

Newsletter

27th May 2016



ARK Dickens
Primary Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly a reminder that school closes today for the half term break. We have a teacher training day booked on Monday 6th June and therefore the school **will re-open for the children on Tuesday 7th June.**

It has been a very hectic half term at Ark Dickens, with Year 6 and Year 2 National Assessments being the main feature of that business. Now it is the turn of Year 1 to show off their Phonics knowledge and even for the youngest children to show us how far they have come as learners; exciting times.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you as parents for your continued support this term as our school improvement journey continues. Since being at Ark Dickens, I have been hugely impressed with our children; they are incredible. Because of that, they deserve from us the very best in terms of education and aspirations. For each and every one of them, I want them to be able to have the maximum number of choices and opportunities open to them in terms of a future course of study, a future job or travel opportunities. Together, home and school can achieve this for the children. So 'Thank You' to all of you as parents and carers for the effort you make on a daily basis to support that for your children. By getting your children to school on time, every day, making sure they are in proper uniform so they look and feel part of the team and being good role models to them; please keep doing this.

Your help is needed: Sometime during the coming months the Academy will be inspected for the first time by OfSTED. The inspectors are very keen to know what parents', carers, pupils and staff members feel about the school and actively seek your views during the 2 day inspection. For those of you who regularly use a computer, you can express your view on the school through "ParentView" which can be found on the OfSTED website. It takes just a few minutes to complete. Please do let us know your views! We are also going to send home paper copies of the questions you will be asked so that you have the opportunity to let us know what you feel about the school and we would ask you to return these questionnaires to the school as soon as you are able. The questionnaires will be sent home on Tuesday 7th June, so please check your child's school bag and do please fill them in. The children and staff members will have similar questions to complete too and we will certainly let you know of the outcomes as soon as we have them in.

Next Half Term: There are plenty of opportunities for you to join us in school next half term and I do hope to see you there whenever possible. One date I do want you to get into your calendar in **Friday 15th July**. On this day we will be having a whole school Open Day. We will be offering you the opportunity to come into school and see all the work we will have completed on a whole school project about "The Olympics". There will be more details to follow but we look forward to welcoming you all in to school on that day.

In addition to this you will be receiving your child's end of year Report and have an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher for next year. All of that to follow, but for now allow me to wish you a very happy half-term break.

Miss J Waelend
Principal

Summer Uniform: When we come back after half term the children will be able to wear summer uniform. For the girls they can wear a blue and white gingham dress, for the boys they can wear grey shorts (no sports shorts please). All other uniform remains the same.

ARK DICKENS PRIMARY ACADEMY

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AN **ark** SCHOOL

Sun Cream and Hats: Now that the weather is improving can we please remind you to put sun cream on your child before school and provide them with a hat to wear outdoors during break and lunchtimes.

Bike and Scooters: There have been a couple of serious incidents reported to us recently regarding children riding their bikes and scooters in the school grounds. Children are welcome to bring their bikes and scooters to school but the moment they enter the school gates they should dismount and wheel them in to the storage area at the front of the school. When the bikes/scooters are collected at the end of the day they should not be ridden whilst on the school premises. Can we ask all parents to ensure their child keeps within these Health & Safety rules of our school.

Summer Fete: Plans are well under way for our Summer Fete on Saturday 18th June from 2.00 - 4.30pm. Please put this date on your calendars and come along and join us for a fun filled afternoon. Save your pennies as there will be lots of stalls, fun activities, cakes and refreshments for sale on the day. After half term we shall be sending home a letter about raffle tickets. If you wish to purchase tickets you will just need to send the money in and we will send the tickets home to you (more details will follow). We have some amazing raffle prizes so far: an Amazon Fire Tablet; a voucher for BirdWorld; a voucher for Monkey Bizness (Gosport); vouchers for hair salons; a Liverpool FC pack (including a shirt, hat, pen & book); a Fifa Football X-Box Game.

Non-Uniform Day: Thank you to everyone for the kind donations for our Tombola Stall. We have been overwhelmed by your response today....amazing!

2016-2017 Term Dates: Please find attached to your newsletter a copy of the agreed term dates and inset days for the next academic year.

Dates for your diary

Friday 27 th May	School finishes for half term
Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June	Half Term
Monday 6 th June	INSET Day (School closed for staff training)
Saturday 18 th June	Summer Fete
Tuesday 28 th June (2.00pm)	Parents Voice Meeting
Wednesday 6 th July	Whole School Sports Day (more details to follow)
Friday 8 th July	Year 1 – Year 6 Reports distributed today
Friday 15 th July	Whole School Open Day
Wednesday 20 th July	School finishes for Summer Break

Check out our school website for more information, stories and pictures: www.arkdickensprimary.org