



Monday 10th October

Dear parents,

We have reached the penultimate week of the half-term. Last week was a busy week of sports fixtures which you can read more about in this [news item](#) on our website.

Below I have included information and updates to guide you through the week ahead.

As ever, if you have any specific questions, please get in touch via info@arkstalbans.org or contact your child's head of year using the contact details on the [Contact Us](#) page of our website.

1. Key Dates

A reminder that the [term dates](#) page on our website provides an overview of the year ahead.

In particular, please remember that the school will be closed to pupils on Friday 21st October for a teacher training day and that the following week is the half-term holiday.

2. Parent Events

Thank you to everyone who has attended one of our parent events so far this half-term. Below is a reminder of the events still to come:

Year Group	Date
Year 8	Wednesday 19 th October (4-5pm)
Year 9	Wednesday 12 th October (4-5pm)

3. Sixth Form Open Evening

On Thursday 3rd October between 4-5pm, we will be hosting Year 11 pupils and their families from schools across the city to share information with them about joining our sixth form next September. If you know of any families with children in Year 11 at another school who may be interested in joining our sixth form, please do encourage them to attend the open evening. More information is available on our [website](#).

4. Year 6 Applications

A reminder that Birmingham City Council's application window for secondary school places in September 2023 closes on Friday 28th October. If you know of any families with a child in Year 6, please do let them know.

More information is available on our [website](#).

5. Mobile Phones

I am grateful to those of you who have contributed to discussions in previous Parent Consultation Committee meetings about our approach to mobile phones. I can confirm that we will continue with our current policy that they must not be seen or heard on the school grounds and that if they are, they will be confiscated with a parent needing to attend to collect the phone for it to be returned.

6. Values

Regular attendees to Parent Consultation Committee meetings will also be aware that we are working towards establishing a new set of values for the school community.

We have worked with pupils and colleagues to create a selection of possible choices and you can share your preferences within different categories by [clicking here](#).

7. Useful Links

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

Kind regards,



Guy Rimmer
Principal

e: info@arkstalbans.org

t: 0121 446 1300