

Arkleston Advertiser

Edition 1 Session 2023 -24



Message from the Head Teacher

What an amazing start to the session we have had! Our new Primary 1 children are a credit to their families and have settled into school tremendously well. There will always be a few teary moments and this will continue as the darker mornings approach, but overall the children have shown incredible bravery and tenacity, character strengths of Arky Stars! Our Primary 7 children have returned looking smart and ready to demonstrate their skills and talents this year. They have already proven to be exceptional buddies and supported Primary 1 in their first few days at school. House leaders have supported their houses during our first assembly and all are trying to gain maximum points this session to have their name on the shield at the end of the session. Hercules are our current winners for session 2022-23. All children across the school have been working hard to settle into their new classes and routines and you will be able to see some of their work on SEESAW and on X (formerly Twitter @ArklestonSchool) As well as welcoming our children back to school, we are delighted to welcome back our full staff team detailed after our recent baby boom. We are all looking forward to the year ahead and working with you and your children.

We live by our values at Arkleston, **Success, Team, Attitude** and **Respect**. These underpin everything that we stand for as a school and all the work that we do. We are proud of our pupils and want to give them opportunities to experience new things and take part in activities that allow them to shine brightly. Our curriculum focuses on supporting our children to be the citizens of today, ready to be the leaders of tomorrow. This requires them to reflect on growing up in Renfrew, Scotland and the world and how they can play their part as a global citizen to make the future brighter for everyone. Thank you for all the support that you give to the school.

Dates for your Diary



Thur 14 Sept	Meet the Teacher Base 2 (2pm-2.50pm)
Fri 15 Sep	Meet the Teacher Base 3 (2pm-2.50pm)
Mon 18 Sep	Meet the Teacher Base 4 (2pm-2.50pm)
Tue 19 Sep	Meet the Teacher Base 5 (2pm-2.50pm)
Wed 20 Sep	Meet the Teacher Base 6 (2pm-2.50pm)
Thur 21 Sep	Meet the Teacher Base 7 (2pm-2.50pm)
Thur 21 Sep	House Assembly – Children to wear own house colours
Fri 22 Sep/Mon 25	September Weekend – School closed Friday Monday
Tue 26 Sep	P7 Residential Trip to Ardentenny
Fri 6 Oct	Sparky Arky Day – Own clothes
Fri 13 Oct	Harvest Assembly/Fairtrade Cafe – Base 3 Parents welcome 9.30am
Mon 16 Oct -20 Oct	Holiday – October Week
Mon 23 Oct	Inset Day – School Closed to children
Tue 24 Oct	Children return
Thur 26 or Fri 27	Parent Council Halloween Disco
Wed 1 Nov/Thur 2	Pupil/Parent/Teacher Conferences 15:30 – 18:30

Parent Council



Chair: Saima Aslam
Treasurer: Gemma Fleming
Secretary: Hannah Halsall

The Parent Council would like to welcome all the children back to school after the summer holidays and a warm welcome to all the new primary 1's. They are looking so smart especially with their blue bookbags which were provided by the Parent Council. Just one week after the schools returning the Parent Council has had its first disco last week, 'Back to School Rave' which was a huge success! Thank you to all involved on the day and behind the scenes and to the children for attending. It is not possible without the support of the parents & carers. Next event will be the Halloween disco. More details will be provided nearer the time.

We are excited for our 1st face to face PC meeting which will be held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7pm at Renfrew High. All are welcome to join. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Parent Council is run on volunteers and we are always looking for people to join. If you would like to get involved or know more about the Parent Council, then please follow us at [Arkleston Parent Council](#) on facebook or [@ArkyPC](#) on twitter for all our latest updates. You can also email us on Arkleston@renfrewshire.npfs.org.uk for more information.

Parent Pay

P1 parents have been sent information in a letter to sign up for their Parent Pay accounts. Thank you to those who have managed to complete this process. Any difference in name, address, phone number, title etc will create a mismatch We recommend that all parents create an account as this is the vehicle used by the school to collect charitable donations etc. Whilst P1-5 children don't need their accounts for school meals, your child may also attend breakfast club and will require a Parent Pay account to purchase items.

