

Weekly Parent Update

Dear parents/carers,

Great to see pupils back looking refreshed after the break, even those working hard on skis over the half term! Read about the ski trip, writer Jess Murrain's visit and sporting success last half term here:

<https://arkpioneer.org/news>

I look forward to seeing all year 9 parents here this evening and anyone that can join our Parent Forum next week Tuesday 6-6:45 is most welcome. The parent survey (which closes this Friday) results will be in and we'll discuss issues and actions. Hope to see you then!

Ms Ryan, Principal

Coming up
this week &
next week

- Wednesday 22nd February: Y9 Parents evening & GCSE Options Fair
- Friday 24th February: - Primary Badminton event @ Ark Pioneer
- Monday 27th February: Chromebooks in school for year 7, 8 and 9 pupils
- Tuesday 28th February: Parent Forum at 6pm on site
- Thursday 2nd March: Industrial Action

Parent Forum Tuesday 28th February at 6pm

Please note we have adjusted the date of the Parent Forum to avoid the clash with Y9 full Parents Evening. We welcome all parents to come along – well discuss the survey results, proposed actions and school events coming up. We aim to finish by 6:45pm.

Please fill in the form here: <https://forms.office.com/e/ciEzL49P9K>

Industrial Action – likely school closure on Thursday 2nd March

Due to the significant number of our staff likely to be participating in this action on Thursday 2nd March, we anticipate school will be closed. Pupils will be shared virtual work to complete on their chromebook. Should there be any change to this we will let parents know as soon as possible.

Should school be closed, we will have capacity onsite for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. We will get in touch with specific parents in relation to this provision. However, if you believe your child falls into the **critical workers' category** and **you require them to be onsite learning**, please complete: <https://forms.office.com/e/krgoqbUaCy>

Chromebooks in School – Year 7, 8 and 9 on Monday 27th February

We ask that pupils bring in their Chromebooks on Monday 27th February fully charged to help complete their Unifrog sign up. This is a powerful online platform that help guides pupils in their post GCSE destinations. We look forward to sharing more information with pupils on this soon.

Vaping – Raising awareness of the risk

We wanted to re-share our concern on the risk of vaping to our pupils. This [BBC article](#) is a useful summary.

It is important to note that vapes are amongst **banned items** at school and there are serious consequences should a child bring a vape on site. Please do get in touch if you have any queries via your child's tutor or via info@arkpioneer.org

Reminder item: Term Dates 2023-24

Here are the [term dates agreed for 2023-24](#). You will notice we have set out as a text version and there is also a one page downloadable calendar.

Please use these dates to inform holiday booking. See below for reminders on our attendance policy relating to any days absence adjacent to holidays.

Quick links	Curriculum Booklets & subject information	Form for reporting absence	Menu pricing, free school meals	All previous parent updates	News & pictures	School Policies
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