



Ark Elvin Academy

# Newsletter

Summer | April 2016



*Photo: 8 Iggulden celebrate being attendance champions*

## Welcome back to all pupils and parents

I hope that you all had a restful break and managed to enjoy some of the sunny weather which we had over the holidays.

As you can see from the contents of this newsletter we had a very successful, busy and enjoyable end to the Spring term here at Elvin. As well as continuing to celebrate house success, with Elvin's got talent, we marked international women's day with a morning of inspiration and discussion with some very successful women. More importantly still, we had a very successful round of mock exams for years 11, 12 and 13. Our pupils have been working incredibly hard to ensure that they get the grades that they deserve this summer. Thank you all for your support with this. We know that this is a stressful time for all involved! In response to several requests from parents and pupils in year 11 we are going to hold a **Year 11 exam information session** for all pupils and parents this **Wednesday 13th April at 5:00pm**. Please try and join us to find out how you can support your child in these last few weeks before their exams start. All pupils in year 11 now have a copy of the exam timetable and you can find it later in this newsletter.

We are also looking forward to welcoming **year 8 and sixth form parents** to the school next **Wednesday 20th April** for a parents evening. This is a vital opportunity to meet with teachers and talk about your child's progress. I hope that you are all able to make it.

We are still looking to recruit a **parent governor** to join the school's governing body. If you would like to have an informal chat with me about this please do get in touch at [a.bates@arkelvinacademy.org](mailto:a.bates@arkelvinacademy.org). Alternatively you can get further information from the Ark governance team at [governance.team@arkonline.org](mailto:governance.team@arkonline.org)

Finally, I will be writing to you later this term with full details of the end of the school year, activities taking place over the summer holidays and the dates for the next academic year.

Have a wonderful summer term,



## Tracy Edwards MBE leads International Women's Day panel at Elvin



On 8<sup>th</sup> March, the Elvin community marked International Women's Day by welcoming a panel of high profile and inspiring women to speak to pupils from years 9-13 and specially invited guests. The keynote speaker of the event, titled 'Women who dare for greatness', was Tracy Edwards MBE, one of the world's most successful female sailors, who skippered the first all-female crew in the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race, and became the first woman to receive the Yachtsman of the Year Trophy.

The panel, co-chaired by the TV presenter Rae Duke and our very own Head Girl Olufunke Moronfolu, also included: comedian Sindhu Vee; Lucy Heller, CEO of Ark; Almeena Ahmed-Ashraf, broadcast journalist; Rabbi Rebecca Qassim Birk; Ndidi Okezie, Executive Director at Teach First; Stephanie Maurel, Sport England; Victoria Tchoudakov, Google; Dr Evadney Keith, St John and Elizabeth Hospital; Harpreet Sondh, Hewlett-Packard; and Federica Cucè Buehlmann, Marshall Wace.

Tracy told pupils that she is planning on using Maiden, the yacht on which she competed, as an ambassador for girls' rights and to show there are no limits to what women can achieve: "I want my daughter to grow up in a world where men and women work together for equality".

After the panel event, pupils had the chance to network with the panelists, asking them questions on topics ranging from CV and interview tips to what inspired them in their career choices.

Roshni, Year 11, said "It was really good to find out so much about these women, when you see someone standing in front of you confident, you don't always realise what they've been through to get where they are. The thing I will take away from today is that no matter how many times you fail, keep trying."



The event was organised in collaboration with The Girls' Network, a charity which inspires and empowers young women by connecting them with a network of positive female role models and providing an award-winning mentoring programme and events. We are currently working with the girls network to provide mentoring for a group of girls in years 10 and 12.

Miss Bates, said, "I'm delighted that we had such an impressive panel of highly successful women coming to mark International Women's Day at our school. We encourage our pupils to follow our school motto of magna aude, which means 'Dare for greatness', and it is fantastic that they are hearing from women who truly embody this."

## Spring Term ends on a high with Elvin's Got Talent 2016



On Wednesday the 23rd of April 2016, pupils from Ark Elvin Academy showcased their talents in the second *Elvin's got Talent* competition. The annual event is a highlight for many of our pupils as it is an opportunity to perform and celebrate their broad interests and skills.

The talents on display were as diverse as our pupil body ranging from singers, pianists, drummers, dancers, beatboxers, rappers and a spoken word poet. Pupils had been rehearsing for weeks in order to perfect their performances in time for the big day. There was a great team effort from every house with pupils performing from Year 7 to Year 10. Teams of pupils from each house helped to get their teams ready with costumes, banners, face paint and coloured accessories so the audience could get behind their teams.

The afternoon itself was truly enjoyable. Not only were the different performances a pleasure to watch, but our pupils displayed great community spirit and integrity by supporting all the performers who had the courage to get on stage (whether they were in their house or not).

Competition was fierce, as house points were available for the top 3 performances. This year's house competition is closer than ever and it showed through the dedication and practice that students put into their performances. Congratulations to the following houses for impressing the judges and indeed to all our performers who embodied the spirit of 'Magna Aude':

**1st place:** Mandela House

**2nd place:** Angelou House

**3rd place:** Malala House

## Year 11s feature on the BBC

Congratulations and well done to Khadija, who followed up her appearance on the BBC news in 2011 by co-presenting a programme on the BBC News channel about BBC School Report. She also appeared on the Steve Wright show on BBC Radio 2, being interviewed along with fellow pupils Hafsa and Lana by Huw Edwards.



