



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin this letter to you by saying a huge 'well done' to our Year 2 children for tackling their National Tests so well. I am delighted to say that each of them has done very well and shown good progress and development as learners; well done to all of you. There are two or three things still to do but I am delighted at how well the children have been doing.

On Monday last week we had the latest Monitoring Visit from the Ark Central Team. These half termly visits are a little like a mini OfSTED inspection to see how well we are doing as a school. They take place in all Ark schools on a regular basis and at the end of the full day, the monitoring team give a formal judgement to the school as to how well they are doing. In preparation for this monitoring visit, we have to rate ourselves as a school from Outstanding to Special Measures. We would currently judge ourselves to be 'Requiring improvement', which is short of yet being a 'Good' school. However, the monitoring visit on Monday made clear that in terms of the Quality of Teaching, Early Years and Leadership and Management, the school is very close to being 'Good'. This means that as a school, we have made good progress.

To continue this progress there are a few things which we need to get better at. One is attendance. We are still not consistently hitting the 96% attendance mark. This means that as a school, the children are missing out on too many days at home. We will continue our efforts to ensure this improves and want to thank you in advance for your vital support with this.

Next week is the final week before we break up for half term and there is a great deal to anticipate!

Nursery

Next week in Nursery on Monday our older children will be going out on a trip to the Nursery in the Canoe Lake. They have an amazing outdoor space so we are very excited that they have invited us to come down & use it.

On Thursday we will be inviting parents in to come & see us telling the story of 'Each Peach Pear Plum' using our story map. Please look out for a letter at the beginning of the week to let you know the time.

We are doing lots of work using the interactive white board & computer next week. Developing the children's IT skills.

Reception

We will be having a space day on Thursday 25th May to celebrate coming to the end of our space topic. If your child would like to dress up as something from space then they can. They could be an astronaut, an alien or even put a colander on their head and come as baby bear from our story 'Whatever Next'

Year 1

Next week, Year 1 will be continuing their learning about money. We will be comparing the value of different coins and notes and thinking about the addition and subtraction of different amounts. In literacy, we will be writing our own stories about pirates; focusing on the skill of alliteration.

Year 1 will be taking their phonics screening test after half term, there is a meeting next week for you to find out what that entails, and how you can help your child at home.

Year 2

Firstly, a big well done to all of Year 2, they have been superstars this week and worked really hard in their SATs. We have one more to

do on Tuesday so please support your child with their homework. We have been continuing with learning about animals from different habitats and on Friday 26th we would like to invite you in to see a presentation of Year 2's topic work. The presentation will be at 3.15 in the Lower School Hall.

Year 3

Next week, Year 3 will be completing their Angles unit in Maths. In Literacy they will be writing a diary entry from the perspective of a Neanderthal living in the Stone Age period. In topic they will be creating cave paintings/ artwork alongside making a berry delicacy that would have been eaten in the Stone Age. Year 3 are very much so enjoying their topic of the Stone Age so far, and have been great at showing understanding of the time period the Neanderthal's lived in. We are very impressed with their learning and believe next week will be an exciting week for developing this further!

Year 4

Next week, in Literacy, we are going to be using the information that we gathered at Staunton Country Park to write our own non-chronological report.

In Maths we are going to be focusing on co-ordinates and translation of shapes.

This week some of the children have found our spelling test quite tricky so we will be sending some extra spellings home for them to learn.

Year 5

This week, year 5 have shown some great progress in their tests and have been really positive and resilient.

Next week in literacy, Year 5 will be using all of the skills they have learnt this term and all of their Viking knowledge to write an exciting Viking story. In maths, we will be continuing to learn about shape by looking at nets of 3D shapes, reflecting 2D shapes and translating shapes on a grid.

This week, we did some amazing sketches of Viking prows. Next week we will be continuing to develop our art skills by doing some Viking painting.

Year 6

Next week we will be hosting our exciting VE day party on Friday! We really hope you can come. We will be spending the week preparing a range of work, activities, games and food for you to try.

Please can you ensure your children have full, correct PE kit in school for PE on Tuesday and Friday.

Have a lovely weekend!



What better way to show you what we have been up to this week than by showing you some pictures!

Well done to all our Attendance winners this week: Peake Class, Picasso class & Curie Class

Also well done to Rowling Class, Picasso Class, Nelson Class & Curie Class for the least amount of lates this week.