

Dear parents/carers

Congratulations to all our pupils who completed their induction very well and have started the year very positively.

1. School Closure – Monday 19th September

We were notified by the DfE that the official date of Queen Elizabeth's State Funeral is 19 September 2022. This day will be a bank holiday and schools will close on this day as a mark of respect. School will resume as normal Tuesday 20th September. Pupils will remember Queen Elizabeth during our Values & Character Programme session this Friday morning.

2. Open Evening tomorrow – Thursday 15th September - Timings

Pupils will finish at 1:30pm & FSM pupils can collect cold lunch before leaving. Any ambassadors and tour guides are back at 3:45pm once we have set up and will be dismissed approx. 8:10pm.

3. Contacting school

By the end of today all parents will have received an email from your child's tutor, who will be your first point of contact at school. If you have not received this, please email info@arkpioneer.org and let us know.

Please note:

- For any emergency or to contact the Safeguarding Lead, senior staff or Principal, call 02037874090 or email info@arkpioneer.org out of hours.
- For medical appointments – only those absolutely unavoidable during school hours, contact info@arkpioneer.org at least one working day beforehand, including evidence of the appointment, until evidence is received appointments will remain unauthorised.
- We want every child to flourish and succeed at school and we know how critical strong attendance is to ensure that happens – each child should be aiming for 97%. If your child is too unwell to come into school, please phone and let us know on 02037874090.

You should receive a reply acknowledging any query within 2 working days. Please do forward to info@arkpioneer.org if a contact has been missed.

4. Parent Governor – we welcome applications

We are nearing the end of our Parent Governor's first term & as we grow we are looking to have two parent governors on our team. Please see attachment which outlines the role of our LGB & parent governors, as well as setting out the application process. You can also read more [here](#). The deadline for application is **9am** on Wednesday 28th September. We look forward to speaking to interested parents/carers!

5. Parent Webinars

Here are details of all parent webinars coming up – click on the links in the text to join at the stated date & time. We are running specific webinars for Y7 & 9 and more general webinars on key topics for all parents including wellbeing, supporting your child with homework and online learning.

Supporting your child in Y7 Parent Webinar (led by Assistant Principal Dan Burton & Head of Year 7 Chloe Harris & covering all key information for the autumn term) - **Thursday 22nd September 6pm** – **All Y7 parents/carers**. The event can be accessed [here](#).

Supporting your child with homework & reading (including new online platform 'Century Tech', reading and EEDI assessment platform) **Wednesday 5th October 6pm** – **Any parents/carers who wish to find out more**. The event can be accessed [here](#).

E-Safety & Wellbeing Parent Webinar - Wednesday 9th November 6pm – **Any parents/carers who wish to find out more**. The event can be accessed [here](#).

Reminder of other relevant dates for parent meetings this term/start of next term

- Tuesday 3rd January – All Y10 Parents Evening in school building
- Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th January - Academic Review Appointments Y7, 8, 9
- Wednesday 22nd February - Y9 Options Fair - Y9 parents and pupils in school building

6. Welcome to Pioneer – Tours during the school day for our parents: Reminder

We are very excited to invite parents on site for a 'Welcome to Pioneer' parents session. Dates available on link now for Y7 are: 23rd, 26th, 30th. If you have already booked, please don't book a second session – you will receive an email confirming your place by the end of the week.

Click here to request a place: <https://forms.office.com/r/27SV4FzwPj>

7. School uniform donation

Please donate any pre-loved uniform items that your child has grown out of and we will share with other families. If you need support with any aspect of uniform please contact info@arkpioneer.org

8. Change in date & new event: Julius Caesar performance and 'Seasonal Celebration' – Wednesday 7th December from 5:30pm

We are moving the date of our (abridged) Julius Caesar Performance and combining it with a 'Seasonal Celebration' – drinks, food and some seasonal stalls. Parents and our community can come in from 5:30 and mingle, as well as watching the show. We will discuss the fundraising with parents at our Forum after half term (Wednesday 2nd November) but it is likely we will start the fund to raise money for our first minibus. As usual, we will be doing two food bank collections this term – the Harvest Collection at the end of this half term & a Christmas collection in our final week. Both will go to Chipping Barnet Food Bank. More details to follow.

If you would like to get involved in any aspect of the evening in December or the food bank collections or have any other ideas, contact Mrs Bajwa, our Community Link directly – on n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org

Best wishes
Ms Ryan