



Ark Academy Primary Newsletter

4th October 2016
Issue 4

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now in the midst of the first half of this Autumn term and, as always, I am amazed at how quickly the time goes by. I am so impressed with the attitudes and enthusiasm of the children in their lessons and both they, and the staff are working incredibly hard. Our recent monitoring visit was very successful and a testament to this; the team commented that “the children were engaged with genuine enthusiasm and vigour. The appetite for learning was high”. They were also very impressed with the children’s politeness and overall good levels of behaviour. We all have a lot to proud of and, as we all continue to work together, this will go from strength to strength throughout the year.

I would like to thank you all for your diligence in ensuring the children come to school looking so smart. As you are aware, the Senior Leadership Team have been monitoring uniform daily and chasing up any issues with uniform. As I observed the children coming in to school today, I was very impressed with their appearance. I would ask, however, that children are provided with the correct coat for the coming colder months. Coats need to be either plain black, navy blue, grey or red. Some children have come to school wearing hoodies recently and these are not acceptable.

Can I also remind parents who drive to school that the zig zag markings outside of the school are an instruction not to park in that area. We still have one or two parents who insist on pulling up and waiting on this non parking zone. As I have said before, these marking exist to keep the immediate area outside of the school clear to ensure both the safety of the children and their families coming and going at the beginning and end of each day. I have been in contact with the local community police officer and they have assured me that they will be keeping a close eye on this issue in the coming weeks and months and following up with anyone who continue to park in this area. Your support is greatly appreciated and necessary.

A reminder to Year 6 parents that the secondary school are holding open mornings this week, with the final one on Wednesday 5th October. There will be an Open Evening on Thursday 6th October starting at 5.30pm. This is the perfect opportunity for you to visit the school with your child and see the school in action. It is an excellent evening and a real confirmation of the outstanding provision that exists at Ark Academy. I firmly encourage you to take this opportunity in order to support your decision regarding your child’s next school.

Please be reminded that we have a staff training day on 14th November 2016. This replaces the previously advertised date of Monday 31st October 2016. All Primary children are expected to be in school on this date, immediately following the half term holiday, although secondary will remain closed for their staff to train on this day.

Hope you all have a lovely week,

Ian Doswell
Headteacher

Parent Consultation Evenings will be taking place on the evenings of Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th October 2016. This is an ideal opportunity to meet with your child’s class teacher and gain a good understanding of their current attain, progress and attitudes in the learning. Letters will be sent home early next week so that you can book a suitable appointment time.

I am very pleased to welcome Miss Brownlee back to the school as our Nursery Teacher. Sadly, Miss Louis had to leave the school due to unforeseen circumstances and we have been able to secure Miss Brownlee’s expertise for the foreseeable future. As many of you will remember, Miss Brownlee left us in July in readiness for her return to New Zealand. Luckily for us, her plans have changed and we are really pleased that she is back with us.

Key Dates

Tuesday 4th October: Year 1 Science Workshop

Wednesday 5th October: Year 6 to 7 open morning 9.00am

Wednesday 5th October: Year 6 African Masks workshop

Thursday 6th October: Year 6 to 7 open evening 5pm—8.30pm

Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th October: Parents Evening

Monday 24th—Friday 28th October: Half term

Monday 31st October: Deadline for Secondary School applications

Monday 14th November: Training day—school closed to children

Please be reminded that general safeguarding information can be found on our school website under the policies section. The Child protection officer for the Primary school is Ian Doswell, or Peter Watkins in his absence. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of any child in our community please do not hesitate to contact them.

CORE VALUE AWARDS — 30th September

Pythagoras	Rayan	Alishba	Anush	Azaan
Flannery	Flavius	David	Aariah	Ruby
Escher	Ayah	Pranali	Abdulnafi	Yousef
Da Vinci	Norman	Sami	Muhammad	Jahvarn / Abigail
Fibonacci	Zakariya	Myriam	Yvonne	Shaurya
Archimedes	Ibenna	Sasha	Calvin	Tayvon
Euler	Daniel	Amina	Dario	Isma Daisy
Pascal	Zion	Zayn	Henna	Kush
Farley	Haroon	Nikolas	Alishba	Nkechi
Devi	Simeon	Walid	Temi	Kavya
Copernicus	Dylan	Jermaine	Sunshine	Tanishka
Galileo	Shathuryan	Jennell	Ghofran	Omar
Headteacher Award	Cleo			

Flu Vaccinations

Children in Year 1, 2 and 3 are being offered a nasal flu vaccination on the 7th December. All the children this affects will have received letters about the immunisation. Please can parents return the letter by **7th October** even if they do not want their child to have the vaccination.

Music lessons

This year we are offering music lessons for children in Year 4, 5 and 6 only. Lessons will start after the half term. If you have sent the letter back wanting your child to have lessons, you should have received a text last week confirming your child's place. Payment needs to be made via Parentpay. The deadline for payment is the **7th October** to ensure your child does not lose their place. Any queries please speak to Mrs Menia in the office.



YEAR 4 VIKING WORKSHOP



On one of our activities I went to the table where you do the letter of the start of your name in red, blue and yellow in any way you like and for the rest of your name in black.

My favourite activity is the wax. First you have to dip, dip, dip, dip three times and then it's the next person's turn. You have to stop when the string get thick.

Shagira Pascal