

Newsletter

15th January 2016



ARK Dickens
Primary Academy

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year and welcome to the first school newsletter of 2016. Newsletters will continue to be published fortnightly on Fridays. Please take time to read through the information which will help you keep up to date with things going on in our school. We also have a fantastic school website with lots of information about Ark Dickens including reports and pictures of school activities. (www.arkdickensprimary.org)

It has been a very hectic and exciting week at Ark Dickens. The children have been a delight and today's new style Celebration Assembly was an inspiration due to the efforts of the children over this past week.

Thank you too for your efforts with your children with regard to wearing the correct uniform, having long hair tied back and looking very smart for school. Please continue with this as it is really important in helping the children feel a part of Team Ark Dickens.

I have been aware that quite a number of children are not coming to school on time and this is something which does need to be addressed by all members of the school community. As from Monday, the children will be coming straight into school from the playground when the gates open at 8.40am; there will be no lining up and no 'playtime' for the children before school. This will give the teachers the opportunity for some individual time with pupils as the others arrive and this will also enable learning to begin more quickly for all the children. So please do all you can to ensure your children are on time to school as this change happens on Monday.

Miss J Waelend (Interim Headteacher)

Next Training Days: Here is a reminder to parents that we have another two Inset Days booked for the 11th and 12th February, prior to the school closing for February half term. Please remember the school will not be open to the children on these two training days.

School Uniform: Can we please take this opportunity to remind you how important it is that your child arrives to school in their full uniform every day. Uniform checks are carried out daily by class teachers and parents notified if their child is not in the correct uniform. Details of our school uniform can be found in the Parents Handbook which was distributed to all parents last term. Penelope Anne are the providers of all our school uniform and are happy to help with any enquires: www.pa-schoolwear.co.uk (tel: 02392 666142). Parents can also contact the school office for any additional help and advice regarding uniform requirements.

Year 6 visit Portsmouth Guildhall: On Monday 11th January, Year6 visited the Portsmouth Guildhall to take part in a workshop about World War II. The children watched a play and learnt about the Guildhall during the Blitz. It was interesting because the Guildhall was almost completely destroyed during the attack on Portsmouth in 1941. They looked at pictures showing the Queen officially opening the Guildhall when it had been re-built. The actors were amazing and the play included: smoke machines, search lights and a fake fire! Teachers took part in a quiz and Mrs Tesidder won. Before The children left, they looked at real artefacts from World War II and thought about the jobs people had to do during the war.



ARK DICKENS PRIMARY ACADEMY

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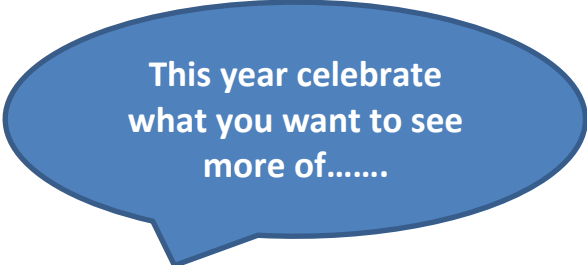
Website: www.arkdickensprimary.org

AN ark SCHOOL

Parents Voice: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th January in school at 2.00pm. Please come along and support other parents who regularly attend to chat and share ideas whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a biscuit in an informal setting.

Volunteering: We are always on the lookout for parental volunteers to help in school and also with activities the children take part in outside school, e.g., visits to the local library, museum trips, visits to the dockyard, etc. We really do appreciate our parent volunteers and encourage those that have any spare time to come and join us at Ark Dickens. If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer please telephone the school office on 02392 826514 and ask to speak to Helen Murfin our Home Family Link Worker.

A message from our Pastoral Team: Happy New Year from the Pastoral Team. Please remember we have 'drop-in' sessions for parents each school day from 9.00-9.30am. Please do not hesitate to call in and speak to one of the team if you have any worries or concerns about your child.





Parenting Tip!
 Be flexible and willing to adjust your parenting style. As your child develops and starts to grow up, you will gradually have to change your parenting style. Chances are what works with your child now may not work as well in a year or two.

HEADTEACHER'S CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to those pupils who received the Headteacher's Certificate.

Week beginning: 11th January the certificates were in recognition of an exemplary display of our **EFFORT** value. The certificates were awarded to:

Nursery		Reception	Sameha Hoque, Javarn, Regan, Charlie
Year 1	Aro Ali, Naowas Miah, Hannah May, Alan	Year 2	Noor Kri, Bradley Larvin, Dimitry, Tanvir
Year 3	Aldina Gayshi, Annie-Mae Burton, Albi Ross, Emily-Jayne Smith	Year 4	Jackie Tash, George Finlay, McKenzie, Meyiwa
Year 5	Harley Wooloff, Keeley Pack, Milly Devlin, Sidra Salih	Year 6	Alex Hellyer, Alfie Blagden, Tamjid Hussain, Jessica

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS				
WEEK ENDING (Mon to Fri)	ATTENDANCE CUP (Upper School) 	%	ATTENDANCE TED (Lower School) 	%
18 th December	Peggotty & Jagers	100%	Badger	98%
8 th January	Jagers	100%	Barley	96.4%
Well done to the winning classes!				

Dates for your diary	
Wednesday 10 th February	Children break up for half term
Thursday 11 th February	INSET DAY – school not open to the children
Friday 12 th February	INSET DAY – school not open to the children
Monday 22 nd February	School re-opens for at 8.50am for 2 nd half of Spring Term