Breakfast Club

Following successful interview, Mrs Liddle is now supervising in the Breakfast Club from 08:15-08:45. The Breakfast Club delivered by Environmental Service, staff and supervised by school staff. At 8.45am P1 and P2 children wait in the P1 cloakroom for the 8.55am bell and P3-7 children are dismissed into the playground. Mr McCall is our adult presence in the playground.

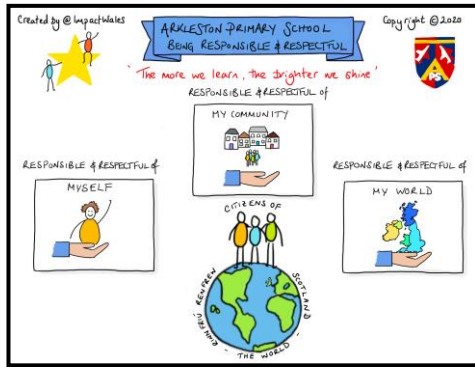


Arkleston Primary School
Cockels Loan
Renfrew
PA4 0EL
03003000143

www.arkleston.renfrewshire.sch.uk
Head Teacher - Ms C Crawford

Respectful and Responsible Citizens of Renfrew

Children's Rights



As a Gold Rights Respecting School, our children are currently thinking about children's rights. A charter is a visual document that establishes an agreed set of rights-based principles upon which relationships can be based and which provide a language for shared values. Creating charters can support a positive learning environment for children and young people in the classroom, across the whole school, in the playground or other areas within the school. Creating a charter helps to make the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) more prominent and relevant. It is a framework for both adults and children on how to respect each other's rights. A charter not only provides an opportunity to learn about specific articles from the CRC but helps to establish and build shared values and relationships for creating a rights respecting ethos. The process of developing a charter models a rights respecting way of working in school. We will post pictures of our new charters on X once they have been created and you will get a chance to see them at our Meet the Teacher Sessions.

Learning and Teaching

This session as part of our school improvement plan, we will be reflecting on what good learning and teaching looks like in Arkleston. We started this process in June, when we consulted with children during our committee (Pupil Voice) time. We asked them to tell us what makes a good teacher and what makes a good lesson?



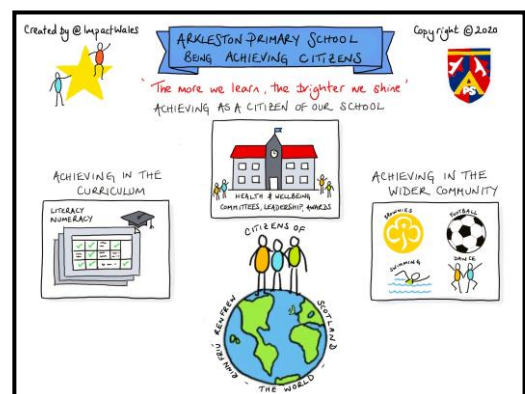
As a staff team, we will be using our collegiate time to reflect on what the children have said and to think about our practices. This will help us to ensure that the experiences in our classrooms support all children to achieve success. If there is anything that you wish to add to what the children have said, please message me on SEESAW. We have started this process by focussing on building strong relationships in our new classes and with our new members of staff. Children have all settled in well and are learning how to manage themselves and their resources, to be ready to learn.

Achieving Citizens – Reading Schools

Last session, we began our Reading Schools journey and Miss Clark worked with a committee of children to reflect on our approaches to reading for pleasure across the school. Trying to build and sustain a reading culture is not easy, but one of the first things that Miss Clark organised, was a trip to the library for every base. This became a regular feature throughout the session, with children borrowing books, listening to authors and taking part in a variety of activities to promote and encourage a love of reading. This was only part of the committee's work, but we are delighted to announce that due to their hard work and commitment, the school has now been awarded our Core Reading Schools Accreditation and we will now be working towards our Silver.

