

## Your weekly *Pioneer Parent Update* 11/01/23

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Coming up this week & next week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Football match: Y10 v Christ College—Wednesday 11th January</li> <li>- Immunisation team: HPV Vaccinations - Y8 &amp; Y9—Friday 13th January</li> <li>- Y10 PE Pupils – Trip to Loughborough University – Sports Focus – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>- SPA and RSW - Yrs 7, 8 &amp; 9 : Stage 3 Netball Championship – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>- Ark Fusion Ensemble &amp; Spark Choir Rehearsals - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January</li> </ul>					
New this week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For Y10 pupils: Barnet Council – <b>paid</b> opportunity to be part of <b>climate change group</b> in Middlesex University see below</li> <li>- For Y10 pupils: Free <b>architecture</b> workshops for GCSE students at the Soane Museum and Architectural Association see below</li> <li>- Y9 &amp; 10 pupils – chance to join a gain a qualification from AQA in mushroom cultivation – see below</li> </ul>					
Can you help out?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can you help with a link to a <b>work experience placement</b> for Y10 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July? <b>We would be very grateful for any parent who can host a child at their work place.</b> This will be valuable for every pupil when they are in year 10. Please <a href="#">Fill in 2 minute form here</a> if you can help</li> </ul>					
Other parent resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reminder on <b>school equipment, uniform and banned items</b> below</li> <li>- Please see notice on <b>lost property</b> below for your reference</li> </ul>					

Dear parents/carers,

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected as peer mentors following a written application and interview. They will be supporting pupils in younger year groups with individual and group mentoring, following a training session with Mr Mogagi, who coordinates our mentoring.

Year 9	Year 10
Alex M	Abubaker
Andre	Adam
Avery	Adrian
Beatrice	Anthony
Egla	Avah
Ertan	Kal-El
Farah	Makayla
Imadaddine	Milli
Inka	Parisa
Jaele	Shea
Jasper	Sohil
Jood	Sophia T
Klara	Taran
Sarah	Tiarah
Shania	Tiya

## **Other notices for parents this week:**

### **1. Trip to France for Y7 & Y9**

We will be running a 3 day residential trip for year 7 pupils to **The Opal Coast**. This will take place in June and the cost is approximately £300. We will subsidise 50% of the cost for all pupils with Free School Meals and also provide subsidies for siblings. There are no longer vaccination requirements or tests for covid-19 needed. We will email Y7 parents separately to let them know details – pupils had a fantastic time last year! **We hope for every child in the year group to be able to join us.**

Year 9 will be offered a **day trip to France** also in the summer term – more details to follow. We will again subsidise significantly and hope every child in the year can attend.

### **2. Uniform, equipment and banned items**

Our uniform reflects our values and reinforces our culture of high expectations, pride in our appearance and academic achievement. It promotes a strong and cohesive academy identity, including all children and supports high standards in all areas of school life.

Key requirements for uniform are [here](#) on our website & in your child's planner

- Shirts, tights, socks, jackets can be bought anywhere – tights and long socks should be navy  
For parent information, you can buy them from M and S online at £2.67 per pair of tights [here](#)  
We are also selling them at school (we've brought them from M & S and you can buy by clicking Shop in ipayimpact £2.65 and we'll give a pair to your child)
- Jewellery should be minimal – a watch (not smart watch) plus stud earrings are fine. Pupils should not wear rings, chains or hoop earrings for health and safety reasons (if chains are underneath shirts and unseen that is acceptable, but they can't be worn for PE)

If you need support with purchasing uniform contact [info@arkpioneer.org](mailto:info@arkpioneer.org) – we have donated items that we can share with you and/or we can support further if your family needs help purchasing.

Equipment reminder:

- Pencil case and calculator; pupils must have a red pen, blue/black pen every day
- Planner – issued to them. You can buy a replacement on ipayimpact
- Reading book - pupils can borrow from the library - open before school, break and lunch or bring from home; e-readers such as Kindles are allowed

Following parental query – a reminder of banned items (from behaviour policy) that should never be brought into school:

- knives or weapons of any kind, including replica weapons/tools for cutting
- alcohol or illegal drugs, tobacco or vapes
- chemicals or fireworks
- pornographic images of any kind
- stolen items

### **3. Leadership/university opportunities for Y10 & Y9 pupils**

**Barnet Council is launching an exciting opportunity for young people to shape action on climate change** and sustainability across the borough. Working together, a group of 20 people aged between 11 to 17 will explore: *Barnet has declared a climate emergency. What more can we do together to make Barnet more sustainable, now and in the future?*

The workshops will be held at **Middlesex University, Hendon Campus** on the following provisional dates:

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Selected participants will receive vouchers of around £200 to compensate for their time. Your child should email Mrs Bajwa if interested to apply: [n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org](mailto:n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org)

### **Free architecture workshops for GSCE students at the Soane Museum and Architectural Association**

Open City is collaborating with both the **Soane Museum** and the **Architectural Association** to provide free taster workshops for year 10 and 11 students. The sessions will give students the chance to explore their city with experts and build their own creative responses.

The [AA workshop](#) will explore themes of fiction and storytelling in architecture will run on **Saturday 18 February** from 10am to 4pm.

The [Soane workshop](#) celebrates Peter Barber's recent Soane Medal and will explore how the London street could be redesigned with both site visits and model-making. It is a two day course in February half term: **15th & 16th February**, also 10am-4pm. Click on the links to apply. The teacher names should be Nishma Bajwa [n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org](mailto:n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org)

### **Y9 & 10 pupils – chance to join a gain a qualification from AQA in mushroom cultivation**

We have emailed pupils about GROW – an organisation running a free course for Y9 and Y10 pupils that will take place Monday after school hours. Pupils need to commit to four 1 hour 45 sessions after school, based at TTA. They can work towards a qualification. The organisation are keen for our pupils to get involved. Please see the notice and/or email Mrs Bajwa for more information [n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org](mailto:n.bajwa@arkpioneer.org)

#### **4. Lost Property**

Please remember to label all of your child's items, we have a large number of unlabelled items in our lost property.

Lost property is on a trolley in the dining hall every day for pupils to check, if you think your child is missing an item, please remind them to check these items at break or lunch. There is, in particular, a surprising number of coats!

If items remain uncollected for longer than a term, we donate these items to charity. The next cut-off date is Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Jan, so please remind your child before then.

#### **5. Information on Scarlet Fever and Strep A**

We have been notified of one case of Scarlet Fever. The pupil was last in school on 4<sup>th</sup> January. Please see guidance and useful links below on signs & symptoms:

- [VIDEO: What is Group A Strep \(scarlet fever\) and do you need to worry? A video for parents from Dr Ranj](#)
- [Group A Strep - What you need to know: Blog](#)
- [The different symptoms of flu, RSV and Group A Strep / Scarlet Fever: Blog](#)

Kind regards  
Ms Ryan