, we have changed the format of the day. Period 1 is now shorter, and Period 7 is longer. On Wednesdays this changes slightly, but school will still finish at 2.30pm on Wednesdays.

After listening to parent feedback, we have moved lunch for KS3 scholars (Year 7 & 8) to be later than previously. KS4 lunch has therefore moved slightly as well.

The School Day	
8.20am - 8.30am	Line-up
8.30am - 9.00am	Period 1
9.00am - 9.55am	Period 2
9.55am - 10.50am	Period 3
10.50am - 11.45am	Period 4
Key Stage 3	
11.45am - 12.15pm	Lunch
12.15pm - 1.10pm	Period 5
Key Stage 4	
11.45am - 12.40am	Period 5
12.40pm - 1.10pm	Lunch
Notes	
* School finishes at 2.30pm on Wednesdays	
Breakfast Club is 7.45am - 8.20am	
All Saints After Hours is until 5.30pm every day	

Equipment

Every desk in every classroom has a dictionary/thesaurus on it - This ensures consistency in knowing that every scholar is using the same reference book, and removes a heavy item from scholars' bags. Scholars should still keep a dictionary/thesaurus in their study space at home.

Additionally, every desk in the Spanish classrooms has a Spanish dictionary on it.

Do I Understand?

Every desk has a tri-coloured prism on it (picture not to scale).



Scholars will be taught how to use these to indicate to the teacher whether they fully understand what they're doing or if they need help. This will allow teachers to see at a glance who needs additional support in class.

TV Screens

More use of the TV screens around the school to display the Focus of the Week and recent accomplishments by scholars.

Bags

The corridors in the academy are becoming bagless. Scholars will still need a school bag to carry their folder, equipment, etc. to and from the academy. Scholars will need to put their bag in their locker on arrival to the academy, and carry their folder and pencil case to lessons. They will then pick up their bag again at the end of the day.

We have been trialing this change for the last 2 weeks with Year 7 & 8 scholars, and have found it has made the corridors feel bigger and easier to move around in.

A prayer for the break



Bless our homes at Christmas.

Mary and Joseph did the best with what they had when there was no room at the inn;

May we enjoy what we have.

Herod was a dangerous man and the kings did not go back;

Help us make wise choices.

Journeys from Nazareth and on to Egypt were not easy;

Keep everyone safe who travels this winter.

Amen