Research proves that reading for pleasure is central in supporting equity and wellbeing, positively impacting learners' attainment across the curriculum, critical thinking, creativity, empathy and resilience. We would hope that every child was able to make good use of the local library in Renfrew. If your child does not yet have their own library ticket, please pop down to the library and fill out an application form.

We look forward to developing our school libraries this session, with the help of the parent council, ensuring they are inspiring places to encourage good reading habits.





Healthy and Active Citizens

Article 15 – Right to meet with friends and join groups and clubs

Article 31 – Right to relax and play

Article 29 – The right to become the best that you can be

We continue to think about how we can promote healthy and active lifestyles at Arkleston and are delighted that we can now resume PE lessons in the gym hall. Children are advised to wear their PE kit on their PE days or to wear it under their clothing. Classes will also have outdoor PE and children should ensure that they have a waterproof jacket with a hood to ensure they can participate, regardless of the weather. Children should not wear jewellery on a PE day and earrings must be removed or covered.

Many classes are continuing to participate in The Daily Mile. This is no more than 15 mins of jogging/running - at a pupil's own pace - around the track we had drawn a few years ago. The daily mile is designed to improve levels of fitness in children and to provide that brain break that is sometimes required. For further information, watch the video linked below.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0RahcsF4aI>

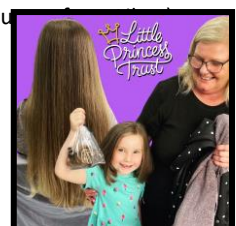
Mr Dougan, our Active Schools Coordinator, has been in to discuss One Ren school club provisions and this will be shared with you. Look out for upcoming information on Beat the Street coming to Renfrew soon. <https://www.beatthestreet.me/renfrewshire/> Register your child's card when they get it and you can pick one up from the leisure centre to join our Arky Team and earn lots of points for the school.

Arky Stars: Article 29 – Your right to be the best you can be

Well done to our Healthy and Active Sports Committee with the help of Miss Orr, who heard before the summer that they had managed to attain Sports Scotland Gold status for the school. This is our third gold award and is testament to our commitment to support children to be healthy and active citizens. A celebration will be organised once the certificate and flag arrive in school.



- Gracie P7 has got into team Scotland for cheerleading and will be competing in Florida in 2024
- Raehn P2 raised £332 for the Princess Trust by donating her hair to the charity
- Cameron P7 is aiming to achieve Grade 2 in clarinet and piano
- Kyle P7 completed a fun run in 20 minutes
- Mirrin P7 went up 2 gradings in muay thai boxing and Struan P5 got a super gold in judo. Maya P5/4 got a red stripe on her white belt at Tae Kwon Do, Haadi P3 got a blue belt in karate, Theo P3 has a bronze medal in MMA for competing in a competition in Edinburgh, Ella P3 got a medal for competing in a Tae Kwon Do competition, Christopher P2 achieved a red/black stripe grade for his mixed martial arts, Dylan J P4 achieved a first place medal in kickboxing last month
- Maisie P5 caught her first fish
- Lola P5 got the main character in her drama school show
- Zack P5 got 3 football medals, Olivia and Blake in P3 both scored 3 goals for their teams
- Zack P5, Darcy, Cooper and Liam P5/4, Logan P2, Aaran P4 and Alfie P4 all got a 3K medal for running in the Paisley Fun Run. Ronnie completed the Paisley 10K earning a medal and raising funds for charity
- Ella P5 has started horse riding
- Ethan P5 came 2nd in a singing competition
- Lucas P5 won 2 medals in a football tournament and Sonny P5/4 won one, Kayden P2 got two medals for football over the summer, Leo P2 won two medals in his football games, Reuben P2 scored 30 goals across the season and won a medal, Archie and Eilidh P1 have joined a football club, Daniel in P1 won a trophy and a medal at football, Jace won a gold medal and trophy for coming 1st in a tournament representing Renfrew Juniors
- Millie P5/4 came 5th place in the British Championships for gymnastics, Mia P3 got a medal in gymnastics for doing back bend kicks, Jennifer P6 has learned how to do a giant on the bars, Afayah P2 won a medal in gymnastics
- Ella P6 is learning how to crochet and has made an octopus, a crab, circles and a potato
- Nathan P5/4 raised £100 for charity by doing the Kilt Walk
- Lucy P3 won 3 trophies for competing in a dance competition and Zoeya P3 has started dance lessons
- Lucy P3 got a certificate for completing a level at swimming and Isla and Kingsley P3 got a swimming certificate, Conor P6 has moved up a level in swimming, Robyn P2 has moved up to Level 4 in swimming, Orla P2 has moved up in her classes, Ava P1 has moved up to Level 3 and Aoife P1 has moved to Level 2, Hope P1 got a swimming badge and moved up a level
- Willow P6 has learned a new exercise on the snare drum to improve her wrist control
- Remas P6 has been learning how to bake and has made brownies, cakes and ospan (a type of rice salad)
- Ruby, Ava and Sara P4 collected money and bought food for the Tesco Food Bank
- Annaya P4 won a gold medal for winning 1st place at Go Karting
- Amber P4 won a trophy with her cheerleading team in a competition in Liverpool and Paisley
- Harley-Jay P4 won a medal for cricket for coming second place this month



