

## Parent update 12/10/22

Dear parents/carers

The **Pupil Council results are in** following elections on pillar day last week. Pupils self-nominated and made a speech pitching their candidacy before their group. Pupils across the school voted in the main hall in a secret ballot. We will follow learning about this voting process further when we talk about British values and democracy next half term, as part of our Values and Character programme.

**Congratulations** to the members elected to take on representation in the Academy council this year:

7 Angelou: David	8 Hoy: Benjamine	9 Gandhi: Saif	10 Ardern: Karima
7 Farah: Wahiz	8 Obama: Sienna	9 Grey: Poppy Z	10 Johnson: Siham
7 Howe: Alex A	8 Rapinoe: Kush	9 Hawking: Sam	10 Lawrence: Zaid
7 Mukai: Courtney	8 Singh: Anghad	9 Mandela: Naomi	10 Moore: Sophia T
7 Robinson: Rico	8 Tubman: Alex M	9 Turing: Faris	10 Rashford: Jayden
7 Parton: Alex G	8 Winfrey: Sumaya	9 Williams: Ellie	10 Yousafzai: Abdullah

### 1. Parent feedback welcome – survey open (reminder)

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org)

### 2. Food offer – Free School Meals pupils

We will have written to all parents individually who have the offer of Free School Meals. These pupils can have any offer equivalent to the total price of £2.40 for lunch and £1 for breakfast.

- At breakfast: 8 – 8:20 – Cereal or toast plus juice (free)
- At lunch (free)
  - Hot meal deal - hot meal plus dessert OR a drink or
  - Cold meal deal - sandwich/baguette or wrap AND dessert OR a drink

Please note that children do not get a free break time snack – this needs to be paid for on their account or they can bring in fruit/sandwich/cereal bar. Note any snack brought in should be nut free. The price of break time items is [here](#). You will be able to pay for the extra item once you top up on the Ipayimpact.

If you think you should have Free School Meals but have not been notified, please contact Rita Shah directly on [r.shah@arkpioneer.org](mailto:r.shah@arkpioneer.org)

### 3. Parent Webinar: Y9 Options update – all year 9 parents

This is taking place next Wednesday at 6pm: [Here is the link for joining](#)

### 4. Issuing merits & celebrating pupils success

We look forward to our celebration assemblies for each year group next week, where we celebrate our school values, attendance and merits. When pupil receives a certain number of merits each week we also celebrate that success in different ways:

5 or more merits in a week	Parent message via <b>MCAS app</b> on your phone rather than a text message (please enable notifications; note this change is due to cost)
10 or more merits in a week	Parent postcard via email
15 or more merits in a week	Plasma screen in school
20 or more merits in a week	Added to the termly award draw

We are aware some of the parent postcards via email have not been sent each Friday. Please accept our apologies for this error, it has been rectified for this week onwards.

### **5. Harvest Festival – Chipping Barnet Food bank: Donations continuing**

We are very pleased to be supporting the *Harvest Festival Collection* for Chipping Barnet Foodbank. Thanks to everyone who has donated so far. A reminder 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 through to next week.

Thanks in advance for anything you can donate.

### **6. Upcoming event across the school: Maths number hunt (this Thursday)**

Thursday 13th October, both pupils and staff 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 member of staff is wearing the answer! Pupils and staff 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!

### **7. Barnet Options and Careers Event - Middlesex University 19 October 4:30-7:00 reminder to sign up for Y9, Y10**

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](#).

### **8. Chromebooks in School Monday**

We ask that pupils bring in their Chromebook on Monday fully charged. They will use them in a session on Monday morning to complete this half terms pupil survey.

Best wishes  
Ms Ryan