

Dear Parents,

As we come towards the start of the Easter holidays, I want to thank you for your support this term.

Although we would have much preferred for pupils to have been in school all through the term, remote learning was a success. Pupils have also made an excellent start to completing homework online in recent weeks and they have settled back into lessons in school quickly and safely since re-opening. None of this would have been possible without your support for which I am very grateful.

Below, I have included some information and updates about the end of this term and the start of the next.

1. Live Event

Tomorrow afternoon at 5pm, I will lead the final Live Event of the term.

Please [click here](#) shortly before 5pm to join me for a detailed update around plans for Year 11 and 13 assessment, Year 9 GCSE subjects and changes to Year 10 option groups, as well as further updates around plans for the summer term for all year groups.

2. Centre-assessed Grades

Pupils in Years 11 and 13 will tomorrow receive detailed guidance around plans for assessment in the summer term, including information about how to revise and prepare.

This will also be shared via email with parents before the end of the day tomorrow. Please do take the time to read this carefully with your children and get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

3. Year 9 GCSE Subjects

All Year 9 pupils will today receive access to an online form in which to indicate their preferences around additional GCSE subjects.

4. Homework

Pupils will have tasks to complete in each of their subjects and the instructions that they will need will be found in Microsoft Teams in a similar way in which remote learning was set.

This work will be available for pupils to access from Thursday afternoon onwards.

5. Ramadan

Ramadan is expected to commence on or around 12th April this year and that has implications for a large number of our families. For Muslim families in our community Ramadan represents an important time of the year. At the beginning of the next term, many pupils may be choosing to fast during the day.

It is important that the school is informed about decisions families make around their children fasting so that we can make sure that a correct number of school meals are prepared and that food is not wasted.

If your child is likely to be fasting, please [click here](#) to complete a short form to let us know. There is also the option for families who are entitled to free-school meals to request to be able to collect a small packed lunch at the end of the day for pupils to take home to eat later in the evening when it is time to break their fast.

6. Key Dates

Date	Activity
Thursday 1 st April (this week)	Non-uniform Day School finishing early for pupils at 12.15pm The start of the Easter holidays
Monday 18 th April	Teacher training day School closed to pupils Pupil homework to be submitted by 13.00
Tuesday 19 th April	Teacher training day School closed to pupils
Wednesday 20 th April	Start of the Summer term Pupils return to school

7. Non-uniform Day

A reminder that Thursday will be a non-uniform day.

This is the first non-uniform day at Ark St Alban's Academy and I know that many pupils are very excited about it. Below I have included the guidance Mr Cole has shared with pupils about our expectations for non-uniform days.

Non-Uniform Day Rules



During non-uniform day you will be allowed to wear your normal every day clothes and leave your school uniform at home. However, we do still want you to take pride in your appearance and be dressed appropriately for a day at school.

Therefore, here is what you can **not** wear on non uniform day:

- No hats, caps or bandanas.
- No jewellery – same rule as a normal school day.
- No sunglasses.
- No fancy dress.
- No clothing containing offensive language or references to drugs, gangs or violence.
- No leggings unless they are underneath other items of clothing.
- No unusual hair styles including colours or cuts.



8. Covid Updates and Keeping in Touch

If your child tests positive for Covid at the start of the Easter holidays, it is important that you let me know so that I can share the news with the families of their classmates. I will be online and checking emails through the first few days of the holidays up until Tuesday next week, so do contact me directly with any news of a positive case. Email guy.rimmer@arkstalban.org

As ever, if you have any other specific questions or concerns about any matter, then please do get in touch.

Kind regards,



Principal
Ark St Alban's Academy