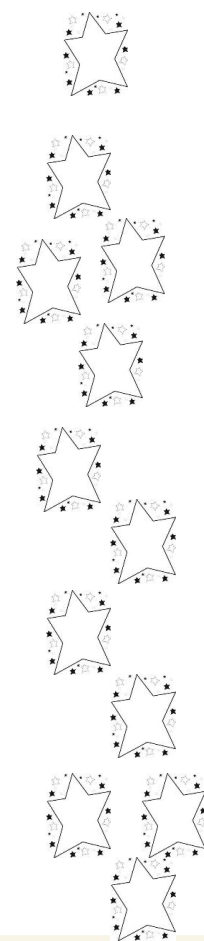
Who will be working with your children this session?

Base 2 Primary 1A Primary 1B Primary 1C	Mrs L McManus (P1A) Mrs K Reid (P1B) Mrs Campbell (P1C)	Base 7 Primary 7A Primary 7B	Mrs Sinclair (P7A) Miss Clark (P7B)
Base 3 Primary 2A Primary 2B	Miss Lister (P2A) Mrs Smith (P2B)	CA/ASNA CA - Classroom Assistants ASNA – Additional Support Needs	Miss Black (CA) Mrs Liddle (CA) Mrs Feeney (ASNA) Mrs Craig (ASNA) Mrs Williamson (ASNA) Mrs Briskham (ASNA) Miss Watson (ASNA) Mrs Porteous (ASNA) Miss Cook (ASNA) Mrs Weir (ASNA)
Base 4 Primary 3 Primary 4	Miss Orr (P3) Miss McFarlane/Mrs Sinclair (P4)	NCCT	Mrs Kajla Citizenship
Base 5 Primary 5/4 Primary 5	Mrs de Pellette (P5/4) Mrs Mitchell (P5)	Head Teacher – Ms C Crawford Depute Head - Mr D Bonnar Principal Teacher – Mrs S Kajla Acting Principal Teachers – Miss Miller/Miss Clark Senior Clerical Officer - Mrs Richardson Clerical Officer - Mrs Bain Facilities Operatives Mr McCall Mr Bagnara	
Base 6 Primary 6	Miss McColl/Miss Miller (P6)		



Over the session there will be many visiting specialists, students and volunteers working within the school to support the children. Some of these are:

Miss Fraser
Home Link
Mrs Henderson
Educational Psychologist
Mr Dougan
Active Schools
Mrs Julia Barron
Music Instructor
Ms Caitlin MacDonald
Chanter Instructor
Mrs Hazel Douglas
EAL Support
Mrs Catherine Kenny and Corub
Reading with Dogs
Brian Donnelly
Consultant



Pupil Information / Attendance

The annual data check forms have been sent home. We would appreciate it if you complete these and return as soon as possible. It is important that we have the most current and up to date information about each child on our system in case of an emergency. If your details change over the course of the session, please let the school know.

We appreciate that sometimes parents have to make last minute changes to their child's arrangements at the end of the day. Please contact the school as early as possible if this is the case.

