



June 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to share some key dates for the end of the school year as well as details about Discovery Week.

**Key dates this half term -**

<b>17<sup>th</sup> June – 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Predicted Grade exams
<b>1<sup>st</sup> July- 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Review Week
<b>5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Deadline for applications for Head Boy and Head Girl
<b>6<sup>th</sup> July – 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Discovery Week
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Parent-Tutor Day – Progression into Y13
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Brighton Reward Trip
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	End of Term

**Discovery Week –**

Discovery Week is six days in July where all students come off timetable to take part in a series of trips, workshops and seminars to prepare them to apply to a top university.

All students will attend an open day at a Russell Group university, visit a place of interest related to their chosen subject area and write the first draft of their personal statement with the support of subject specialists within the sixth form team.

The full programme for the week is shown below –

Date	Theme		Objectives
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What is university actually like?</b></i>	Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students to visit a RG university open day (KCL or Southampton)</li> </ul>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What university &amp; course should I choose?</b></i>	In school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on university trips</li> <li>Use Unifrog to create university shortlist</li> </ul>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What do I love about my chosen subject?</b></i>	Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit a museum/gallery/place of work relevant to chosen subject</li> <li>Gather inspiration and material for personal statement</li> </ul>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What other skills and interests could I discover?</b></i>	In school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover new skills &amp; interests from a menu of workshops and seminars</li> <li>Gather inspiration and material for personal statement</li> </ul>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What does an excellent UCAS statement look like?</b></i>	In school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on subject visits</li> <li>Review excellent personal statements</li> <li>Write first draft using Unifrog</li> </ul>
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	<i><b>What are my next steps for the summer?</b></i>	In school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on the week and next steps</li> <li>Acquire reading books for the summer</li> </ul>

### **Big Day out – Brighton Trip**

The trip to Brighton is a reward for all the students who have worked hard throughout their first year of sixth form, and particularly in this half term when they have been doing their exams and writing the first drafts of their personal statements.

In Brighton, the students will be given the freedom to explore one of the best cities in the UK with a team of teachers on hand to help them should they need it.

Please note that attendance on this trip is subject to students meeting the deadline for first drafts of their personal statement as well as meeting the expectations outlined in the Home School Agreement, including terms on attendance and behaviour.

### **Parent- Tutor Day – Progression into Y13**

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July, throughout Ark Academy we are devoting the day to meetings between parents, tutors and students. In sixth form, the focus of the meeting will be to receive your child's exam results and discuss their academic performance.

As previously stated, progression into Y13 is subject to attendance and attainment in the Predicted Grade exams therefore it is crucial you attend with your child to discuss their 'next steps'.

The day will run from 8.30am – 5pm with tutors holding meetings of approximately 20 minutes at a time of your convenience. There will be no lessons during the day and students are only expected to attend school for their pre-arranged meeting.

**Please ensure you book a meeting directly with your child's form tutor – their contact details are below.**

12 DeGrasse-Tyson	Ms Kimberley Rogers	k.rogers@arkacademy.org
12 Berners-Lee	Ms Charlotte Russell	c.russell@arkacademy.org
12 Johnson	Mr Nic Triantafilidis	n.triantafilidis@arkacademy.org
12 Jemison	Ms Maryan Salad	m.salad@arkacademy.org
12 Sharman	Mr Hassan Balal	h.balal@arkacademy.org
12 Attenborough	Mr Joseph Coward	j.coward@arkacademy.org

### **Next steps -**

The combined cost for the university visit and subject trip in Discovery Week, and the Brighton trip is **£30**. This is payable on ParentPay. The deadline for payments is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Please note:

- **There is a 50% subsidy available to students who claim the 16-19 bursary**
- **There is 50% subsidy available to students who are attending the Florence trip as they return halfway through the week**

If you have any queries or concerns regarding this payment or would like more information about the 16-19 bursary, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The permission slip should be returned to Miss Johnson by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Best Wishes,



Natasha Lewis Smith  
Head of Year 12