



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents

We are about to move into our third term at ARK All Saints Academy, and I am incredibly excited and proud to say that we will be in our fantastic, state-of-the-art new building when we come back in January.

Every scholar has received at least one shout-out over the last two terms; which reflects our values and our belief that every single one of our scholars has talents, skills and personal qualities that are worth celebrating.

The timetable will be changing due to the move into the new building, so we will be running an induction day on Friday 10th January. Thank you to all parents for your assistance with the additional 2 days of holiday at the beginning of term; this extra time is invaluable to help us move in and get ready for learning. There will be an opportunity for parents to visit the new building after their one-to-one meetings with staff on Weds 15th or 22nd January. Please check the letter for more details.

Have a restful Christmas break and New Year, and I look forward to seeing all of our scholars refreshed and ready for learning in January.

Lucy Frame
Principal

Founders Day

Our first whole school event was our inaugural Founders Day service at Southwark Cathedral on Thursday 14th November. All staff and scholars of ARK All Saints Academy attended as well as the Governing Body, the Superintendent of the Borough Police, friends of the Academy and a contingent from ARK Schools.

Lucy Frame, Principal:

'Our Founder's day service was a perfect way of marking a new beginning. It was a joy to have so many friends and family with us sharing in our pride over our new scholars. The cathedral was the perfect setting for such an important occasion.'

The choir was excellent, and several scholars gave really confident readings. The whole event was fantastic, and well received by all in attendance.



All scholars and staff were presented with a badge to officially welcome them into the ARK All Saints family.

What our scholars said:

'When the choir started to sing, it brought tears to my eyes'

'The building was amazing'

'How did you get the Bishop to come?'

'I liked it when Ms Frame talked to us and gave the badges'



Saints Alive!

This term, our scholars visited Trafalgar Square and The National Gallery to view the 'Saints Alive' exhibition by contemporary artist, Michael Landy. ARK All Saints scholars were outstanding in the gallery. They actively participated in discussions with the gallery staff and learned a lot about the lives of saints. Some scholars even posed as saints from the paintings they saw! Danielle made a very convincing St Catherine (see picture). In Trafalgar Square, we had fun watching the street performers and some scholars even got to be a magician's assistant. The scholars' favourite sculpture was St Thomas, who beat his chest with a rock. They also enjoyed spinning the Catherine Wheel, which predicted their fate as a saint.

What our scholars said:

'I really liked seeing the moving sculptures. I even won a t-shirt out of one of them!'

'It was interesting to see the huge buildings and all the famous landmarks in Trafalgar Square. We even got to hear Big Ben!'



Scholars enjoying the sights of Trafalgar Square



Scholars learning about the techniques used in the portraits

Residential Trip

All scholars will be attending a 3 day / 2 night residential trip to Kent between Wednesday 5th March and Friday 7th March 2014. Whilst the Academy will cover most of the cost, we will be asking for a £20 contribution per scholar; a letter will be sent out with more details in the New Year.

Margaret McMillan House has 26 acres of grounds for groups to explore including woodland and ponds. They offer activities from archery to high ropes, pond dipping to evacuee experiences.

Curzon Institute Lecture

2014 is the centenary commemoration of the First World War, and we are excited to be hosting a lecture from the Curzon Institute on the Commonwealth contribution to the First World War in February 2014. More details will follow when we have a date, but interested parents will be invited to attend, along with scholars and interest parties from the local community.

Globe Theatre

As part of the Globe Theatre's project called 'Our Theatre 2014' A Celebration of Shakespeare's Life and Works. ARK All Saints Academy will be participating with six other schools in a performance at the Globe Theatre in February 2014. We will be performing a section from Henry V.

In preparation we visited the Globe theatre on 4th of November and our scholars got to tour backstage at the Globe theatre and participate in a 'professional actors warm up' led by Jack Murray our Globe actor/practitioner on the actual stage of the Globe Theatre. It was a fantastic opportunity and the scholars all played their part to perfection. They even impressed on the bus where they conducted themselves impeccably.

Miss Buckley was very proud!!!



Christmas Service

At the end of a very busy term, we created time and space to celebrate Christmas together during our Academy Christmas service on Thursday 19th December. The nativity play, the prayers and the carols all pointed to the reason why we celebrate Christmas: the birth of Jesus more than 2000 years ago. Even though this was a long time ago, the message of hope and joy is still relevant today. We finished the service with the following blessing:

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child
be yours this Christmas.



Harvest Festival

In October we had a lovely Harvest Festival celebration in the Academy. It was an opportunity to thank God for his goodness. Scholars and staff brought in many food items which were donated to the Manna Day Centre.



The Manna Day Centre near London Bridge Station provides meals for homeless people every day. The Centre also helps the homeless to find long term solutions for some of their problems, mainly to do with health and housing.

We collected almost 300 food items such as pasta, rice and tinned vegetables. Thank you for your contributions! It is good that as an Academy we can be focussed on the wider world and make a difference!

The Centre came to the Academy during the last week of term to collect the food and thank scholars for their generosity.



Technology Work

Year 7 scholars have been working on a project designing and making soft toys inspired by the work of Takashi Murakami.



Some examples of the art that inspired the scholars:



Other News

Staff and scholars have been collecting money for the Philippines DEC fund via collections and sponsorships.

Parents Evening was a great success, and we're looking forward to the next one. Thanks everyone for your feedback on how we can improve the events in future.

The old building will start being demolished from January onwards, so we're looking forward to our playground emerging from the rubble ready for next September!

Esther Joseph has been appointed as Parent Governor.

Oliver Jones has been appointed as Staff Governor.

Please see the letter regarding bike safety.

Staff changes

Karen Bruce, Assistant Principal, returns from maternity leave: *"I want to say a big hello to all the parents and scholars. I'm really excited about returning to the Academy and looking forward to helping all the scholars make great progress. On my two visits I've seen a fantastic attitude to learning and can only expect this to get even better as we move into the new building."*

We say goodbye to Salim Guerda, Maths teacher, who leaves to spend more time with his family, and welcome Hamad Peeroo in his place.

We also say goodbye to Andrea Colombo, Spanish teacher.