

# ARK Ayrton Primary Academy



## News Letter – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014

If ever there was a week at school that signalled the start of Christmas, it was this week! We started with the outstanding performance by Key Stage 1 in their production of 'Santa Comes to Portsmouth', then the Key Stage 2 performance 'Twas the Night before Christmas' followed by our final production 'The Nativity' by Foundation. I was so proud of the professionalism and performances of all involved and I hope you were too. A huge well done to all of the children and staff who have set an incredibly high benchmark for future Christmas productions!

On Monday evening the secret garden was transformed so that we could all enjoy some carols by candlelight. The Portsmouth City Band played and the singing was beautiful. As Mrs Chapman said in closing, the sound of carols really does start Christmas, and the singing from all of the families (and staff!) was amazing. Thanks to all of the families and staff involved who pulled together to make this fantastic event. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Mr Morrad, Area Manager at One Stop who is also a parent, for his generous donation of mince pies, biscuits, hot chocolate and juice. We all thoroughly enjoyed them.

We would be very grateful to receive any school uniform in good condition you have at home that you no longer use, especially for our younger children. If you have any that you are able to spare please bring it to the school office.

Thank you

### **Mad Hatters Charity**

Thank you to all of you who took part in the 'wear a Christmas jumper to school' day. We managed to raise the fantastic amount of **£213.08**

Congratulations to our pupils for achieving the most improved key stage 2 results in Portsmouth. The results represent the hard work of staff and parents and children with support from Ark. It's a really positive sign

for the community. For more information you can google:-

[http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/education/primary-schools-celebrate-improved-results-1-6467732 ...](http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/education/primary-schools-celebrate-improved-results-1-6467732...)

## Essential Information

At the end of the day when you collect your child, please gather where your child's teacher can see you.  
Your child's safety is paramount to us and this will help us in keeping them safe

## Class Assemblies

Parents/carers are welcome to join us for their child's assembly. These are held every Friday afternoon from 2.50 pm. There will be a crèche available for younger siblings if you would like to take advantage of this facility. Pushchairs and prams are not allowed in the hall.

Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Reception - Kings College University and Oxford University
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Years 5/6 - Edinburgh and UCL
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Nursery am and Nursery pm (to be held in nursery)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	Year 5 - University of Birmingham
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 4 - Universities of Cardiff and Surrey
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Year 3 - Universities of York and Durham

## School Dates

Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	Christmas holidays - school closes at 3.20 pm: Nursery 3.30 pm
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	School Closed: Inset Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	School re-opens at 8.45 am (nursery) 8.55 am (school) for Spring Term
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	School Closed: Inset Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	School Closed: Inset Day and half term begins
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2015	School re-opens



## Attendance

Each week the highest awarded the and certificate.



class with the attendance is attendance trophy We also have an



attendance shop where children are

then use these points to exchange for prizes, the more points they win the better the prize.

able to earn up to 1 point a day. They can

Week Ending	Class with High Attendance
14.11.14	University of Surrey - 99%
21.11.14	Universities of Surrey & Leicester - 99%
28.11.14	University of Edinburgh - 97.6%
5.12.14	University of Durham - 98%
12.12.14	University of York - 97.2%

If your child is unwell please ring the school each day as early as possible and leave a message on our answering machine. It would also be very helpful if you could let us know if your child will be late. The school number is 023 9282 4828. Thank you to parents/carers who do inform us every day.

**Well done to all the parents/carers who continue to get their children to school on time.**

### *And Finally....*

After an incredibly busy week (a Nativity, two Carol Concerts and Carols in the Secret Garden) and with the nights drawing in, why not bring those bedtimes forward a bit and snuggle up with your children and a fantastic book, that will leave their dreams full of imagination and creativity...

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Fleming  
Headteacher

'Congratulations to the winners for last half term's home reading awards! Did your child win in their class? There are great prizes for your children to win each half term. Make sure your child reads their home reading book and regularly changes it for a new one. Don't forget to write in their reading log so we know you've listened to them read!'

"The more that you read,  
the more things you will know,  
The more that you learn,  
The more places you'll go."  
Dr Seuss



**We wish you all a very merry Christmas  
And a happy new year**

