



# Ark Dickens Primary Academy

**Tuesday 14th December 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last newsletter of 2021 is upon us! And what a year it's been for all of us. We're hoping that 2022 brings us more normality, freedom and of course, good health. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, there is a wealth of positive news regarding the children's learning and extra-curricular activities from this term. I know you will join with me in wishing the staff a relaxing and restful break.

All that leaves me to say, is thank you (staff and parents) for your support during a turbulent year. I truly feel we have you and the community with us and right now I could not be prouder than I am to lead our fabulous school. Next year, we continue our pursuit to 'Be Our Best'! The staff and I would like to wish you a festive holiday period and the best possible start to January 2022. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**, for another action-packed and fun-filled year! Have the best possible holiday everyone!

Warm wishes  
Laura Berry

## Nursery

This term we have been making new friends and learning new routines. We are looking forward to learning our new topic Can you make it work? We will become inventors and scientist, looking at how vehicles work and designing homes for our friends.

## Reception

In Early Years our new topic will be Can you make it work? We will be looking at different buildings in our local area, making dens and designing different homes. We will also be getting crafty and create a vehicle or house. Also, we will become scientists! Having a go at fun experiments and investigating how different vehicles move!

## Year 1

In Year 1 we have been looking at toys throughout history from building blocks in the 1920s to video games in 1970s. We have enjoyed exploring them and seeing how toys have changed over time. It has been particularly exciting to see how toys work and how the mechanics have changed.

## Year 2

Year 2 have really enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London this half term. They have investigated different sources of information and written their own diary entries inspired by Samuel Pepys. We have also been practicing a Winter Poem ready to perform it to our friends this week. Keep an eye on Seesaw for the recording!

## Year 3

Year 3 had an amazing time at Butser Ancient Farm earlier on this half term. They discovered lots of new information about the Stone Age, including looking at the houses they lived in, the food they ate and how they managed to survive. The children thoroughly enjoyed being archaeologists, making jewellery and building fences. They engaged throughout answering questions knowledgeably. They were a credit to the school and all the staff were extremely proud of them!

## Year 4

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed reading Varjak Paw this half term in their reading lessons. It has been a delight to see how engaged the children have been with this book. There are always lots of disappointed children when they stop on a cliffhanger! They continually ask to read more to find out what happens next. The children are excited about finishing Varjak Paw before the end of the week.

## Year 5

What a fantastic start to the year for our children in Year 5. We have been fortunate enough to take our children outside of the classroom environment on numerous occasions so far this year - most recently was our trip to the Winchester Science museum. All of the children acted like true role models and conducted themselves in superb manner - the school is immensely proud of each and every one of them.

## Year 6

Children in Year 6 have been showing all of our school values in the run up to the Winter break. They have all worked tirelessly to be the best versions of themselves during their assessment period. Our Year 6 pupils have settled in so well to life at the top of the school and we are all looking forward to what the new year brings. We are all very proud of them.

# Ark Dickens

## Announcements



### Dates for your diary:

- ◆ 4th January—Inset Day
- ◆ 5th January—Return to School

## Stars of the Week

Otis M - Matilda

Lena S - Robin

James P - Merlin

Sandra S- Poppins

Milaan A/Erdi G - Aslan

Harper M-L/Aakifah C - Wilbur

Evanya T/Zac S - Horton

Angel A-D/Evie A - Grainger

Erin T/Jessica W/Corban N- Asterix

Festus K/Jessica H/Harry M - Marley

Laila B/Ruby S-E - Banquo

Imogen G/Kristian L - Gandalf

## Attendance

Paddington Am	86.73%	Aslan	95.97%
Paddington PM	78.7%	Wilbur	83.45%
Mowgli	86.5%	Grainger	95.27%
Pinocchio	80.93%	Horton	96.85%
Robin	91.13%	Marley	93.4%
Matilda	91.25%	Asterix	97.12%
Merlin	91.11%	Banquo	93.31%
Poppins	79.66%	Gandalf	92.86%



The overall winners for the term are

**NEPTUNE**

Well done!

## House Points

