

Weekly Parent Update

Dear parents/carers,

As we near the end of our second assessment week, we're pleased to see pupils working hard across the board to demonstrate their learning. Next week, we'll share parent reports detailing their progress and our spring newsletter celebrating events through this term. We hope you can get involved in any of the community events next week, whether watching Celebration Assembly or joining us in person for the cake sale or quiz. Year 7 & 8 parents can also see details below on signing up for parents evening after the break.

Ms Ryan, Principal

Coming up this week & next week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday 23rd March – First Give Final Y8 (see below) - Thursday 23rd– Pillar Day (Learning/First Aid/Options/Work experience) Chromebooks required in school - Monday 27th March – Easter bake off Year 7 competing - Tuesday 28th March - GROW Farm Rewards Trip – nominated pupils - Tuesday 28th March - Ark Music Scholarship Showcase Event - Wednesday 29th – Non-uniform day & cake sale – fundraising for minibus - Thursday 30th March - Y9 Trip to Globe Theatre - Thursday 30th March – Family Quiz – arrive from 5:30 (sign up below) - Friday 31st March Celebration Assemblies. Last day of term - all pupils finish at 2pm
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Y8 Parents evening & First Give Social Action evening - Parent Sign up

We are looking forward to meeting Year 8 parents as part of parents evening on Thursday 20th April from 4:30pm – 8:00pm. To sign up to the event, parents can [book an arrival slot here](#).

Please note that:

- This slot is a window for your arrival and not an estimate on how long the event will run – parents can stay later if they wish
- Arrival slots will be removed from the booking form when the allocation has been reached; we ask that parents keep to their planned arrival slot to help with the planning of the event
- Parents arriving in the final window are unlikely to be able to meet all subject teachers as the event will finish at 8pm
- Pupils should be in attendance; it is not compulsory to wear uniform

As part of the evening, parents/carers and pupils can hear more about the **year 8 experience** through the **First Give Social action project**, where pupils have campaigned and fundraised for 6 key charities.

There will also be tea and coffee and the opportunity for parents to chat informally. We look forward to seeing you there.

Y7 Parents evening & France Trip Information evening - Parent Sign up

Y7 Parents evening will be on Thursday 27th April. It will be great to meet all parents and pupils together from 4:30pm – 8:00pm. We ask that all parents [book an arrival slot here](#).

Ms Rolle, Head of MFL will host an **information area** for year 7 parents relating to the **Residential Trip to the Opal Coast, France**. This is an opportunity to hear more about the trip and to ask any questions you have. We are delighted to have almost 80% of the year group heading abroad in July!

Immunisations - Y9 (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio and Meningococcal vaccinations)

The NHS School Immunisation team will be here on 21st April (first week after Easter) to administer the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio and Meningococcal vaccinations for Year 9s. Parents need to complete consent online if they wish their child to be vaccinated – please see the letter [here](#).

First Give Final - watch it live this Thursday 23rd (Y8 Parents)

The First Give final will take place this Thursday 23rd March at 2:25pm
All year 8 parents are welcome to watch the presentations & judging live online [here](#)

Pillar Day: Thursday 23rd - Chromebooks Required

Thursday will be our Pillar Day where pupils will be covering a variety of content including digital literacy, learning to learn in Y7, interview skills in Y9 and first aid in Y10. To help with getting the most from the day we ask that pupils bring in their fully charged Chromebook on Thursday 23rd.

Community events: Cake sale Wednesday 29th & Family Quiz Thursday 30th

We will have a non-uniform day coming up on **Wednesday 29th March** and we'll have a **cake sale** in the afternoon with parent volunteers helping sell at the end of the school day. If you're interested to help or you can contribute (drop off or send in with your child) please let Mrs Bajwa know.

We'll have a **Family Quiz on Thursday 30th March**. Doors from 5:30pm and quiz starts at 6:30pm. Tables of up to 6, mix of children and adults or all adults (but no tables with just children unaccompanied). You'll pay £10 to enter the team.

[To sign up click here](#) by Monday 27th March 9am Family Quiz (office.com)

Instrumental Music Lessons - Summer Term

There are a few spaces available for pupils to start having piano lessons or singing lessons from the start of the Summer term. Please email j.barnes@arkpioneer.org for more details.

Payments are now open on iPayImpact for Summer term lessons. Please ensure payment is made before the end of the Easter holidays. Lessons begin in the first week of the Summer term.

Celebration Assembly 31st March - watch online

Next week we will have two **celebration assemblies** to mark the end of the term

- You can watch the year 9 & 10 assembly at 8:30am [here](#) online
- You can watch the year 7 & 8 assembly at 1:10pm [here](#) online

School will finish at 2pm on the last day of term.

Year 8 Values & Character Curriculum Next half term - RSE

Next half term Y8 pupils will be covering some of the relationships and sex education (RSE) curriculum during their Values and Character sessions. All RSE sessions follow government guidelines and are pitched appropriately for year 8 pupils.

Topic to be covered include:

1. Healthy and unhealthy relationships.
2. Forms of abuse.
3. Self-worth.
4. Consent and appropriate use of technology (sexting).
5. Where to ask for help or advice

If you have any questions regarding the Values and Character curriculum please email Mr McCarville, Vice Principal at j.mccarville@arkpioneer.org

Oxford University opportunity- reminder item

We have an exciting opportunity for year 7 & 8 pupils at the start of the summer term. 50 pupils will have the opportunity to visit Christchurch College, Oxford University on Tuesday 25th April. This will involve an introduction to life at university, a tour of the campus, a Q&A with students and a lecture with a Professor from the college. As there are limited places on this trip, pupils interested in attending will need to write a formal letter of application addressed to Ms Ryan, to express their interest. This can be handed to Ms Conces or sent by email to c.conces@arkpioneer.org. The deadline for applications is Monday 27th March 9am.

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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