



Ark Greenwiche Free School

Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday 26th June 2020

*“There is sufficient evidence that this school could now be judged **OUTSTANDING**”
(Ofsted, 2020)*

Message from the Headteacher

Parental involvement in a child’s schooling up to the age of 16 is a powerful force which is strongly linked to educational achievement.

(Department for Education)

Dear Parents/Carers,

I was delighted to hear the Prime Minister’s announcement last Friday that **all children in all year groups will be returning to full-time education in September**. We know our remote learning strategy has put our scholars in a stronger position than most. Nevertheless, nothing can compare to the learning experience of an actual AGFS classroom. When we return, there will be important work to do around wellbeing and academic catch up. But with your continued support, we are well placed to meet this need. I will write to you with further arrangements for September before the end of term.

In typical AGFS fashion, **scholars have dealt superbly with the challenge of online examinations this week**. Attendance has been exemplary, and the quality of work is remarkably strong. Thank you for your brilliant support with this and we look forward to providing feedback to scholars and parents over the coming weeks.

Thank you to nearly 200 parents who completed the annual parent survey earlier this month. Your feedback is invaluable as we seek to make further progress next academic year. Parents responded particularly positively on aspects of the survey relating to student happiness, safety, extracurricular activities, rewards, academic progress and challenge, homework, aspirations and careers, and behaviour and school leadership. 98% of parents reported that the school has a good reputation in the local community. 93% of parents responded positively to the question on school communication which represents a 32% improvement since 2018.

Facilitating exceptional communications with parents is an extremely important component of a great school. We know that **parental involvement in a child’s education up to the age of 16 is key in driving educational achievement**. This lockdown period has served to remind me just what an asset our parents are and, as we move forward, I will be seeking to further unlock the full potential of our parent body accordingly.

Finally, we have welcomed several tutor groups back to school this week for strategy meetings and look forward to receiving further groups next week:

8H & 9H	13:50 - Wednesday 1 st July
11S	15:30 - Thursday 2 nd July
11W	10:00 – Friday 3 rd July

Thank you, as always, for your wonderful support.

Rhys Spiers, Headteacher

Upcoming Dates

Monday 22nd June—3rd July, End of Year assessments
further information has been sent to all parents.

Wednesday 1st July 1:50-2:50pm – 8H & 9H Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 8H and 9H parents.

Thursday 2nd July 3:30-4:30pm – 11S Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 11S parents.

Friday 3rd July 10:00-11:00am – 11W Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 11W parents.

Monday 6th July 10:00-11:00am – 8N & 9N Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 8N and 9N parents.

Tuesday 7th July 10:00-11:00am – 8S & 9S Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 8S and 9S parents.

Wednesday 8th July 1:50-2:50pm – 8W & 9W Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 8W and 9W parents.

Thursday 9th July 4:00-5:00pm – 10H & 10N Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 10H and 10N parents.

Friday 10th July 4:00-5:00pm – 10S & 10W Strategic Planning Meeting
information has been sent to all 10S and 10W parents.

Friday 17th July, Last Day of School, early closure at 12:30pm

Congratulations to the
'Students of the Week' for
their great participation
online and on homework.
Well done!

1	Tarun Murley
2	Kasper Krawczyk
3	Ciara Odunjo
4	Scarlett West
5	Stephanie Mason
6	Bradley Vuong
7	Kiera Walsh
8	Roma Ghool
9	Jonathan Nkenge
10	Success Morrison

Worried you missed an important message from the school?
Deleted a message too soon and need that info back? Don't
worry– we keep all communications saved on our website at
the following links:

[Year 7 and 11 Transitions](#)

[Years 8–10 Communications](#)

Great Resources for All

BBC Bitesize Resources for learning from home are created
by teachers and other educational experts, featuring a mix of
videos, animations, practice activities, quizzes, and games.
Access the site free at: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/
dailylessons/](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons/)

Oak National Academy provides a sequenced plan of video
lessons and curricular resources to use flexibly, to
complement existing teaching and planning. This is another
excellent resource available to parents for free at:

[https://www.thenational.academy/information-for-parents-
pupils](https://www.thenational.academy/information-for-parents-pupils)

Uniform Orders for September

Our uniform providers have updated their website with an easy to use, mobile friendly website allowing you to simply order online. There is a click and collect and a delayed payment options too. Go straight to the AGFS Uniform page via: <https://khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/school/greenwich-free-school/>. Please note, we have taken the decision to cancel the onsite store at AGFS this summer.

