

Friday 10th February

Dear Parents,

Next week is the final week of this half-term. Thank you for your support in what has been a busy seven weeks since the Christmas holidays.

Below I have shared some brief information and updates.

1. Earthquake in Türkiye and Syria

Pupils in the sixth form have asked to organise donations to support the rescue and relief efforts.

Next Friday will be a non-uniform day, with pupils encouraged to bring either a small cash donation or a small non-perishable donation for a local foodbank.

2. Early Finish

A reminder that next Friday pupils will be leaving school and starting the half-term holiday between 1130 and 1200.

3. Mock Exams

Year 11 and Year 13 pupils will finish their mock exams next Thursday. You can view the timetable for those mock exams [here](#).

Reports will be available to parents in Year 11 and Year 13 in the second week of March.

4. Industrial Action

The National Education Union has three upcoming dates for strike action. While plans are yet to be confirmed, it is likely that the school will be closed to some pupils on the following dates:

- Wednesday 1st March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

Once we know more about plans for industrial action, I will be back in touch.

5. Half-term Four

A reminder that after the half-term holiday, school will resume on Monday 27th February.

6. Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who has already taken the time to complete the parent survey. It will remain open to responses until the end of next week: <https://edurio.com/poll/TSaFdx>

7. Parent and Community Group

Our parent & community group is open at the moment to any parent with a child in Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9). Our group is informal and an opportunity to get to know other parents and learn more about your child's school experience.

There will be staff members present to answer any questions you may have, and we aim to have staff members who can translate for parents where Arabic, Urdu and Somali are their main language.

Session Topics

No.	Date	Session
1	12/01/2023	What does your child's school life look like?
2	26/01/2023	How to keep your child safe online
3	09/02/2023	Understanding young people's emotions and how we support your children at school
4	02/03/2023	Our Police School Partnership and how we work together to promote positive relationships with local police.
5	16/03/2023	Our Approach to Tackling Bullying at Ark St Albans Academy
6	20/04/2023	Supporting children to stay healthy
7	04/05/2023	Understanding Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and what school does to support these pupils.
8	18/05/2023	Why is school attendance important?
9	08/06/2023	How do we work with other services to support children and families?
10	22/06/2023	Understanding our school behaviour system and why it is important
11	29/06/2023	End of Year Celebration

What To Expect

Please aim to arrive for 09:15 where we will ask you to sign in at reception and a member of staff will show you to our community room. At around 09:30 we will introduce the topic of the week and open up the discussion with parents – answering any questions you may have.

The main session will end around 10:00 with the last 30 minutes available for discussions with staff and building new links with other parents.

8. Useful Links

- [Term Dates](#)
- [Exam Boards](#)
- [Curriculum Maps](#)
- [Latest News](#)
- [Contact Us](#)



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Principal