



### A Message from Mrs Rankin

Dear parents/carers,

Today, as we reached the end of the school year, I can't help reflecting on what a strange year it has been for staff and pupils. We were so delighted by how well the children were all doing up until the end of March, they were putting so much hard work and effort into their learning!

We have really missed the daily hustle and bustle of normal school life but it has been wonderful, since June, to be able to welcome more and more pupils back into school reaching over 200 by the end of term. For those who were not able to return, we loved speaking with you and seeing your work when sent in to us to enjoy.

Today we said goodbye to our brilliant year 6's who have shown us how ready they are for secondary school despite the upheaval they have had this year. Their graduation assembly on Wednesday was a private, but moving affair with some wonderful singing and can be seen for a few more days on our website.

We also say a sad farewell to Miss Parker, Miss Saxby and Mrs Wardoper. All will be missed greatly but we wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.

With goodbyes also come hellos and we are very much looking forward to Mr Higgins-Gooch becoming an established member of our staff along with a number of new teachers and support staff who will join the team in September.

I would like to extend our very best wishes to all our pupils and their families and hope that you have an enjoyable and healthy summer holiday. We are truly looking forward to seeing ALL of you back in September!

Mrs Rankin

## Ark Sports Day Challenge

This week was the final week of the Ark Sports Day Challenge.

Over the past two weeks, the Ark Blacklands community has travelled an astonishing 6914 km - that's more than the length of the continent of South America!

In addition to travelling almost seven times our original target, we also placed extremely well on the leaderboards. Of the 37 schools in the Ark network, we placed 8th overall and 2nd for primary schools.

These achievements would not have been possible without everyone working together. Therefore, we would like to extend a huge thank you and a massive well done to all of you that took part and supported us through this challenge!



---

## Year 6 Graduation

This week marked the end of the primary school journey for our Year 6 pupils. In September, they will move on to secondary school and begin the next stage in their lives. Due to the COVID-19 situation, it has not quite been the year many of us expected. As such, the pupils in Year 6 have been unable to take part in many of the activities that typically occur during their final year at Ark Blacklands.

Despite the limitations, we were fortunate enough to be able to hold a graduation ceremony for our Year 6 pupils. This event allowed us to recognise the hard work and effort the children have put in throughout primary school and to let them know just how proud we are of each and every one of them.





## Flamingo Class

Flamingos really enjoyed their last lesson with Louis as they played an epic game of dodgeball, and we gathered together for one last team photo!



## Purple Class

Over the last 4 weeks, Purple Class have been learning about commitments and sacrifices in RE. Each child made a personal commitment and, as a class, we made a commitment to help each other keep fit for the last 4 weeks of term. We finished our 4 weeks on Wednesday and gave ourselves 5 stars for keeping to the commitment!



## Orange Class



Orange Class Bubble has been learning about the importance of Mindfulness and thinking only about the present activity in order to keep calm. The children have also been learning about Banksy and his works. They combined both of these topics in their decoration of a campervan outline.

A special mention to Jack (Y1), Harry (Reception) and Ophelia (Y1).

After learning about the oceans and pollution, particularly caused by plastic rubbish, they decided to do a litter pick on St Leonards sea-front. What a wonderful thing to do! Well done!



## DREAM GIRL

*By Summer*

Once there lived a girl who was called Nanita who was going to a sleepover in Eastbourne. When she went to sleep, a girl's pale, beautiful face appeared at the window. Quickly she came in through the window. Her name was Dream Girl, and she was wearing her tailor-made blue jeans and green tee-shirt. She was stick thin, young, had pure, white hair and she went round delivering golden, magic stars that carry dreams while roller skating nimbly.

Some of the other kids in the street had dreams about enchanted forests, lush gardens, rainbows and flowers. The dream giver darted around passing out all the magic stars. She was nearly done for the night, but there was one last girl, Nanita, who wanted to dream about having powers, so Dream Girl gave her that dream. The dream giver whispered, "Sleep happily," and felt content with her work.

Suddenly one of the kids kicked a star off the bed and it cracked open. As quick as lightning Dream Girl went to the star but it was too late. A portal magically appeared and sucked everything into a dreamland. The girl said, "Wow!" because she saw a cave. When she went in she saw a decrepit lamp which she rubbed. Immediately a blue, wrinkly face came out of nowhere, which was so ugly the girl screeched, "Aaaaah monster!"

The genie replied, "No, not monster. Genie! I give three wishes, but you have to stay in Dreamland. So what will your wishes be?"

The girl demanded, "My wishes will be that I get rich, become very popular and you must create a city for me with lots of people in,"

"Wishes gran....."

"Not so fast Genie!" exclaimed Dream Girl. "Quick, come with me," she called to the girl. They got back into the portal and closed it.

Back in Dreamland the genie whimpered, "Why do they all run away?"