



Ark Greenwich Free School

Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday 16th October 2020

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

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Wednesday afternoon I was lucky enough to be able to spend time in some wonderful enrichment sessions where KS3 scholars were enjoying a range of activities. Our astronomy club were challenging Mr Fuller by asking questions about why it appears some galaxies are travelling faster than the speed of light, a group of dance scholars were polishing their routine while displaying exuberant smiles, the mindfulness group were using a technique called mirroring to become more in touch with their partner and our new debating club were practicing the etiquette of arguing who should remain in the hot air balloon! This was just a taste of the diverse range of activities on offer through our enrichment programme and a timely reminder on why this offer is so valuable to our scholars.

As next week is the final week of the autumn 1 term, scholars will enjoy a variety of exciting drop down (activity) days. These events are designed to bring further breadth to our curriculum and enhance cultural opportunities for our scholars. Our focus in the first two days will be inclusion and diversity. The Year 11 reward scheme was relaunched this week to ensure that this year group are experiencing the daily rewards that they so richly deserve as they begin the mock exam period on Monday. I'm really proud of the extra opportunities AGFS scholars receive beyond the classroom and the impact this is having on them.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Mr Spiers, Headteacher

Key Upcoming Dates

Monday 19th October— 13th November, Year 11 Mock Exams

Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October — Drop Down Days *details have been sent to all parents and carers.*

Monday 26th— Friday 30th October, Half Term Break , *please check with your child what independent learning they need to complete over half-term break.*

Details for our return to school will be sent on October 27th at 6:00pm

Wisepay Data Breach

Due to the recent data breach at Wisepay, all passwords for the Wisepay system have been reset. In order to gain access to your accounts, you will need to request a password reset. Please read the attached letter from Wisepay, and follow the link [here](#) for details on how to reset your password and request more information from Wisepay.



Parking Enforcement

The issue of parents and carers parking, dropping off, and picking up children from the entrance/exit of the Royal Herbert Pavilion building parallel with the school has been raised again from the Pavilion's management and a Greenwich MP. We kindly ask that you respect our neighbours and do not drop off or pick up in these areas, as they are private property. Please find an alternative location to do so. Thank you for your cooperation. Further guidance on visiting AGFS is here: https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/sites/default/files/Advanced%20Visitor%20information%20-%20Getting%20to%20AGFS_o.pdf



Weekly Assembly Reminder

Each week scholars have two assemblies, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Please note scholars may return home slightly later on assembly days, or if they are taking part in an intervention or detention. Please see the schedule of assemblies below:

Assembly	AM	PM
Monday	Y7	Y11
Tuesday	Y8	Y10
Wednesday	Y9	Y7
Thursday	Y10	Y8
Friday	Y11	Y9

Dismissal is from 4:00-4:30pm Monday -Wednesday and 3:00-3:30pm Thursday and Friday.

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



1	Youcef Lerari, 7N
2	Emi Semere, 7N
1	John Adejumo, 8N
2	Jemiel Robange, 8H
1	Fejiro Okonedo, 9N
2	Cameron Beaver, 9N
1	Rukky Onakpovhie, 10H
2	Elma Ngua, 10W
1	Aron Schmidt, 11N
2	Bryan Queant, 11H



Diversity and Equality Focus of DDDs

During the final two days of term next week (Thursday and Friday the 22nd and 23rd October), we'll be going off time table and our years 7-10 will be participating in workshops and activities where the focus will be equality and diversity.

We are determined that this topic will continue to form an integral part of our curriculum offer, as it flows through our scholars' daily lives at AGFS.

Scholars will be looking at these topics from a range of perspectives next week. We encourage you to speak with your child about these events, and how diversity and equality plays a role in their everyday lives.

We look forward to continuing this important conversation throughout the year with our scholars.

Lillie Kershaw Takes on Competition

Lillie Kershaw, 8W, has been riding horses since she was a little girl. Lillie competes in show jumping and cross country. She's done exceedingly well in the show jumping circuit recently, and her goal is to one day join the Kings Troop Royal Horse Artillery.

We're so proud of Lillie's hard-work and dedication to her sport. We wish her the best of luck as she moves towards her goals.

If you'd like to share your child's successes with our school community, please send details and a photo to Ms Linn at jlinn@arkgreenwich.org.



Y9 and 10 Career Meetings

Beginning this week AGFS will be facilitating one-to-one careers meetings for all pupils in Years 9 and 10. These meetings are in preparation for Y9 GCSE options and Y10 Post 16 Progression choices. Both year groups will meet with a qualified careers advisor. Careers meetings are compulsory for all Year 9 and 10 scholars.

This initiative is part of the new Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEAIG) programme which will see AGFS collaborating with employers to enrich our students' careers education. We are committed to ensuring that our scholars receive sound careers advice and that their future aspirations are sky high.

At the core of this schools' mission is a commitment for every child to go on to university or post-16 provision so they may expand their life's possibilities. We endeavour to further instil the value of ambition through this experience. Our aim is for these interviews to provide a bespoke and personalised experience to give your child the careers information they need. We greatly look forward to supporting your child with this process. If you have any queries or require additional information, please do not hesitate to email our Careers Lead, Mrs Neville at lneville@arkgreenwich.org.

