

Newsletter



ARK Dickens
Primary Academy

10th October 2014

Dear Parents

I am delighted to be able to send home our 2nd newsletter of this term. Our school newsletter will be going home every fortnight. Please take time to read it as we will endeavour to include lots of information about things happening in school and also to add pictures and stories about your children and their school experiences.

As well as our fortnightly newsletter please take time to check out our new school website which is now up and running: www.arkdickensprimary.org It already contains some information about the school, policies and routines and we are adding to this regularly to make our website interesting and informative.

It has been a busy time for us all since our last newsletter and I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school for their continued support. The children have settled well into new routines and the staff are embracing new and exciting ways of delivering their lessons to all the children.



Can I please just remind parents, in the morning when the bell rings on Upper School playground, to move away from where the children line up so that they are not distracted. It is then clear for all the children that the school day has started, and with it, our high expectations of moving around the school in a quiet calm manner.

Parents evenings were held on the 1st and 2nd October. This was an opportunity for parents to come and meet their child's teacher and to find out more about the Academy and things planned for the rest of this academic year. Thank you to all those parents who attended, it was a brilliant turnout and we received lots of positive comments which are always encouraging for us.

Our first Parents Forum meeting was held on Tuesday 30th Sept. We had a good turnout of parents with some new faces attending. The group talked about the changes to the school and how parents can become more involved in school life and opportunities to invite parents along to activities taking place during the term. One concern raised was the use of inappropriate language by parents on the playground. Please can I remind all parents that this is not acceptable and is disturbing for the children. This situation will be monitored and discussed further at the next Parents Forum meeting. There was also lots of positive feedback from the group.

'We like the uniform - it looks really smart and gives the children a sense of identity'

'Our children talk positively about school and have said there are lots of new techniques they are learning like the hand up for silence and the 1,2,3'

'We think it is good there is more time for learning'

'It is much calmer now on the playground in the mornings'

ARK DICKENS PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Website: www.arkdickensprimary.org



AN **ark** SCHOOL

We are planning to hold these meetings every month and look forward to many more parents attending. A separate letter will be going home soon and please look out for more details on the school website.

Staff Car Park: To ensure the safety of all our children, can we please remind parents that the staff car park is not to be used as a walk through. Please use the main school gate to both enter and exit the school. We have been concerned that there have been a few reported cases of parents/carers using the staff car park as a dropping off point for their children. Can we please ask parents to refrain from doing this and to use the parking bays outside of school as we need to keep access clear at all times for deliveries and staff parking. Thank you for your co-operation.

THANK YOU to all those parents who accompanied us to the church on Tuesday to celebrate Harvest Festival and to the parent helpers who visited the train station with Year 1 this week. Your help and support is always very much appreciated.

Mr C Duncan (Headteacher)

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARDS				
WEEK BEGINNING (Fri to Thurs)	ATTENDANCE CUP (Upper School)		ATTENDANCE TED (Lower School)	
		%		%
29 th September 2014	Weller	99.0%	Twist	98.5%
6 th October 2014	Copperfield	99.2%	Twist	97.4%
Well done to the winning classes!				

HEADTEACHER'S CERTIFICATE

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

Week beginning 29th Sept the certificates were in recognition of an exemplary display of our **'RESILIENCE'** value. The certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Rayyan Chowdhury and Bradley Dixon	Year 2	Charlie Harrison and Andzalika Grairste
Year 3	Praneeth Mutyala and Chanel Jewell	Year 4	Millie Devlin and Phoebe Street
Year 5	Kieran Leeming and Aiden Tombs	Year 6	Robbie Knight and Esha Abedin

Week beginning 6th Oct the certificates were in recognition of an exemplary display of our **'RESPECT'** value. The certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Robbie Rose and Declan Hunter	Year 2	Tamanna Miah and Bethany Donkin
Year 3	Freddie Shipp and Meyiwa Fregene	Year 4	Rebecca Neuts and Awet Angosom
Year 5	Fahmida Ali and Angel Jestins	Year 6	Faye Thomas and Brandon Danks

Dates for your diary

(Please check out the school website for more information: www.arkdickensprimary.org)

Tues 21st October:	School Nurse Drop In (9am)
Tues 21st October:	Year 6 to Royal Marines Museum 9.15am – 2.30pm
Wed 22nd October :	Year R Phonics Workshop (9.00 – 9.30)
Fri 24th October:	Break up for half term
Mon 3rd November:	School closed for staff training (INSET)
Tues 4th November:	Children back to school
Tues 11th November:	Year 6 to Fort Nelson 9.15am – 2.45pm
Tues 18th November:	Year 2 Winter Music Workshop