



# Ark Conway Primary Academy

## NEWSLETTER

### Headteacher's Message

#### IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

This week children and staff at Conway have been receiving a lot of well-deserved attention from the press.

On Wednesday, Greg Hurst, Education Editor of The Times paid a visit to Ark Conway to find out how the school had achieved such 'stellar' results this year. He spent a great deal of time looking at how the school taught Mathematics and the impact that this was having on children's learning and understanding. We're looking forward to reading his report at some point this weekend.

Yesterday the film crews from Read, Write Inc. descended on the school. Oxford University Press asked if our teachers could be filmed teaching their phonics sessions. This is high recognition indeed of the quality of teaching taking place here and we're delighted that RWI will be using these videos to support teacher development in other schools.

With only three weeks to go until Christmas we are entering a very exciting time of year. Please make sure you save dates for your diary for the upcoming events.

Next weekend is a big one on the Conway social calendar - our Christmas fair is always a special occasion and I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Have a great weekend.

### Stars of the Week

The value of the week has been 'Aspiration'. Well done to all our Stars of the Week.



### Attendance

The leader board this week is:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Dahl class</b>	<b>98.9%</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Lewis class	98.2%
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Potter class	97.4%
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Carroll class	94.8%

### Notices

#### School Tea towels

We now have the Conway 2014 tea towel available to purchase! They cost **£4 each** and make excellent Christmas gifts. We have limited stock; once they're gone, they're gone!

#### Phonics workshop

Please stay in the hall after assembly next week if you wish to attend the phonics workshop. This is primarily aimed at Reception and Year 1 parents but all are invited to attend.

### **WisePay**

ARK Conway polo shirts are now available to buy in ages 13 years and 14-15 years on our Uniform store on WisePay. Uniform orders should be with the school in less than a month and much sooner when in high demand. If you are having problems accessing your child's WisePay account please come to the school office to speak to Miss Martin or Mrs McCormick who will be able to confirm usernames, passwords, joint sibling accounts and help with payments.

### **Christmas Fair**

Don't forget that the ARK Conway Christmas Fair is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 12 – 2:30pm. Flyers are available in the school foyer; please distribute to friends and neighbours to spread the word.

### **Link to Hope Shoe Box Appeal**

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoe box for children and families in Europe this Christmas. This year we are able to send over 80 shoeboxes. Our driver will be heading out to Cluj-Napoca – the second most populous city in Romania – on the 8<sup>th</sup> December to deliver some of our boxes, the rest will be distributed to Bulgaria, Albania, Moldova and Ukraine. He left us a message from the recipients in Romania “*mulstumim*” meaning ‘we thank you’. And we wish all the delivery people sending these wonderful gifts “*drum bun*” – a safe journey.



In **Dahl class** this week the children have been using the learnt poetic techniques of alliteration, rhyme and rhythm to produce their own poetry. The kennings poems describe their 'New Sea Creatures', e.g. a Jellyphant - a cross between a jellyfish and an elephant. Below are some excerpts of the children's amazing poems. A collection of our poems can be found in the foyer.

'Stripy scuttler,  
Poker-dot snapper.'  
- Tiger-Crab, by Rufaro.

'Jumpy joker,  
Feathered floater.'  
- Ostrich Fish, by Emma.

'Sneaky stinger,  
Slow strider.'  
- Tiger-Ray, by Stanley S.

'Quick pouncer,  
Big bouncer.'  
- Sting-Tiger, by Ollie.

'A huge loomer,  
A speedy sprinter.'  
- Great White Lion, by Frankie.

On Monday, children from **Lewis Class** visited the Natural History Museum and had many exciting encounters. Below are quotes from the recounts that they have written about their adventure. Every child's recount will also be displayed in the foyer so please do have a look at their exceptional writing!

“When we got in the museum, I was extremely excited. It was amazing, I nearly screamed!” Vika.

“I learnt that when you see or think of birds you see them as colourful things but as birds get older and their feathers fall off they turn grey and white.” Charlotte.

“My favourite bit was the earthquake room because it was shaky like jelly and I like shaky stuff!” Archie.