Want to try on in store? The new Crayford Shop is now open with ample parking. Location details below:

Khalsa Schoolwear
Crayford Store
Unit 1, Crayford Commercial Centre,
Greyhound Way,
Crayford, DA1 4HF

Year 7 Stationery Orders Due July 1st

Should you wish to order stationery through the school for your incoming year 7 student, this will need to be completed and paid for by 1st July 2020, so the packs can be given directly to students on the first day in September. Please complete the attached order form with the payment of £15 into our school bank account below and return the order form via email to info@arkgreenwich.org:

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Account: Ark Greenwich Free School

Sort code: 30-92-45

Account number: 55525468

Mace – Design a health centre contest

Who: KS3-5 students

What: You have been appointed as architect by Mace, an international consultancy and architecture firm, to design a new health centre in a small town in the UK. The health centre is next to the park, where there is plenty of green space and has a bus stop and cycle pathway next to it. The only requirements you have been given by the local Council are that it must be welcoming and accessible to everyone and should be able to accommodate six consultation rooms, reception, toilets and a waiting room. The rest is entirely up to you. You must provide a design for the health centre, created by hand or using Google Sketchup, a programme that is used by students and professionals in building design.

Find out more: Please see the PDF attached. **Closing date Friday 24 July, 5pm**

Should your child or family be on the vulnerable list or be shielding due to symptoms or living with someone in the vulnerable category, please make us aware by contacting reception at info@arkgreenwich.org.

J.P. Morgan Hosts Free Online Sessions

J.P. Morgan's Emerging Talent team are running fantastic digital learning sessions that will provide tips on 'How could we be more resilient?' to 'CV and Interview Practice' and much more. Register your interest as soon as possible by clicking the links below:

<p>Financial Markets Uncovered</p> <p>Date: 29th June 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://event.on24.com/Financial Markets uncovered</p>	<p>Technology at J.P. Morgan</p> <p>Date: 27th July 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://event.on24.com/Technology at J.P.</p>
<p>Hear from our Junior Talent: The Inside Story from our Apprentices & Graduates</p> <p>Date: 6th July 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://event.on24.com/Hear from our Junior talent</p>	<p>How Can We Be More Resilient?</p> <p>Date: 20th July 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://event.on24.com/How can we be more resilient</p>
<p>Excel Training</p> <p>Date: 13th July 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/Excel Training</p>	<p>J.P. Morgan Next Steps</p> <p>Date: 3rd August 2020 at 4pm BST</p> <p>Registration link: https://event.on24.com/J.P. Morgan Next Steps</p>

LSEC Virtual Tour

London South East Colleges is holding a host of events online. The events will cover a range of vocational courses for 16-18s, apprenticeships and traineeships as well as higher education courses offered by our University Centre. LSEC staff will be on hand to answer any questions students may have about their courses, student support and student life. Students will also be able to meet tutors. Full details can be found on Show My Homework.

Online University Open Days

Who: All year groups are invited to participate in the below online university open days.

