



# Ark Conway Primary Academy

## NEWSLETTER

### Headteacher's Message

#### Christmas Tree Elves

You may have noticed that our wonderful Christmas tree elves have made their annual December visit.



Thank you to the Parents Forum who have donated such a wonderful tree; and thanks also to the staff who took time to stay behind after school and make it look so festive.

#### Learning Workshop

Today we had another of our parent workshops. Miss Oldham and Mr Welsh led an enthralling session on our approach to teaching phonics. These sessions are very useful and I can't encourage you enough to attend others next year if you are at all able to.

#### Goodbye and Good Luck

Sadly after 16 months working here at Ark Conway, Miss Martin (the school receptionist) is leaving us today. She has successfully been recruited as a teaching assistant at Woodfield School. I'm sure parents will join me in wishing her all the best for the future and thank her for everything she has contributed whilst here at Conway.

#### The Times

We hope you saw the article about Ark Conway in the Times last Saturday; we'll have a photocopy available in the foyer next week. We

have been mentioned in another article in the Times: Please take a look at the link below: <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/columnists/article4288002.ece>

### Stars of the Week

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



Max

Aniyah

Sunshine

Archie



Mekyt

Reggie

Rafe

Timur

### Attendance

The leader board this week is:

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Lewis class	100%
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Potter class	98.6%
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Dahl class	97.1%
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Carroll class	91.1%

### Notices

#### Art supplies

It would be very much appreciated if children in Year 1 and Year 2 could bring in empty cereal boxes and children in Year 3 bring in cardboard boxes for their art lessons on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you very much.

### **WisePay spring menu**

The spring term lunch menu is now on WisePay for you to order your child's lunches. Please be aware that you must order lunches for 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> January by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Workshop for all parents**

Miss Oldham is running a workshop suitable for all parents which will be looking at how to structure a 1:1 reading session. This is on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 3:15pm**. This workshop is aimed at supporting parents to read with their child at home.

Next term we will be hoping to recruit more parent volunteers to read with our children as this is such a valuable part of our school week. This workshop will give you the skills to confidently lead reading sessions in our library.

Please speak to Miss Oldham if you are at all interested in volunteering to help.

### **Phonics workshop links**

- <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/expert-help/ruth-miskins-video-page?region=uk>
- <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/videos/> : search for parent videos and you will find many to help you including:
- <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/> : set I sounds so that you can pronounce the simple sounds correctly
- <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/parent-tutorial-1-understanding-read-write-in-phonics/>

### **Christmas Cards**

Our Christmas post-box is back! If your child would like to send Christmas Cards to their class, he/she can post them in the post-box in the foyer.

### **End of term**

Please be reminded that school closes at **1:30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** for all pupils. There is no afterschool care on this day.

### **Afterschool clubs**

#### **Dates**

Next week is the last week of clubs this term! Please be reminded that afterschool clubs are not running in the last week of term (15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> December) but afterschool care is running Monday – Thursday that week.

#### **Ukulele club**

Parents of children in the ukulele club are invited to watch the last 5 minutes of the club on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 4:55pm.

#### **Spring term clubs**

We sent a letter home this week about booking for spring term afterschool clubs. Please ensure you return this form by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the latest.

#### **Payments**

Finally, all payments for Autumn term afterschool care, enrichment clubs and breakfast club are due by **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. Please speak to Mrs McCormick if you have any questions.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

This year, we will be raising money for Save the Children by having a Festive Winter Jumper day on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**.

If you would like to be involved, please send your child to school in his/her favourite

woolly/festive/Christmas/colourful jumper. This should be worn over the top of the normal school uniform and please leave a donation towards Save the Children in your child's bookbag/backpack.



**Save the Children**

**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

Make the world better with a sweater!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2014