

26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting the school and all of the children in having a successful first week of the summer term.

It was a real joy to see pupils returning to school following the Easter holidays and to see our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils make a determined and focussed start to what will be an important half-term for them.

### 1. Pupil and Parent Surveys

Last month I asked pupils and parents to take part in a survey that was shared by Ark schools across the country. I'm incredibly grateful for you the responses and the comments that were provided.

I was pleased that so many pupils and parents clearly valued the live lessons that took place during lockdown and that so many families were able to benefit from the laptops that the school was able to provide.

### 2. Pupil and Parent Information Event

This week's event will focus on two key topics: homework and parent reports.

To find out more about how homework will be used to support your child's learning and to learn more about how and when the school will share reports with you about your child's progress, please do join us at 5.30pm on Wednesday.

Clicking this [link](#) shortly before 5.30pm on Wednesday afternoon will allow you to join. You can view the recording from the event last week by clicking [here](#).

### 3. Homework

Pupils in Years 7-11 will continue to receive either English or maths homework each day this week, with homework in a broader range of subjects beginning next week.

I have been incredibly impressed with the effort and organisation all pupils have shown in completing their homework each day since we launched this new approach.

If you have any questions or concerns about homework, particularly if you think it is taking your child either much too long to complete and that they might need extra support, please do get in touch with their Head of Year in the first instance.

### 4. The Big Ask

The Children's Commissioner in England has launched the largest ever survey of children and young people in an attempt to find out what children need to have happier lives.

All pupils will be encouraged to take part and you can find out more about it [online](#). There is also a survey for parents to complete if they wish to share their views and you can do that [here](#).

## 5. Competition Winners

Three of our pupils succeed in a city-wide competition about digital skills. The winners were announced by West Midlands Mayor, Andy Street. You can read more about their success on our [website](#).

## 6. Keeping in Touch

I know that this is an incredibly busy and uncertain time.

Please do get in touch if you have any worries or concerns relating to any current matter, including Covid and covid-testing, centre-assessed grades and supporting pupils during Ramadan. As ever, you can contact [jayne.hooper@arkstalbans.org](mailto:jayne.hooper@arkstalbans.org) (PA to the Principal) in order to arrange a time for you and I to speak to one another.

Kind regards,



**Mr Guy Rimmer**  
**Principal**  
**Ark St Alban's Academy**