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please contact the school to ensure that the registers have the correct information. Safe and well text alerts will be made to the parents/carers of any child marked absent on the register after 9.15am. If you receive a message, please contact the school.

As we have a staggered entry at the moment, there is flexibility between 08:55 and 09:00. If your child arrives once the doors are shut, they should report to the office before going to class. Attendance is monitored regularly and where a child's attendance/late coming is becoming a concern, we will contact you to discuss the reasons. Attendance is monitored at the end of each session and you may receive a letter from us noting any concerns for your records.

Drop Off

As part of our authority Travel Plan and to ensure your child's safe arrival at school, we would ask that children should be dropped off at the main gates of the school or Tesco car park and not in the driveway/car park. Only parents with a parking permit will be allowed access to the grounds. These are given on an individual basis after discussion with the head teacher. Parents requiring a disabled parking space will find two within school grounds. Please do not park in these unless you are displaying your blue badge.

Medicines

If your child requires medication during the school day, please complete a permission slip at the office. All medicines must be handed into the office and refreshed regularly where appropriate. Medicine can only be given when prescribed by a doctor or pharmacist. The box must have the pharmacy label on it with dosage information. We cannot administer over the counter medication to children during the day. Children can have their inhalers in their school bags if they are old enough to manage the administration of their medication.

Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a water bottle with them. They can drink still water throughout the day, which can be topped up at our water coolers.



Label Clothing

Please make sure that every item your child brings to school is labelled to ensure its safe return if lost. We already have some unclaimed lost property items.

Your Thoughts Matter and Make a Difference

If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve the work that we do please email arklestoneenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk and put Family Feedback in the sub-heading



What have we been up to?



Base 2 –

Primary 1 - What a busy start to our year in Primary 1! Our newest Arky Stars have already settled into life at Arkleston and have been starting to learn all the daily routines and procedures that we need to follow. We are becoming very good at making our lunch choices and indicating how we are feeling when we arrive at school. We have been learning to use a task board to complete our daily jobs. Play is how we learn and permeates all areas of learning in Base 2. We have opportunities to play in the classroom every single day, and often we will go out to visit Beastie Street and experience outdoor learning. Through play we are developing lots of skills such as problem solving, cooperation, and risk taking. In Literacy this term, we will be learning all about rhyme and identifying our initial sounds. We will be able to recognise, say, and write the alphabet sounds, and we will soon begin to blend sounds together to read CVC words. We have started learning some tricky words, too. We need to practise these at home to help us with instant recognition of these words, which will support our reading. As we learn our tricky words and build confidence sounding out, we will start to read books in school, and these will eventually be sent home in our blue bags to read at home. We have started learning to retell and innovate stories using the Talk4Writing programme which we are really enjoying! We are learning to hold our pen/pencil correctly and add lots of detail to black pen drawings for Foundations of Writing. In Numeracy and Mathematics, we are learning about number to 10 and beyond. We are enjoying exploring numbers by being able to count forwards and backwards, order and sequence the numerals, show 1-1 correspondence when counting, and correctly form our numerals. We participate in SEAL activities at the Teacher Table individually or in small groups. This term we are looking at pattern and are having lots of fun continuing and creating patterns using a variety of objects/colours/shapes. We will also be finding out about 3d shapes and their properties, and different types of data that we can gather and display.



