



## Head's Message

### *World Book Day!*

Wow! The atmosphere in school yesterday was palpable and everyone had lots of fun (teachers as much as children!). Thank you to all the teachers for ensuring that days like these are so meaningful and memorable. And thank you to parents for making such an effort with costumes; the children absolutely loved it and everyone looked fantastic.



Thank you, also, to all the parents who attended our Challenge Curriculum Launch this morning. The turn-out was outstanding and this just goes to show what an active and interested school community we are; your input really does have a massive impact on the learning of the children.

It is an extra exciting time for us as teachers and as a school. We are always striving to improve, and this innovative way of approaching the wider curriculum will make our children's time at Conway even more inspiring. The work done at home in Home Learning Journals is key to the explorative and independent element of the Challenge Curriculum, and I always encourage you to speak with teachers about how you can support your children's learning through experiences and discussions.

## Dates for Your Diary

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016:** EYFS Learning Journey Workshop (approx. 9.15am, after assembly) for Reception parents.

### Parents Meetings

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Reception and Year 4

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March:** Year 1 and Year 2

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March:** Year 3

Booking sheets for the parents meetings will be available from the School Office from Monday morning. Please sign up for a ten minute appointment with your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

## Celebration Assembly

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016:** Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Assembly.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016:** Year 3 and Year 4 Assembly (Year 4 Performance).

## Composer of the Week

Next week our composer will be:

**Arvo Pärt**



## Home Learning

**Reception:** See EYFS News.

**Year 1:** What can you find out about the moon?

**Year 2:** Research the famous physical, natural things in Morocco (e.g. the Sahara Desert)

**Year 3:** How would you protect yourself in an earthquake?

**Year 4:** What human behaviour can damage the river?

## Attendance

This week the attendance figures are:

1st	Lewis	98.06%
2nd	Dahl	96.00%
3rd	Potter	95.97%
4th	Dickens	93.67%
5th	Carroll	93.33%

## Notices

### Challenge Curriculum

The Challenge Curriculum was launched this morning. Thank you to all the many parents and carers who attended.



A big thank you to Marian (Nathaniel's Mum) who came in to school on Wednesday to talk to the Year 2 children about Ghana as part of the Challenge Curriculum.



Next week we will be sending home an overview of termly themes for every year group. This may help you to plan exciting days out linked to your child's learning.

It is always worth speaking to the class teacher about what you can do at home as the direction that the project follows is open and can be adapted by individual class teachers.

### World Book Day

Pupils and staff really enjoyed World Book Day yesterday. They came to school dressed as their favourite book character and brought their favourite books with them to share with the other pupils. It was wonderful to see so many different and creative costumes while the children paraded around the playground. There were lots of fun, book-related activities throughout the day for the children to enjoy, including reading to each other in the special book tents that were set up in the hall.





### Sport Relief

Dahl class will be organising a cake sale on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in aid of Sport Relief. More information to follow about the activities planned for the day.

### Term Dates 2016-2017

A letter with term dates for 2016-2017 has been sent home with your child today.

### Important Message

The volume of traffic each morning at drop-off time is becoming a danger for cyclists and pedestrians alike. Please be extremely careful when dropping your children off in the morning and be aware that parking is extremely limited outside the school gates and illegal in the turning space (due to danger). Please consider leaving the car at home and walking your children to school. Now that spring is here, this is much healthier for everyone! Many thanks.

### Science Week

British Science Week runs from 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016. At Ark Conway we will be going on Science walks, experimenting in our classrooms, creating digital masterpieces and asking questions about the world around us.

We would really appreciate it if any scientific or technologically inclined parents could volunteer their time for an assembly in the afternoon of Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Please let Miss Collins know ([e.collins@arkconwayprimary.org](mailto:e.collins@arkconwayprimary.org) or in person) if you think you could perhaps offer a scientific demonstration, talk about a career in science/technology or any of your own ideas.

### EYFS News

Carroll Class have spent the whole week celebrating animals and books by inventing an animal dance on World Book Day, and investigating the key features of riddles. The children have come up with some very imaginative clues about farmyard animals!

We are hoping to be further inspired by our trip to Odds Farm next week. I am delighted to announce that Suki's dad Ivan and Frederick's mum Marie will be accompanying us on the trip. Thank you to all the other parents who expressed interest. We had so many offers that we had to draw names from a hat!

Next week we will be continuing to solve addition equations by counting on, and we will be innovating our own riddles based on the new strategies we have learnt. Ideas for home learning: You could create a habitat in a shoe box, you could record a riddle and upload it to tapestry, you could dress up as your favourite animal and perform a dance for your family, you could use watercolours to paint and label an animal.



### Bring your Pet to School Day

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 Reception children are invited to bring their pet to school (from 2 – 3pm) to embed their learning about animals this term.

If you are interested, please let Mrs Hyslop know as soon as possible.