

Parent update 05/10/22

Dear parents/carers

We really enjoyed yesterday's *pillar day* for all pupils, learning about university and future opportunities and exploring aspects of personal development.

Our pillar day included:

- Y7 & Y8 Sessions on the cognitive science behind learning and how to build good learning habits
- Y7, Y8, Y10 Mindfulness and wellbeing – learning about meditation
- Y7 & Y8 Online safety & getting home/around the community safely
- Y9 Team challenges in the sports Hall
- Y9 girls *The Consent Project* – external speakers for girls
- Y9 boys *Beyond Equality* – external speakers for boys
- Y10 'Unifrog' personality and strengths test

Unfortunately a speaker for Y10 focussed on apprenticeships was unable to be here at the last minute – this will be rescheduled later in the term

- All pupils: Voting in Pupil Council elections – results to be announced very soon!

We'll be posting more news about it later today here: <https://arkpioneer.org/news>

1. Parent feedback welcome – survey open

Parent voice is very important to us. We will survey / conduct focus groups 3 times a year.

The first survey is open now – [just click here](#) – and will be open until **Thursday 20th October**.

We will follow this up with a **Parent Forum on Wednesday 2nd November at 6pm** here on site - where we'll discuss feedback, issues and planned actions and get parental input and ideas.

As a separate reminder, if you would like to get involved in any aspect of the Seasonal evening 7th December or the food bank collections or have any other ideas, contact Mrs Bajwa, our Community Link directly – on n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org

2. Barnet Options and Careers Event - Middlesex University 19 October 4:30-7:00

We wanted to share a great opportunity for year 9 and 10 pupils to learn all about education, training and employment opportunities run by Barnet Council. The Barnet Options and Careers Event at Middlesex University includes over 40 exhibitors including: Army, Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, a global IT company HCL technologies, TJX Europe (Tk Maxx), a representative from the Department of Transport as well as the government Legal Department and representatives from a local NHS trust. There will also be a range of apprenticeship providers.

In addition there will be two optional presentations:

- One aimed at supporting Year 9 students with how to approach the GCSE Options process
- A Post 16 Options Panel – including information about university courses, apprenticeships and T Levels – useful for Y10

Parents interested can register in advance via this [booking link](#).

3. Parent Webinar this evening – 6pm

- **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](#).

Here are details of other parent webinars coming up:

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

4. Upcoming event: *Maths number hunt*

Next Thursday 13th October, both pupils and teachers will be keeping their brain in check and their eyes peeled to become better mathematicians! Throughout the day pupils will be solving mathematical problems ... but rather than writing down the numerical answer ... they are to search which teacher is wearing the answer! Pupils and teachers must be careful and keep a beady eye on any red herrings that may come their way! We look forward to this fun-filled number day!

5. Harvest Festival – Chipping Barnet Food bank Donations

We are very pleased to be supporting the *Harvest Festival Collection* for Chipping Barnet Foodbank. This will start from today and will be led by our Altruism enrichment group. The foodbank are looking for donations of tinned food, long-life products, toiletries &/or cleaning products. Donations can be brought in by your child /yourself any morning from now on. Thanks in advance for anything you can donate.

Best wishes
Ms Ryan