Base 3

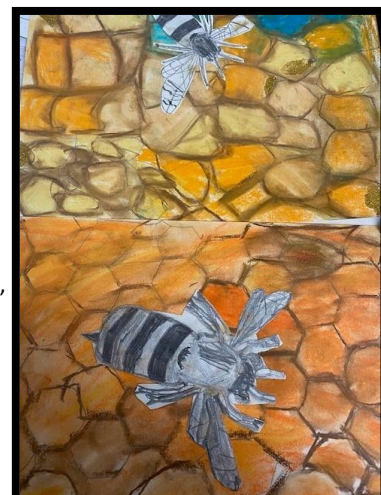
Primary 2 - We have had a busy start to Primary 2, settling in to a new classroom and new routines. This includes a new morning task, helping us to become more independent learners. In Literacy, we are continuing to learn new sounds and tricky words, as well as completing a spelling test on Fridays. We are enjoying our Talk For Writing and are focussing on The Three Little Pigs, including character descriptions and innovation of the story to make our own version. Reading continues to be a key focus of our learning, and we are completing a daily reading challenge with our friends. We hope to be the best readers in the school this session! In Numeracy, we have been revisiting numbers 1-30, including recall, sequencing and ordering. We are looking at place value, and new strategies for improving our addition and subtraction. Through active maths, we are exploring the two times table. We are having great fun with our learning. To assist us in using our problem-solving skills and to enhance our design skills, we will be starting den building. Teamwork is important to the ethos of Base 3. We will be looking at 'Our Community' this term, finding out about local landmarks, the history of Renfrew and keeping safe in our community. In the run up to Harvest, we will be looking at the importance of local agriculture and food production and are excited to start practising for our Harvest Assembly.

Base 4 - A very warm welcome from Primary 3 and Primary 4. The children are settling well into their new class. We are enjoying sharing our base. As a base, we have decided to have a bee theme for the class charter. It already looks very busy, just like our year ahead.

Primary 3 We are looking forward to learning about number processes, place value and addition and subtraction during our numeracy lessons. In addition, we will continually practise our times tables. During literacy, the children will create a report about an alien landing in Arkleston Primary School as well as weekly spelling and reading challenges. Our current class novel is Alfie Onion. Our base topic will be about being respectful and responsible in Renfrew and what citizen in the community can help us to understand these values better.

Primary 4

Within numeracy this term, we are learning about place value and a digit's position up to 1000, number processes, addition, and subtraction, alongside consolidating and learning new times tables. In literacy, we have started reading our new class novel, The Adventures of Alfie Onion. The children are excited to engage and learn about the adventure of Magnifico and his brother, Alfie Onion. Reading will be a key focus this year as we develop our reading and comprehension skills. In primary 4, we are continuing to learn new sounds and common words and we will complete a spelling test every Friday. We have started our Talk for Writing text 'Amazing Aliens' and look forward to developing our writing this year. During this term, we will be learning about ways to be respectful and responsible in our community Renfrew and citizens that can help support us in doing so.



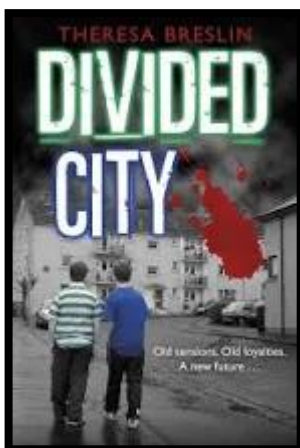
What have we been up to?

Base 5 - Primary 5 and Primary 5/4 have settled well into our new class! We are very lucky to be working all together in Base 5. It has been a busy few week! We have decided on a Lego themed class charter and the children have been busy creating their own Lego themed characters. We have been enjoying reading Roald Dahl's 'The Witches' as our class novel. We have been creating our own potions and have taken our learning outside to design witches lairs in our learning groups. In Talk for Writing we will be focusing on non-fiction and creating persuasive writing based on our model text Amazing Aliens. Our topic this term is Water in our World. We are investigating the health of our school pond, finding out about plant and animal life in the Clyde and looking at how climate change is affecting seas and oceans around the world. We will also learn about the River Clyde past and present and how it has shaped life in Renfrew. In Maths, we have been extending our knowledge about place value and rounding to the nearest ten and hundred. We are also conducting some surveys and using our results to create bar charts. At home, we will be practising our multiplication tables to help us with our Big Maths Beat That Challenges. We will also be visiting the library in Renfrew soon to choose some books.