Find out more at:

- [University of Sheffield - 27/6 and 11/7](#)
- [Cambridge Open Days 2/7 & 3/7](#)

[Year 11s, Post–16 at North Kent College](#)

Scholars in Y11, currently undertaking research into their post 16 progression, may wish to take a virtual campus tour of North Kent College. This is an excellent opportunity for scholars to explore what this facility has to offer in KS5, including the courses available and their entry requirements. Virtual campus tours are available up until the 30th June. To join in with this virtual open event tour follow the link here: <https://www.northkent.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/142/virtual-campus-tour->

[Brunel University: 'GetUReady' programme](#)

Wed 3 June – Wed 22 July, 11:00 - 15:00

Who: KS3 – KS5

What: We're running a series of live online, interactive sessions to help students develop their study skills and prepare for university life. We'll have sample undergraduate-level lectures from leading academics.

Find out more: <https://www.brunel.ac.uk/study/get-u-ready>

[Year 11 to 12 Transitional Resources](#)

Resources for a wide variety of A level subjects are now posted for Y11 students in the transitions section of our website. To see those materials, visit: <https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/admissions/transition-communication-years-7-and-11>

[Virtual School with CTK for year 11s](#)

Christ the King have set up a [Year 11 Virtual School](#), that has a number of resources to support year 11 students with their transition to post-16 study and includes the following:

- Transition booklets for all the subjects offered at Christ the King Sixth Forms which includes activities for students to complete, online and reading resources to help students prepare for their post-16 studies.
- A Free careers download activity pack which students can access and work on.
- CTK Year 11 Careers Hotline, is proving popular so if students need any impartial advice the CTK Team are here to help at this difficult time.

Here you will find transition booklets for all our subjects, to help you prepare for your post-16 studies. You can also download a free careers guide with activities and tips to help you find out more about your options after school. Their careers advisors are ready to help and give you specialised careers advice, please contact them on careers@ctksfc.ac.uk if you need any careers support.

If you have already applied to a place at Christ the King Sixth Forms, or wish to apply and have questions please see our FAQ [here](#).

Y11 Work Experience – Update

Following the Y11 Assembly on Monday 15th June please find below the details on how AGFS can support you in your WEX placements.

Covid-19 pandemic and the need to close schools and businesses, understandable this has had an impact on students searching and securing their WEX placements for September 2020. AGFS, by law, are committed to providing Y11 students with a WEX placement before they leave in July 2021. Therefore, AGFS are able to open up additional dates for students to complete their WEX placement with providers.

Students need to follow either process 1 or process 2 below:

Process 1 - Already secured your placement prior to lockdown

- 1) If you secured your placement prior to lockdown, students now need to contact their provider and confirm they are still able to attend the placement during 1st - 4th September 2020.
- 2) If the provider is unable to provide the placement during September, ask if they can accommodate during the additional dates available (see dates below)
- 3) If the provider is unable to provide the placement on any of the dates available, students will need to actively research for a new provider and follow process 2 (see below)
- 4) Notify Mrs Neville of any changes to your original placement via the Connect Placement App so this placement can be verified by AGFS..

Process 2 - Not secured a placement prior to or during lockdown

- 1) Actively search for providers in your area/chosen field to secure your placement with them, ideally for 1st - 4th September 2020.
- 2) If the provider is unable to accommodate your placement during September, ask them if they can provide this during the other dates available (see dates below)
- 3) Once you have secured your placement add the details to the Connect Placement App so this placement can be verified by AGFS.

WEX Dates Available for placements during Academic Year 2020-21:

- September - 1st - 4th September 2020
- October Half Term - 26th -30th October 2020
- December Half Term - 21st - 24th December or 28th - 31st December 2020
- February Half Term - 15th - 19th February 2021

If you are successful in securing a placement, please upload the details onto the Connect Placement App so Mrs Neville can verify this for you. The employer may even ask to conduct an interview over the phone to help secure the placement. **Note: Any placements secured during term time will NOT be authorised by AGFS, with the exception of the September 2020 dates.**

We are also offering Virtual WEX placements between 17th - 21st August 2020 and further details will be issued soon on how to sign up for this.

Attachments from Today's Bulletin

Please see your attachments via email/Xpressions app to see further resources from today's bulletin. This includes information about:

- Stationery purchase order form
- Mace design contest brief