

Tuesday 21st September

Dear Parents,

It was a joy to welcome many of you to the Year 12 and Year 7 Parent Information Events last week. Below I have included a summary of the events taking place in the next few weeks and other information to keep you up to date.

1. Parent Events

Thank you to those of you with children in Year 7 and Year 12 who attended the events last week. I hope you enjoyed learning more about the curriculum your child is studying and getting to look at their classwork.



This week we will be welcoming Year 8 (Wednesday) and Year 11 (Thursday). Below is a reminder of all of the upcoming events and the dates when they will be taking place.

Year Group	Date
Year 8	Wednesday 22 nd September (4-5pm)
Year 11	Thursday 23 rd September (4-5pm)
Year 9	Wednesday 29 th September (4-5pm)
Year 13	Thursday 30 th September (4-5pm)
Year 10	Wednesday 6 th October (4-5pm)

2. Year 6 Open Evening

Tonight we will be welcoming parents of Year 6 pupils to visit the school. The event will begin at 5pm and if you know of any families interested in joining the school in Year 7 next year, please do let them know they are invited.

3. Lunch

Hot lunches have returned this week.

A reminder that unless your child is entitled to free-school meals you need to top-up their i-Pay account [i-Pay account](#) with at least £1.75 each day. Pupils will have a choice of a grab-and-go packed lunch (£1.75) which they can take outside with them or a hot meal (£2.30) which they can eat in the canteen (a vegetarian option will be available and all ingredients are halal).



4. Covid Update

This week, one pupil has tested positive for Covid having been in school. That pupil was In 11 Tryfan and as a result, this morning, Year 11 pupils completed LFD tests in class to help us to monitor any potential spread. No pupils in the year group recorded a positive LFD test result this morning, but this is a reminder of the importance of pupils testing regularly at home. It is also important to record all Lateral flow tests on to the Governments Track and Trace website, <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

Tomorrow (Wednesday), your child today will come home with information about the Covid vaccination programme.

The vaccination team will attend the school next week and will vaccinate pupils in Years 8 to 13 (and any pupils in Year 7 who are already twelve years old).

No child in Years 7 to 11 will be vaccinated without parental consent.

To support with the organisation of the vaccination programme, please complete the consent form tomorrow (Wednesday) evening and have your child return in the following morning (Thursday). Even if you are choosing not to consent to your child being vaccinated, please do return the consent form stating this.

If your child is in the sixth form (Years 12 and 13) and you do not want them to be vaccinated, please email info@arkstalbans.org to let us know, remembering to include your child's full name.

5. Sixth Form Assessments

Pupils in Year 12 and Year 13 will complete assessments in the weeks commencing Monday 27th September and Monday 4th October. Year 12 pupils will sit assessments in all of their subjects and Year 13 pupils will be assessed in maths and the sciences (subjects which had their usual end of year assessment processes before the summer significantly disrupted).

The assessments are intended to measure the progress pupils have made in their A-Level studies at the start of the academic year.

Parents of sixth form pupils sitting assessments can expect to receive reports on the outcomes of these assessments before the half-term holiday at the end of October.

6. Poetry Competition

On Monday this week, pupils in Years 7-11 were informed about a poetry competition which they are strongly encouraged to participate in.

The challenge is to write a poem on the theme of 'Empowered' and to submit it to Ms Williams (christal.williams@arkstalbans.org) by Monday 11th October.

7. Homework

A reminder that all pupils receive 2-3 pieces of homework daily; homework is always due the next day. The homework timetable can be viewed [here](#). If pupils are experiencing difficulty with their homework they can email homework@arkstalbans.org. Pupils are also invited to attend homework club which runs daily from 3.00 – 4.00. Pupils should speak to their Head of Year if they would like to attend.

There will also be a drop in on Tuesday 28th September, 3.00 – 3.45, for any parents who would like to learn more about how to access work on MS Teams or Hegarty Maths. If you would like to attend just arrive on Tuesday between 3.00 and 3.45 and let reception know that you would like to attend the homework drop-in.

8. Enrichment

A reminder that after-school clubs have now begun. The table below contains the current schedule and pupils can complete this short form to sign-up: <https://forms.office.com/r/xJKzHVHqZa>

Key Stage/Year Group	Enrichment Activity	Day	Time
KS3/KS4/KS5	Drama	Monday	3-4pm
Year 7	Boys football	Monday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Chess (and board games)	Tuesday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Climbing	Tuesday	3-4pm
KS3 (Y7, Y8, Y9)	Girls football	Tuesday	3-4pm
KS4 (Y10 and Y11)	Girls football	Tuesday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Cooking	Tuesday	3-4pm
KS5	Boys football	Tuesday	Period 6
Y11	Boys football	Wednesday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Korean club	Wednesday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	World cinema club	Wednesday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Cricket	Wednesday	3-4pm
All years	Fitness club (invitation only)	Wednesday	7.25-8.10am
Y8/Y9	Boys football	Thursday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Handball	Thursday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Dance club	Thursday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Coding/Computing club	Thursday	3-4pm
KS4	Boys fitness club	Thursday	3-4pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Girls basketball	Friday	2.25-3.30pm
KS3/KS4/KS5	Boys basketball	Friday	2.25-3.30pm
Y10	Boys football	Friday	2.25-3.30pm

9. Keeping in touch

I am looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming parent events, but in the meantime if you have any questions or concerns you can contact me via Ms Hooper (jayne.hooper@arkstalbans.org).

Kind regards,



Mr Guy Rimmer
Principal
Ark St Alban's Academy