Base 6 - We have been 'The Outlaw Varjak Paw' and we are enjoying reading it so far. It's a very good book, very interesting and we have enjoyed predicting what might happen next to Varjak and his friends. We have started looking at natural disasters as our Respected and Responsible Citizens topic and are working on some research to present to the class. Each group is researching a different disaster. Our talk for writing block this term is a news articles and we have begun learning our model text with the actions. The next task is to create our own text maps. One of the first things we tackled was our class charter. We voted on a Mario theme and have linked the rights to being strong and working as part of a team. In numeracy, we are learning about place value, rounding and estimating. We have enjoyed learning about the different types of rock which make up the earth in science and developing our skills in possession games and athletics in P.E. It has been a busy but enjoyable start to the year and we are looking forward to seeing what the rest of the term holds! We were lucky enough to have a training session with St Mirren Football Club, who will soon be offering an after-school club at Arkleston.



Base 7 We have enjoyed using Lego to express our interests in learning. We built Lego to show our hidden talents and what we had achieved within the last 12 months. We then shared this amongst our peers. We have started our class novel Divided City which has been exciting because we can talk about different football teams and are learning about discrimination and inclusion. Our number knowledge has been challenged by learning about rounding. We have learned to be a role model for the primary 1s and across the school by setting an example during assembly and whenever we are moving around the school. We cannot wait to head to Ardentiny this term where we will do different team building games and challenge ourselves by doing different activities!



What do the pupils have to say?

I will keep my classroom tidy. **Kelvin P1**
 I will be kind to people. **Ava P1**
 I will listen to the teacher. **Amelia P1**
 I will follow the rules and be an Arky Star! **Daniel P1**
 I will be on my best behaviour. **Jamie P1**
 I will make sure that I come to school everyday. **Cole P1**

I will help others. **Daanish P5**
 I will always put my hand up to answer. **Riley P5**
 I will complete my work quickly and accurately. **Poppy P5**
 I will use my PATHS strategies. **Rhys P5**
 I will always stay on green. **Ethan P5**
 I will follow the class charter. **Maisie P5**

I will always follow instructions. **Ruairidh P5/4**
 I will be kind and good friend to everyone. **Kirsty P5/4**
 I will support other people when playing games. **Maya P5/4**
 I will listen carefully during class discussion. **Amelia P5/4**
 I will listen carefully to others. **Cooper P5/4**
 I will always put my hand up and wait my turn. **Corran P5/4**

I can make sure that I am nice to everyone. **Curtis P7**
 I can stay kind to everyone. **Thomas P7**
 Don't hide who you really are. **Cameron P7**
 I can be my best self by including people. **Euan P7**
 By being respectful. **David P7**
 I can be my best self by always being kind. **David P7**

We can be very kind and honest to each other. **Jamie P3**
 I will follow our school values. **Olivia P3**
 I will be respectful. **Blake P3**
 I will always follow the school values and be kind to others. **Mirabelle P3**
 I will be helpful to friends in the playground. **Kingsley P3**
 I will include everyone when we play. **Ella P3**
 I will respect others even if I don't know them. **Katie P3**

Question
How can you be your best self this year?
Ms Crawford

Article 13: Your right to express your thoughts and opinions



I will look after the playground and pick up litter. **Aria P2**
 I will complete all of my work on time. **Elina P2**
 By being successful with my work. **Logan P2**
 By using kind hands and words. **Frankie P2**
 By looking after all our resources in class. **Camden P2**
 By helping my friends with their work. **Seerat P2**
 By showing teamwork. **Leo P2**

By showing a good attitude to others in the school and our of school. Also helping others to strive for success. **Sara P4**
 By not giving up, being happy and healthy. **Rizan P4**
 By reaching for the stars and making sure P1s and visitors to the school are welcomed. **Ruby P4**
 By being kinds and helpful to others. **Mija P4**
 By showing responsibility within school. **Muhammad P4**
 By being a good friend to everyone. **Annaya P4**

I like reading George's Marvellous Medicine. **Jamie P4**
 I like learning about money and practising my handwriting in my handwriting jotter. **Connor P4**
 I like being reunited with my class and teacher **Evie P4**
 I like our topic mythical creatures. **Taylor P4**

I have enjoyed the Superhero Multiplication challenges and making graphs **Phawak P5**
 I like Maths, Literacy and in my free time I enjoy reading. I also like the challenge of the geographical jigsaw puzzles. **Harry P5**

