



Ark Greenwiche Free School

Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday 18th September 2020

*“There is sufficient evidence that this school could now be judged **OUTSTANDING**”*

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

To reward scholars for the exceptional start they have made to the new academic year we brought in the ice-cream van this week! It was a delight to see so many surprised and happy faces, many with stained blue lips by the end of lunchtime.

Standards have never been higher at school. Scholars continue to treat each other with care and respect by diligently observing the new routines. Our revamped character programme, including family dining and public speaking, is helping scholars grow in confidence and self-belief. Scholars are mastering core knowledge by achieving at least 80% in their independent learning tasks and this is laying the foundations for exponential academic progress across the curriculum.

Due to the current restrictions, we are unable to host live open events at school this year. Our new school video is designed to provide an insight into life at AGFS:
<https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/>. I hope you enjoy it.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Mr Spiers, Headteacher

Key Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 23rd September, Online Open Evening Q&A session 18:00-19:00
register at: <https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/news/open-events-2020>

Thursday 24th September, Online Open Evening Q&A session 18:00-19:00
register at: <https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/news/open-events-2020>

***Wednesday 30th September, Online SEND Info Evening 17:15-18:00, sign up at: <https://forms.gle/4N4eqL9CuiniC81T8>**

***Wednesday 30th September, Online GCSE Info Evening 18:00-19:00, sign up at: <https://forms.gle/Rdc1TCciw7nyhbQeA>**

*** please note these dates have been altered from last week's bulletin.**

Scholar Detentions and Interventions

Detentions and Interventions are set to help scholars reflect and improve on mistakes made. Notifications of scholar detentions and academic interventions are sent via email not via text. Parents need to ensure they check email communications daily. Please check your spam/junk folder to avoid missing communications. Please note communication requests for details regarding detentions must come to school reception via info@arkgreenwich.org or by phone.

Congratulations to the 'Students of the Week' for showing their commitment to our school values!

1	Lucy Hickey, 11S
2	Asher Clarke, 11H
1	Andres Zacchi, 10S
2	David Constantin, 10W
1	David Adekunle, 9S
2	Amidat Oshikoya, 9N
1	Henry Phipps, 8H
2	Tobi Fashola, 8H
1	Martins Stutins, 7S
2	Tenzing Sherpa, 7s

The Importance of A Healthy Lunch

It is vital that all of our scholars are able to eat a healthy and filling lunch to ensure that they remain well and are able to engage fully with the lessons each day. We have spoken to all scholars about the importance of eating at lunchtime and we ask that you affirm that message at home. Some scholars are not eating during lunch break, and we will be ensuring we contact parents to inform you if we notice your child has not eaten.

Please ensure that your child has either a packed lunch, or money on their account each day.

Accounts can be topped up via WisePay or cash. If you wish to apply for free school meals visit the Borough's website at <https://tinyurl.com/y5cftp6k>.

As a reminder, Y10 and 11 scholars may bring a piece of fruit or cereal bar to school to eat in their zoned area in the canteen.

All scholars should come to school with a filled water bottle so they can stay hydrated throughout the day.

Barcelona Refunds to Collect

We are happy to report that we are now able to reimburse families for the cancelled Barcelona trip earlier this spring. Please send your child's name, your name, bank sort code and account number to finance@arkgreenwich.org and they will start processing your refund.

Free Webinar on Independent Learning

Elevate Education is hosting the first webinar of this year's series on Tuesday 22nd September at 6pm. **The webinar series is completely free for our parents and carers.**

The session will be focused on setting scholars up for the coming academic year and independent learning skills. It will be a forty-minute presentation followed by Q&A to address parent questions.

Details of the event are as follows:

Title: Independent Learning
Date: Tuesday 22nd September
Time: 6:00 – 7:00pm
Cost: Free

Sign up link: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register/>

Medication

Parents must make us aware if their child has a medical condition. Any scholars who take medication must bring in a spare medication, a copy of their prescription and instructions for use to hold on site. Scholars are **not** permitted to carry medication on them unless it is their spare epi-pen or asthma pump. You must inform reception if a scholar needs to carry either one of these by emailing info@arkgreenwich.org.



