

Weekly Parent Update

Dear parents/carers,

The year 7 & 8 pupils who visited Oxford University yesterday had the delight of a tour, workshop and a fantastic lunch at the university – I enjoyed hearing one year 7 pupil's take on the day: 'I learnt so much about life at Oxford University. The lunch was great and it felt like I was eating in Harry Potter.' [See the pictures and read more here](#). We were also very proud of Alex in year 9 who spent a week with the National Youth Choir over Easter – [congratulations Alex](#). On that note, we have our Spring Music Concert on Wednesday 17th May. Thank you to parents getting involved to help with refreshments and we welcome everyone to attend from 6pm.

Due to Industrial action, we are closed tomorrow and Tuesday (normal school Friday 28th April). More on this below. Thank you again for your support and do get in touch with any questions.

Ms Ryan, Principal

Coming up this week & next week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Y7 & Y8 Individual UK Maths Challenge competition Wednesday 26th April - Industrial Action planned for Thursday 27th April – school closed As a result we have rescheduled Year 7 Parents evening – see below - Bank Holiday Monday 1st May - Industrial Action planned for Tuesday 2nd May– school closed - Year 9: GCSE Options Interviews during the school day: Wednesday 3rd – Friday 5th May - KS3 Badminton Championships - Thursday 4th May - Y8 Barnet Athletics Championship - Stone X Stadium Thursday 4th May - Library Leaders Reward Trip to Harry Potter World Friday 5th May
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Industrial action – school closure & Year 7 Parents evening rescheduled REMINDER

Unfortunately, due to planned industrial action we school will be closed both tomorrow Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. We know the difficulties this presents and thank our families for their support in this action. We will provide supervision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. [Please use this form if you have not previously signed up but need help on these dates](#). We will also be able to accommodate a group of Y10 pupils and have based this on those that need most support following spring assessment data – we have already contacted individual parents who this relates to.

This also means we need to reschedule the Year 7 Parents Evening due to take place on 27th April. We will hold it instead on **Thursday 25th May**. We hope this gives families time to arrange leave from work if needed to attend with their child. Arrival slots for the evening will be from 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 and we will finish approx. 8pm. [We ask that all parents sign up to a new arrival slot here](#).

End of year exams & resources for revision

We will email all pupils their **Assessment Information Booklets** from autumn & spring term again tomorrow. These include guidance on revision for all subjects to support independent work at home.

Parents, you can find the booklets here: [Subjects by year group | Ark Pioneer](#)

Pupils will receive a final summer term **Assessment Information Booklet** on the week beginning **15th May**.

End of year exams take place from 12th June. Pupils will also receive their **End of Year exam timetable** before the half term break.

Attendance & behaviour: Key policies and procedures

We wanted to reshare some key policies related to our positive school culture, saved on our website for access any time.

Our [Behaviour Policy](#) which outlines our core routines for learning and what a day in Pioneer looks like! We have a popular rewards-based behaviour system and *behaviour data shows pupils at Pioneer are 91% more likely to get a merit than a sanction!*

Our [Uniform Policy](#) – this has been updated to reflect all the ways in which we support any family that needs help with uniform, including second hand items we have available, discounted items for sale and also grants or support directly from school to purchase any uniform items. *If you have any items too small for your child we would love to have them, please bring to reception any time.*

Our [Attendance & Punctuality Policy](#) which outlines how we monitor and support pupils' attendance. 97% is a target for all pupils as we know attendance is one of the biggest drivers of pupil progress. *Ark Pioneer has recently won an award for being in the top 10% of all secondary schools nationally this year thanks to parents/carers working closely with our school pastoral team.*

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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