

Parent update 28/9/22

Dear parents/carers

We are pleased to be sharing the **Curriculum Information booklets** looking at the content and enquiries in the year ahead. If you have any queries about this, please contact your child's homegroup tutor who will direct the enquiry to the correct subject lead.

Attached to this email are the information booklets for this academic year and a copy can also be found on the curriculum section of our website here: <https://arkpioneer.org/curriculum>

Other key information for this week:

1. Clubs offer: Autumn 22/23

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Netball Year 7 – Ms Paterson	Football Year 8 – Mr Russell (HoD PE)	Girls Football – Mr Mehta & Mr Mead	Football Year 7 Mr Allman & Mr Mead
Rugby KS3 – Mr Mullahy, Mr Mehta	Netball – Year 9 Ms Pick & Ms Harris	Badminton – Mr Biswas, Mr Mogaji, Mr Russell	Netball Year 10 - Ms Paterson
Football Year 10 – Mr Burton & Mr Russell	Football Year 9 – Mr Allman & Mr Mead		Netball y 8 – Mr Russell (HoD PE) & Ms Sweetman

- Pupils need to sign up by letting Mr Russell (Head of PE) or their PE teacher know and coming along on the first week
- Football trials have already taken place; other sports won't have a trial so will start from this week (new children will still be accepted next week)
- Once pupils have taken up the club offer, we expect them to attend every week; they will be registered on arrival at changing rooms
- Pupils bring gear if it is a day they are wearing normal uniform; they collect their phone before arriving at changing rooms and it will be locked in there for the duration of the club
- Clubs start at 4pm and finish at 5pm – pupils don't change after they go straight home

Note – there is also an Athletics opportunity to compete in Barnet coming up next week. This will include running 2km so pupils need to be fit and ready! There will be a trial session next week and pupils can get a letter from Mr Russell (HoD PE). He will also announce this at line ups.

2. Pupil leadership opportunities

Pupil Council (All years) Interested pupils let their tutors know and make a pitch/speech to their form this week. There will be one representative elected from every homegroup. Voting will take place on pillar day next Tuesday 4th October.

Library Leaders (Y7 & above) Year 7 applications to be library leaders will open for year 7 this Friday and close at 4pm, 6th October 2022. Library leaders volunteer for one duty a week, or more if they wish. Interested pupils need to collect a short application form for the library & will have a group interview with Mrs Jennings. Other year groups have been appointed in the summer term, but if your child missed this opportunity and wants to join, they should go and speak to Mrs Jennings.

Peer mentors (Y9 & 10) Applications for Peer Mentors will open the beginning of AUT 2 Term (1st November) and close 19th November 2022

3. Break and Lunch

We have had a few queries from parents about break & lunch times so want to set this out clearly. Our key focus is to ensure lunch is fun, safe and pupils can have a break away from concentrating hard on learning.

- Pupils can bring a healthy snack or packed lunch, and they can skip the queue and just sit and eat. We have reminded pupils of this a number of times. We eat inside to minimise rubbish and socialise/ chat / play sports outside (or use library/table tennis/subject drop in). We have alternative spaces we use inside for heavy rain etc.
- Queuing for our (lovely) food
- If pupils are having our break snack offer, Y7,9,10 queue in dining hall where we have 3 pay points and collections, Y8 queue in main hall. All are served within time to eat. Break is 20 mins at Pioneer. Note we offer breakfast 8am – 8:20am which is free for any Free School Meals child but open to everyone.
- If pupils are having our food for lunch eg hot meal, Y7, 9 queue in first half (3 serving points, one quicker one to skip ahead and get cold food). Y8, 10 queue in second half. All pupils are finished before the end of lunch.
- Our menu – changes every week on a 3 week cycle is [here](#) with prices. Please contact r.shah@arkpioneer.org if you think you should have Free School Meals and don't. Please top up on ipayimpact and ensure your child brings in the card we gave them – if they don't have it, it slows the queue right down.
- There is an inevitable queue as we can't serve and seat 720 pupils in minutes – but it is on average pupils queue for 10-15 mins. They chat with their friends and as long as they are being sensible can enjoy the queuing time.
- Queue skips are in place for those in the Choir, doing subject drop ins, with leadership roles such as Library Leader or in clubs like EAL club. Our staff do duty before school, at break, at lunch and after school to support in ensuring pupils have lots of activities during these times and are supervised and safe.

If you have any further queries about this please do get in touch via info@arkpioneer.org

4. Pillar Day

Next week we look forward to our first term Pillar Day of the year with lots of sessions which further build pupils personal development and wellbeing. Each year group will have a different focus:

- Y7 – Wellbeing, mediation and healthy eating alongside cognitive science sessions on “learning how to learn”
- Y8 – Wellbeing, mediation, digital awareness, online safety and protected characteristics
- Y9 – Relationships and Sex Education with external providers; Schools Consent Project for Y9 girls and Beyond Equality for Y9 Boys
- Y10 – Careers Education focusing on Apprenticeships and vocational courses

Y7, Y8 and Y10 should bring in their Chromebooks.

If you have any questions about the Pillar day please email Mr McCarville at j.mccarville@arkpioneer.org. Links to the external providers for Y9 parents are available below if parents want to read more about them:

- <https://www.beyondequality.org/>
- <https://www.schoolsconsentproject.com/>

5. Y7 Parent Webinar follow up

Supporting your child in Y7 Parent Webinar

You can watch a recording if you missed this here: <https://youtu.be/QqaPOeaJroU>
The slides were sent to Y7 parents yesterday

Here are details of other parent webinars coming up:

- **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](#).

Best wishes
Ms Ryan