Reminders for Travel to School

All scholars are **strongly** advised to walk or cycle to school. Those that must catch a bus should check the [TFL website for school bus services only](#). Your child should arrive between 7.45am-8.20am and no earlier or later. For all scholars over the age of 11, wearing a face mask on public transport is required. Staff on duty at bus stops will ensure scholars get on with their face mask.



Reminder of Covid Symptoms

The symptoms of Covid 19 include a high temperature, persistent new dry cough and loss of smell or taste. These are the symptoms you should be looking out for and seek assistance from 111 if needed.

Other symptoms reported are not classed to require isolating or quarantining.

Online Events with PwC for Year 11

PwC has two great online events coming up this month we'd like to share with you. These events are excellent to get more information on should you be interested in Accounting or Technology at a Big 4 Firm.

Get into Accounting with PwC:

- 29th September, 4pm - 5pm
- Careers in Accounting (workshops, Q&A + an overview of PwC opportunities)
- What it's like working for a Big 4 firm
- Parents and guardians are also welcome to join

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H2C65G8>

Get into Technology with PwC:

- 30th September, 4pm - 5pm
- Careers in Technology (workshops, Q&A + an overview of PwC opportunities)
- Cyber security, AI, robotics and all things tech!
- What it's like working for a Big 4 firm
- Parents and guardians are also welcome to join

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HJJSDMV>

Virtual WEX Placements in Oct. Half Term Available to Y10-11

Speakers for Schools - Experience have just added some new virtual work experience opportunities and are looking for scholars to apply. Apply as soon as possible to give yourself the best chance of securing high quality work experience at a top employer and a boost to your future career aspirations.

What opportunities are on offer? For a full list of placements - [sign in here to search and apply](#).

- [LONDON STUDENTS VWEX: Work with an International Construction and Engineering Organisation](#)
- [VWEX: Virtual Work Experience for Y10 and Y11 within Tesco`s Property Department](#)
- [UKNA :Spend three days with national arts organisation, UK New Artists, gain a Bronze Arts Award](#)
- [WE Evolve, One week Work Experience with Santander - Online](#)

Application Deadline: 2nd October 2020, must be Age 14+

If you have any questions about the process, have forgotten your login details or would like a quick chat about the programme, please get in touch with experience@speakersforschools.org or call 02075 493 669 and the team will be more than happy to help.

Exciting Opportunity for Y11 students and Parents

Join us for the Ark Apprenticeships Expo!

Interested in an apprenticeship? Not sure if an apprenticeship is for you? Join the Apprenticeships Expo, a series of interactive webinars from some of the UK's top apprenticeship employers. You'll hear from apprentices and employers about what apprenticeships are out there, what it's really like to do an apprenticeship and how you/your child can secure your place on an apprenticeship.

Ark are hosting a virtual apprenticeship expo where students or parents can hear from leading apprenticeship employers about

Tech, Digital, and Media Apprenticeships on Tuesday 6th Oct, 3.30pm

Health, Science and Society Apprenticeships on Wednesday 7th Oct, 3.30pm

Business and Finance Apprenticeships on Thursday 8th Oct, 3.30pm.

Email your Careers Lead Ms Neville, ineville@arkgreenwich.org, asking to be added to the register by Tuesday 29th September 2020 to secure your place. We'll send you an apprenticeships resource pack and the webinar links.

'The Expo was great and I believe this is one of the best opportunities available for students to attend!' Ark student, 2019

Work Experience Opportunities – Y10 and Y11 Students

We are pleased to announce, in conjunction with InvestInEducation, the most ambitious schedule ever of career experience programmes for this term, with some exciting new initiatives, including:

- 8 x brand new industries
- 9 x online internships during half-term
- 10 x flagship Summer Internships

And much more...

All autumn term programmes will be delivered 'Live Online'.

Full details of the programmes available can be found here <https://tinyurl.com/InvestInEducationWEX> where you can also register for a place.

Please note that WEX placements can only take place during the following dates/times. AGFS will NOT authorise any placements found that take place during the school term.

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

- 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

School Communications

Don't miss out on communications coming from AGFS! All school emails are saved [here](#). To make sure you never miss a notification, sign up to our free Xpressions App. More details are attached to this bulletin. Please note, text replies to school messages go unmonitored. Please communicate with the school via the normal channels at 02083193692 or at info@arkgreenwich.org. Also follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter at:



@ArkGreenwich



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