School Work During Absence

There may be occasions this term when a child is well enough to complete school work but, due to restrictions and advice linked to Covid-19, it is not advisable for them to attend school. In these cases, scholars must work independently so that they do not fall behind. Thanks to significant improvements nationally in the quality of remote provision, scholars can be supported with the topics they are studying in school through the *Oak National Academy*, *Greenshaw Learning Trust Online Curriculum*, *Seneca Learning* and *BBC Bitesize*.

If scholars can work at home, they should go to <https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/news/education-during-isolation> and download a 'work from home diary'. They should then follow their timetable, using the online platforms and the topic list to guide their learning. Scholars should list the work they have done for each subject on the diary and then parents should countersign this to check it has been completed. When scholars are well enough to return to school, they should present the work from home diary to their form tutor, who will sign it and store it. Golden tickets will be issued to scholars who show tenacity and endeavour while working from home.

If you have any questions about these arrangements, please contact Mr MacPherson (dmacpherson@arkgreenwich.org) in the first instance.

What to Do With Covid-19 Scenarios

We want our families to know what to do if they come into a scenario where they confront Covid-19. Please read below for such scenarios. To get a corona virus test visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. To inform the school always call reception or email info@arkgreenwich.org.

What to do if...	Action needed...	Return to School When...
...my child has COVID-19 symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Self-isolate the whole household - Get a COVID-19 test - Inform school immediately about the test result 	...the test comes back negative.
...my child tests positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Agree an earliest date for possible return. (Min 14 Days) - Self-isolate the whole household 	...they complete 14 days (min) isolation and feel well enough to attend.
...my child tests negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us - Discuss when your child can come back (same/next day) 	...the test comes back negative or your child is well enough to return.
... my child is ill with symptoms not linked to COVID-19 (runny nose and/or sore throat).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Check temperature and for symptoms of COVID-19 - If no COVID-19 symptoms, agree an earliest date for possible return 	...they feel better and have no signs of illness for 48 hours
...someone in my household tests positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Self-isolate the whole household - Household member to get a COVID-19 test - Inform school immediately about the test result 	...the child has completed 14 days quarantine.
..NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of someone with symptoms or confirmed COVID19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us -The student and household member must self - Isolate for 14 days 	...the child has completed 14 days quarantine.

COVID-19 Symptoms

The symptoms of Covid-19 include a high temperature, persistent new dry cough and loss of smell or taste. Scholars should isolate if they have any or only these symptoms. Seek assistance from 111 if needed. Other symptoms reported are not classed to require isolating or quarantining. If a member of your household has been asked to isolate due to coming into contact with a positive case—unless your child is showing symptoms themselves they must still come to school. [The most recent Government Guidance for parents is available via this link.](#)

Baseline Testing Complete

Thank you for supporting your child through the baseline period. We can confirm the Y7-10 baseline testing is now completed. We're now spending time reviewing the data and using it to refine our approach and practice. The data will mostly be used at a cohort level to check our provision. At an individual level, it will be used to provide bespoke intervention.

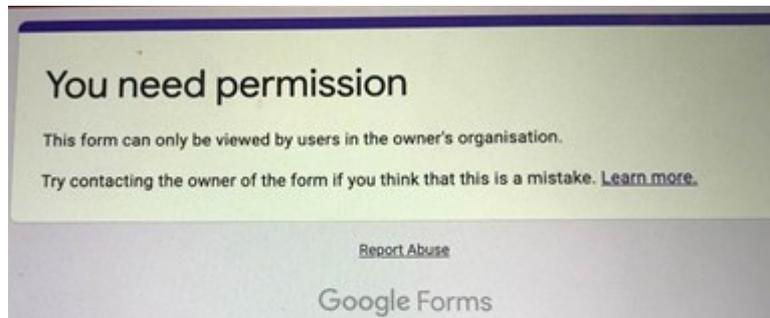
If you have any questions about this, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Scholar Independent Learning

Scholars each have stickers in their planners which details all their user and log in details for our Homework platforms.

Google Forms

Scholars are using Google forms to complete important prerequisite tests as part of their independent learning. Some scholars have received the below error message when they click on the link to the tests:



This is being caused by someone else being logged into Google Chrome.

Scholars and parents should always use Chrome when accessing SMHW, and to press this link if they come across this issue: <https://accounts.google.com/logout>

This will sign whoever is logged into Chrome out.

Students will then need to log into Chrome, by pressing this link:

<https://accounts.google.com/ServiceLogin?service=chromiumsync>

Scholars should log into Chrome using their school email address and password. This info is on the sticker in their planner.

FREE Virtual Post 16 Careers Fair— Y11 Students

Just because you can't attend a Careers Fair in person this autumn doesn't mean you have to miss out on exploring all your post-18 options!

Join on Wednesday 4th November from 12pm - 6pm for the UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair.

The event will feature over 80 universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers for an incredible event designed to support you from the safety of school or home. Universities will include Russell Group, Red Brick, Modern and Specialist institutions.

For more information about the event, [click here to open it in your browser](#). Students will need to register themselves for the event, to visit here <https://ukunisearch-london.vfairs.com/>

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:

- 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 communication 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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