



Welcome from the Principal

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are all excited to start our second half term in our wonderful new building. We have all enjoyed settling into our new facilities and whilst building work is on-going it really is beginning to feel like home now.

We have all been clear that our move into our new building is a great opportunity for us to **take another big step forward in the improvement journey** our school is on and I want to thank all the staff and pupils who have used this move to **raise the bar**. Pupils are **working hard in lessons, behaving well** and taking **real pride** in our new building. We all have a responsibility to take care of our new facilities and I have been so proud to see pupils doing this so well in our first half term.

Preparing for Assessment Point 2 – spring term assessments

We are keen to make sure that all our pupils can make the most of our new facilities and use them to make more progress in school and take part in a range of enrichment clubs and opportunities (more details about these below). But our first priority is preparing all pupils for their **Spring Term assessments**. For Year 11 this is their all-important mock exams and for all other year groups an opportunity to see how much progress they have made this term and improve their grades. **Every subject in each year group has produced a revision pack** for the spring term assessments and these can be found on our website under 'Curriculum' – in the 'Assessment Point 2' section. **Please ensure that your child is working through all of these revision packs to prepare them for their assessments.**

Once again we will be holding **parent review meetings** on the first two days back after Easter where we will share your child's grades from assessment point 2.

Parent coffee mornings and Place2Be

We are going to hold two more parent coffee mornings this term on the following dates:

- **KS4 0830-10.00 Wednesday 28th Feb 2018**
- **KS3 0830-10.00 Thursday 1st March 2018**

The morning will start with an **opening talk** from myself, followed by **tours of the academy** to observe lessons and see our new facilities. We will then run a **question & answer session** where parents will be able to ask members of the senior leadership questions and give feedback on what they feel is working and what can be further improved in the school. From 0930 **Place2Be** our new in-school counselling service will present their services to parents and offer a Q&A session on **raising teenagers**. Please see more information below in our safeguarding update on Place2Be and how you can support your child through adolescence. **If you would like to attend one of our coffee mornings please call the school or email to reserve your place.**

In the meantime if you have any questions or feedback please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Curtis



Merit Award Lunch with Ms Curtis

Safeguarding update

We are delighted to announce our partnership with Place2Be who are an organisation who support children’s mental health. Mental health concerns are increasingly common in children and young people:

- One in ten children aged between 5 and 16 years (three in every classroom) has a mental health problem, and many continue to have these problems into adulthood.
- Over half of all mental ill health starts before the age of 14 years, and 75% has developed by the age of 18.
- Among teenagers, rates of depression and anxiety have increased by 70% in the past 25 years.
- NHS England estimates that poor mental health costs the economy, NHS and society £105 billion a year in England.

Children are less likely to suffer from serious mental health difficulties in later life if they receive support at an early age, providing a cost saving to adult mental health services. Below are some simple steps suggested by Place2Be and you can take at any age to help promote positive mental health:

- Make sure you carve out time to be with your child one-to-one, when you can very deliberately commit to putting other worries to one side and you can actively listen to them and their feelings.
- Enjoying a quiet activity together can make it easier to talk to your child -something that parents of teenagers will be all too familiar with - and can encourage your child to open up naturally.

Below are some common behaviours and signs you can look out for, which may indicate that further support might be needed for your child:

- Sudden or extreme changes in behaviour, such as becoming very withdrawn and uncommunicative, or alternatively lashing out and becoming boisterous or even violent
- Expressing negative thoughts, or a particularly low opinion of themselves, for example that they're a 'bad' child
- Provoking or lashing out at other children
- Disrupted sleep patterns
- Strong desire to avoid school or stay with you at all times
- Complaining of aches and pains

If you're still concerned, the best thing you can do is talk to someone –contact your GP and school.

For all safeguarding concerns please contact **Lyn Brooks at l.brooks@arkelvincademy.org**. For more information please visit the school website.

Key Events Spring 2

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| 21.02.18 | Y9 Science Museum trip |
| 22.02.18 | Y9 Science Museum trip Sing into Spring trip Y11 Romeo and Juliet performance in school |
| 28.02.18 08:30-10:00 | KS4 Parent Coffee Morning |
| 01.03.18 08:30-10:00 | KS3 Parent Coffee Morning. |
| 05.03.18 | Careers Week – raising aspirations events all week Summer musical auditions |
| 08.03.18 16:00-18:00 | International Women’s Day event |
| 09.03.18 | DofE Bronze practice expeditions |
| 12.03.18 | Wembley Litter Picking event |
| 16.03.18 | Staff training day – no school for pupils |
| 22.03.18 | Y7 University visit |
| 26.03.18 | Y11 Parents Evening |
| 27.03.18 | Reward event for merit winners |
| 28.03.18 | Showstoppers Easter Performance |
| 29.03.18 | Last day of term – celebration assemblies – school closes at lunchtime. |



Enrichment Programme Spring Term

Let's make the best use of our fantastic new facilities!

With over 30 activities at lunchtime and after school, there's something for everybody.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aiming for a grade 9 - triple science Ballet class Basketball Boxing (KS3) Boxing (Year 10) Boxing (Year 11) Budo Choir Coding & Tech Talk Creative Writing Club Dance Club | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Djembe Club Dodgeball Football Girl Talk Girls' Football Guitar Ensemble Hockey Club Italian Club Key Stage 3 Film Club KS3 Netball KS4 Film Club | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathletics Club Philosophy Piano Club Reading aloud Rugby - Boys and Girls Samba Band Speech and Drama Club Steel Pans Technical Theatre Club Textiles Club |
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Not found yours yet? Speak to your form tutor today and get signed up!



Ark Elvin's New Home



International Women's Day



We are excited to announce that Ark Elvin will be hosting an International Women's Day 2018 event to celebrate, commemorate and unite the inspiring women in our communities, families and lives!



Limited Spaces!
First 90 girls to register for a ticket will have entry



Register for your ticket at Student Services by 1st March

When: Thursday March 8th, 4-6pm

Where: Ark Elvin Academy Assembly Hall.

"To every little girl who dreams big, I say, yes, you can be anything you want, even President" - Hillary Clinton.

"Cause I'm a woman, phenomenally. Phenomenal woman, that's me" - Maya Angelou

Influential speakers from various industries including Medicine, Music & Fashion, Media & Journalism, Finance, Law, Education, as well as current and previous Ark Elvin pupils.

Elvin School Lettings

Our facilities are available to hire for community use through SLS – please contact Joe Robinson below if you or someone you know would like to make a booking.



Joe Robinson - School Leisure and Sports Manager
Tel - 020 8001 6494
Email - arkelvin@schoollettings.org

For more info go to www.arkelvin.schoolbookings.co.uk