



Welcome from the principal

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back after the half term break and to all our community who celebrated Diwali this month we hope you had a wonderful celebration. We have had a great start to the new academic year at Elvin welcoming our new Year 7 cohort and new staff who already feel like very established members of the Elvin community.

Our term was busy with a range of trips, sporting fixtures and the launch of our new enrichment offer. We also launched our new character development programme in KS3 – our pupils have really enjoyed an opportunity to learn and discuss a range of topics and issues designed to help them reflect on how they can develop the habits of success.

Autumn term assessment

The focus for this term is preparation for the end of term exams. All students in all year groups will be assessed in each subject and this will result in them being awarded an age-related grade in line with the new GCSE qualifications with 9 being the highest grade (about 3% of pupils nationally achieve this) and 1 being the lowest grade. Before half term all pupils were sent home with revision packs for every subject and these can be found on the Elvin website – so your child will always have work they can be focusing on to revise for their assessments. Please also do spend time reviewing your child's planner. This will have details of their homework, the merits and any checks they have received this week. It is a really helpful way for you to see how your child's week is going. You will receive your child's assessment grades at the parent review meetings in January – when you will also have a chance to tour our new building – more details to follow! The exam timetable can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Attendance

Autumn term 1 saw the best attendance the school has ever seen at over 96%. Thank you to all parents for supporting their children to attend school every day, for making appointments outside school time and for making sure that holidays are booked out of term time. This really supports your child to make progress.

Parent coffee mornings

As we improve our school I am really keen to work more closely with parents and carers – to provide more opportunities for feedback and to improve communication between school and our families. To this end we are running two parent coffee mornings this half term. Parents will be invited to attend an assembly and then meet myself and members of my leadership team for a discussion over coffee and biscuits. These events will be happening on the following days – please call the school to let us know that you will be attending:

Tuesday 14th November: Parents of KS4 pupils

Wednesday 15th November: Parents of KS3 pupils.

Please arrive at 08:20 to observe our morning routines and to join the assembly at 08:30. Coffee and discussion will take place from 9-10am.

Our new building

On the last week of term I toured our new building with the senior leadership team and met the building contractors for a progress update. I am pleased to be able to tell you that the contractors are on track to complete the building in good time for our move over the Christmas holidays. In fact furniture is being delivered from the second week in November! It really is a wonderful new site and we are very lucky to be

the first to use these new facilities. We will run tours of the new building at the parent review meetings in January and community tours in the spring term.

Keeping safe in our local community

I want to remind all parents and carers of the importance of our pupils making their way to and from school sensibly and safely and highlight a number of particular concerns I have:

- At this time of year far too many young people are playing with fireworks in our local community. We have recently held assemblies highlighting the risks associated with fireworks so all the pupils at Ark Elvin are clear – it is illegal for children to buy or use fireworks. If any Elvin pupil is found with fireworks or caught setting off a firework in our local community I will treat it in the same way as if they were found with a weapon. Police will be informed and the child will be excluded.
- We have had complaints about behaviour in the McDonalds on the high street. Pupils from a number of local schools meet there before and after school and it is an unsafe environment. For this reason pupils should not be in this restaurant before or after school unless they are with a parent or carer.

Magna Aude Award winners

On a more positive note I was delighted to lead our achievement assemblies on Monday recognising the great achievements of our pupils in their first half term of this academic year. Many pupils were recognised for their improved attendance, number of merits achieved and character awards and the following pupils achieved the highest recognition with our Magna Aude awards:

Bogdan Chenciu – Year 7

Andreea Cretu – Year 8

Vanshika Choubey – Year 9

Valentin Gavril – Year 10

Rhianna Queensborough – Year 11



Key Events Autumn 2

Tuesday 14th November - KS4 Parent Coffee Morning.

Wednesday 15th November – KS3 Parent Coffee Morning.

Week commencing 20th November – Assessment week for all Years.

Friday 8th December – Staff training day, no pupils attend school

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Concert, from 6-8pm.

Monday 18th December – Y7-10 Rewards trips.

Tuesday 19th December – Last day of term, early finish.

Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th, Friday 12th January – Y11 Parent Review Meeting (appointment times to be confirmed).

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th January – All pupils new school induction, 8:25 – 12:55pm.

Assessment Timetable

Ark Elvin Academy Assessment timetable							
		Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	
Monday 20th November	Form				MFL	Science	
	1						
	2		Geography				
	3			English	Sociology	Maths	
	4						
	5	Science				Geography	
6	Geography						
Tuesday 21st November	Form					English	
	1		RE	PE			
	2				RE		
	3	Maths			RE	Geography	Sociology
	4				MFL		
	5	Drama	Maths		Drama		History
6	PE						
Wednesday 22nd November	Form			Maths		PE/Business/Art	
	1		Drama		Science		
	2						
	3				Drama	Maths	
	4	MFL					
	5	Science	Science	Geography	Science	Geography	
6							
Thursday 23rd November	Form					English	
	1		History				
	2	RE					
	3	English	Science		History	Drama / Business / Art	
	4			History			
	5		English + MFL			Science	
6	History						
Friday 24th November	Form				English	Maths	
	1						
	2						
	3				Maths	RE	
	4	Science					
	5		PE	Science	PE	History	
6		Science					

* MFL teachers will inform pupils about their listening/speaking exams.

* Art teachers will inform pupils about their assessments.

* Music teachers will inform pupils about their practical assessment.

Away Day with the ARK Ignite Choir



Year 11 Geography trip to Amersham



**Year 7 Greek Theatre
Mask work**



Autumn 1 Key Events



**Shakespeare
School Festival**



Skateboard club

University of Westminster



Science club



Cooking



Year 7 Drama rehearsals



Everyday life @ Elvin

