

PARENT NEWSLETTER



ANDALUSIAN CRICKET CHAMPIONS



We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 and Year 6 girls, who have become the Andalusian Cricket Champions and will now represent our school in the National Finals.

A special thank you goes to our PE teacher, Matt Gore, for his dedication, guidance, and encouragement, which played a key role in achieving this fantastic result. His support and commitment make a real difference for our students.

Well done, girls! We are extremely proud of your achievement and wish you the very best of luck in the National Finals.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE SCHOOL DAY!

We are excited to let you know that from **next academic year (2026-2027)**, the **primary school** day will end at the same time as secondary school - **4:00 pm!** **Early Years** students will end a little earlier at **3:45 pm.**

We can't wait to see the benefits this change will bring, and we will be sharing more details with you very soon."

A SPECIAL VISIT FOR ANDALUCIA DAY



We recently enjoyed a wonderful Andalucía Day celebration at school. It was a pleasure to welcome the mayoress of Mijas, Ana Mata Rico, together with councillor Mario Bravo from the Ayuntamiento de Mijas.

Their presence made the occasion even more special for our school community. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all the parents who helped organise and prepare the breakfast. Your support, enthusiasm, and community spirit truly made the celebration memorable for everyone involved.

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Church dates for your diary

 **Sunday April 5th:**
Easter service at the Ark Church at 11.00 am

 **Every Sunday at 11.00 am**
The Ark Church weekly service

Bible Story



Nebuchadnezzar - A Story about Power, Pride, and Humility (Daniel 1-4)
Nebuchadnezzar was the powerful king of Babylon. He ruled one of the greatest empires of the ancient world and built a magnificent city filled with impressive buildings, temples, and strong walls. When Babylon conquered Jerusalem, many young people were taken to Babylon, including Daniel and his friends (**Daniel 1:1-6**). They were chosen to learn the Babylonian language and culture so they could serve in the king's palace.

One night **Nebuchadnezzar** had a dream that troubled him deeply. He demanded that his wise men explain both the dream and its meaning, but none of them could do it. Daniel prayed and was able to tell the king what the dream was and what it meant (**Daniel 2:27-28**). The king was amazed and recognized Daniel's wisdom. Later, **Nebuchadnezzar** built a huge golden statue and ordered everyone to bow down to it. Daniel's friends refused because of their faith. They were thrown into a fiery furnace, but they survived unharmed (**Daniel 3:24-25**). The king was shocked and praised their God.

After some time, **Nebuchadnezzar** became proud of his power and the city he had built. Soon after, he lost his kingdom for a time and lived like a wild animal. When he finally humbled himself, his kingdom was restored (**Daniel 4:34-36**).

What We Can Learn from Nebuchadnezzar's Story

- Power and success should not lead to pride.
- Humility can help people grow and change.
- Recognizing our limits can make us wiser.

Nebuchadnezzar's story reminds us that true strength does not come from power or achievements alone. **Real strength comes from God, from humility, and from recognizing that everything we have is not only the result of our own efforts, but also of God's guidance and grace.** ❤️

Get to know



This month, we would like to introduce **Miss Jan, our Year 1 teacher at The Ark School.** Although this is only her second year at The Ark, she already has 11 years of teaching experience in schools **in the United Kingdom and Spain.**

Miss Jan was born in England but spent most of her life **in Swansea, Wales,** which she describes as a beautiful place that will always hold a special place in her heart.

She studied at **Gowerton College** before continuing her studies at **University Trinity Saint David in Wales,** where she earned a BA Honours degree in Education Studies.

Before joining Ark School, **Miss Jan** worked in two schools in **Swansea.** She first worked as a nursery teacher, where she learned how important the early years of education are for children. Later, she worked in a special needs school called **Ysgol Pen-y-Bryn,** teaching children with complex needs such as **ADHD and Down syndrome.** Although the work was challenging, she found it very rewarding.

Miss Jan says she has wanted to be a teacher for as long as she can remember. Seeing children understand new ideas and grow in confidence is still one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

Family is very important to **Miss Jan.** She has been married to her husband Lyn for 25 years, and they have three children — Ronan, Matthew, and Sophie — and a granddaughter named Rhia. Their dog Izzy is also an important member of the family.

Here is an **interesting fact** that many people may not know: **Miss Jan** is also a **qualified florist and a trained youth leader.** In the past, she worked in youth clubs in Swansea, helping young people who needed support, guidance, and help planning their future.

Miss Jan believes that a teacher should be a **good role model** and create a classroom where children feel **valued, loved, and supported.**

Meet Our Karate Champion!



Meet Nicolas, an 11-year-old Year 6 student who is bringing pride to The Ark. Originally from **Slovakia, Nicolas** recently achieved an impressive milestone **by winning the Andalusian Karate Competition.** We spoke with him about his journey, training, and motivation. **Nicolas'** love for martial arts began very early. Inspired by his father, he started training when he was just two years old, and began focusing on karate at the age of five

Today, his dedication is remarkable. "I train every day," **Nicolas** says. "I practice karate three times a week and judo two days a week." He credits his recent success to this hard work and thanks his coaches, Luis Garcia and his original club in **Slovakia, Karate klub Kretovič Košice,** for their support. Even though competitions can be stressful, **Nicolas** keeps a strong mindset. He admits he sometimes feels nervous before a match, but says, "In my heart, I know that I am going to win." For him, the most exciting part of competing is **testing the skills he has practiced for many hours.** Outside of training, **Nicolas** enjoys reading Diary of a Wimpy Kid and playing basketball with friends. His faith and the support of his parents help him stay focused and confident.

Looking ahead, **Nicolas** hopes to make karate part of his future by becoming a trainer and teaching others how to defend themselves while sharing the values of the sport.

His advice to other students is simple:

"Karate teaches honor and respect. During a fight, your enemy is your opponent, but afterward they are your friend."

Congratulations, Nicolas! We look forward to seeing what you achieve next.

MEET MISS ELI AND MR MIROSLAV



Miss Eli and Mr Miroslav are the friendly faces at our new Reception area. They are always ready to welcome students, parents, and visitors and help with any enquiries. **Their warm greeting helps make our school a welcoming place for everyone.**

A DAY ON THE LOGOS HOPE!



Our students had the fantastic opportunity to visit **the Logos Hope, the world's largest floating bookshop!** The ship was incredible, filled with thousands of books from all over the world, and it was amazing to explore something so unique. Our students behaved wonderfully throughout the trip, making it a fun and enjoyable day for everyone. It was great to get out of school together, discover new stories, and experience the excitement of being on a real ship!

The Logos Hope is not just a bookstore—it's the largest floating bookshop in the world, offering books in many languages and on a wide range of topics. It's an adventure, a chance to see the world in a different way, and an experience our students will remember for a long time.

Well done to everyone for making the trip so special!



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