



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an exceptionally busy, but positive week here at Ark Dickens. Most of the children have been working really hard and it is a delight to witness the progress many of them are making. During the week we have experienced one or two issues of children forgetting some of the clear rules which we have in place and the importance of really good behaviour in our school. It is exceptionally important so all children have the opportunity to learn well and achieve well. I fully accept that our standards and expectations are very high and we need to help the children rise to those expectations rather than lower our expectations to accommodate those who currently, at times, fall short.

Time for another “Goodbye”

At the end of this week, we are saying a very fond farewell to Miss Lelliott, who has been with us at Ark Dickens for a number of years. We will miss her very much but send her every good wish for the future.

Parent Consultations

These meetings will be held on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th February. This offers a really important opportunity for you to come into school and to view your child's work and speak to the class teacher about the progress the children are making.

Please do make sure you make an appointment for this important discussion. Letters for appointments will come to you on Monday 30th January.



Cash Office Opening Hours

The cash office will only be able to accept payments

**Monday – Fridays
between 8 am – 9am.**



**Wednesday afternoons between 3.30 pm-
4 pm.**

What is going on at school next week?

Google Expeditions!!

Tuesday is going to be a very exciting day for Years 1-6, as we are going to be visited by the team at 'Google Expeditions'.

They will be visiting our school with 30 Google Smartphones and Cardboard Viewers, so that each class can experience a virtual reality! Each teacher has carefully chosen the expedition that the children will be going on... some might even be 'out of this world!'

The teachers will become tour guides for the session, and the class will get the chance to experience 360° photo spheres or 3D images and video in virtual reality.

The Google team will be with us the whole day, and in KS2 a selection of children from each class will be invited back after school for an underwater experience like no other! Look out for an invitation from their teachers. We hope the children will have a brilliant day!

Miss Carr



Nursery

On Monday we will be taking our older children on a trip to Pets at Home.

We will be changing our role play area into a pet shop.

On Thursday we are inviting parents in to hear us telling the story of Dear Zoo.



Year R

This half term in Reception we have been looking at traditional tales. The children have loved reading, learning and writing about 'The 3 Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks' and we still have 'The 3 Billy Goats Gruff' to look forward to. Why not ask your child about what their favourite part of the stories so far has been? Or even visit the local library and see if you can find some other traditional tales to read.

Year 1

In Year 1, we are learning about plants and trees in science this term. On Tuesday next week, we will be having a topic day about the rainforest.

We will be learning about lots of different plants and animals that live in the rainforest and will be have a virtual expedition to the rainforest in the afternoon.

Reminder: Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school and that they wear their tie everyday as this is part of our school uniform.



Year 2

We are looking at learning different strategies to add 3 numbers together in maths. In literacy we are starting to look at Life Cycles. In Science we are learning about plants and growing. We will have a spelling test on Monday and the words for this were sent home with your child last Tuesday. Please keep helping your child with these it is making a difference. Our PE days are Tuesday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor). On Monday we are

going to the music festival at the Guildhall, please make sure you have returned your permission slips for this exciting event.

Top Tip - play these games at home to revise telling the time with your child.

<http://www.ictgames.com/time.htm>

Time - ict games

www.ictgames.com

Time : Objective: To read an analogue clock, including half past, quarter to and quarter past.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy week being both artists and geographers. We have been studying the art work of L.S Lowry, who was well known for his paintings of buildings and beaches. We have been painting beach scenes including structures of lighthouses. In geography we have been using atlases and looking at the map of the British Isles locating where we live and the islands around us. Our PE days have since changed with Monday being indoor PE and Thursday being outside. A gentle reminder please; can children please remember to have both kits at school.

Finally, we have some very exciting news to share in Year 3; Mrs Smith is expecting her first child in July! We are delighted for her and we will be sharing news with you about who will be taking Mrs Smith's place as soon as we are able.

Year 4

Another great week in Year 4. Cracking decimals, creating poetry and all topped off with a special visit from author illustrator Neal Layton.



Year 4 continued

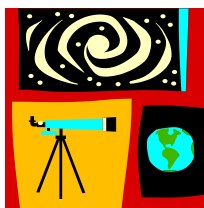
Next week promises to be equally as fun and engaging with trips to an art gallery in Gunwharf Quays and a trip to Ark Ayrton to visit 'The Cube' for a Great Barrier Reef experience and Google Expeditions coming into school.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Year 4 team.

Year 5

This week the children have worked really hard to perfect their flashback stories, and we are so pleased at the hard-work that they have put into their 500 word challenge stories. On top of this, fractions have been tricky this week, but the resilience across the year group has been tremendous, and next week we will be beginning to turn these fractions into decimals. Literacy will move on to persuasive writing, and we will start to draft our 500 word challenge stories.

Tuesday will be SPACE DAY in Year 5. You can probably therefore guess where we are going for our expedition. This day will involve lots of science and art; we can't wait!



Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have been learning how to find percentages of an amount (so we can help with shopping in the January sales!); writing descriptive and heart-felt pieces of writing about a short film clip called *The Piano* and planning our WW2 design projects.



Next week, we will be learning how to write our own stories that include flashbacks; be solving problems involving algebra and begin making our WW2 projects. As soon as we have finished these projects, we will invite you in to see all of our hard work!



Well done to all our winners this week : Peake class, Curie class, Dahl class & Luther-King class.

Also well done to Potter class & Curie class for the least amount of lates this week.