## Another term of excellent attendance

Well done to pupils and parents on another term of excellent attendance. We've been doing more this term to celebrate attendance, and you will see stickers in your child's planner if their attendance has increased in a given week, or if they have maintained 100% attendance all year. Forms with the best attendance each week also get a trophy and extra house points – as you can see in the picture on the front of the newsletter.

Well done to the 135 pupils below (and their parents) for **100% attendance for the whole of this year:** not even one day off sick or any appointments during school time since September! Please aim for your children to also have 100% attendance this term.

Year 7	
Abhay Navin Bhabhu	Khushi Patel
Ali Mohamed	Leao Zhan Chun Lee
Arshika Narendra	Niraj Chauhan
Bridget Mwaruta	Nitu Shree Chauhan
Britannia Campbell	Prinali Dilipo
Dino Constantin	Sanlon Dias
Diya Mukesh	Simona Bene
Florin Petra	Titus Springer
Hila Alim	Vanshika Choubey
Joshua Velasco	Visakha Harkisan
Kayleigh Bridgeman-James	Wiktoria Damrych

Year 8	
Alisha Patel	Harsh Bhabhu
Angelos Arapi	Hazel Bestas
Ankit Valgi	Ivaylo Stanev
Ashanti Ebanks	Kadeen Green
Avinash Mahendrakumar	Krish Patel
Bhavik Nanji	Krishna Kamlesh
Bipasha Jignesh	Marius Lacatis
Browen Vas	Miglana Ahanasova
Catalina Radu	Monika Jitendra
Diogo Vire	Nirmata Shavji
Doliben Narendrakumar	Nora Boszormenyl
Eduard Ditoiu	Rinkul Mavji
Gabriel Osei Amadijah	Riya Vicente
Govrat Manoj	Snehal Narendra
Grigorita Florea	Sumit Manoj

Year 9	
Adham Abdelhadi	Mital Mahendrakumar
Ahmed Obaid	Niyati Halpati
Amisha Chunilal	Parag Hira
Bilal Safi	Pavel Sandu
Cristina Flore	Pratiksha Jivan
Dilan Rodrigues	Qemal Gjashi
Durgss Ramesh	Robert Popescu
Giriraj Kankatharan	Ronika Manilal
Jainish Mohan	Sadhna Shavji
Kamile Grajavskaite	Sandhya Hareshkumar Govinde
Krish Shukla	Sha'kai Shaw
Mahendra Prakash	Svadhin Shashikant
Manisa Pokharel	Urvashi Kishankumar
Manthan Patel	Uttam Jitendra
Mariana Cazacu	Vashika Dhanji
Mevia Fernandes	

Year 10	
Bhavisha Velji	Mitul Rakeshkumar
Darshana Jitendra	Mohammed Alkhurjya
Dhrutika Halpati	Pooja Kannathasan
Dina Dharmendra	Pranjal Amratlal
Elena Mascarenhas	Pritesh Manoj
Evander Pereira	Pruthvi Lalji
Heena Hareshkumar	Safiya Mohamed
Mamta Meghji	Sarunicka Satkuruparan
Mamta Shantilal	Vibhuti Ramesh

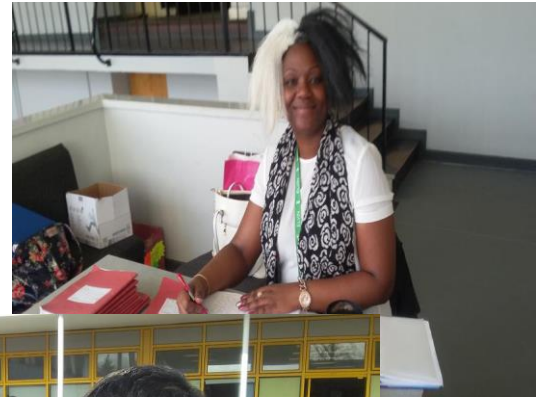
Year 11		
Aarzo Ibrahim	Krutik Chunilal	Priyanka Patel
Abass Tunkara	Krutika Samji	Pruthvi Lalji
Dipen Lama	Lycia Estrocio	Rahul Harji
Divya Nanji	Mital Valji	Ramchandra Lacmane
Divyangi Chandrakant	Nicholas Taylor	Ravina Jignesh
Filip Kolev	Nikita Nanji	Rubab Sheikh
Jigar Prakash	Nirujah Sarvanantharajah	Shubhanshi Rakeshkumar
Jyotika Ramji	Nirujan Sarvanantharajah	Wiktorina Burakowska
Kartik Ramesh	Petronela Cazacu	Yulin Chen
Krupal Gerage	Pratixa Shantilal	

Sixth Form
Daniel Tisler
Joy Soda
Juvan Rubakumar
Melissa Pereira
Nikita Hirani

Finally, some parents may be in the process of booking holidays for the summer. Please remember that you are legally responsible for your children being in school every day and cannot book holidays during school time. Term dates for September will be confirmed soon; in the meantime please plan to be back before 1<sup>st</sup> September.

# Staff and pupils celebrate World Book Day

Spring 2 got off to a fantastic start with World Book Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Pupils took part in a book-themed treasure hunt, and prizes were also awarded to pupils who correctly identified the book characters that staff were dressed up as. Lots of fun was had, and the day was a great way to also celebrate the brilliant progress pupils have been making in daily reading.



# Year 11 exam timetable 2016

<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b> Gujarati & Portuguese Speaking Assessments <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b> Arabic, Russian, Greek Speaking Assessments <b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b> Chinese & Urdu Speaking Assessments <b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b> Italian Speaking Assessments	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> 13:00 iGCSE English	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> 16:00 Drama
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group A	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group A	<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group C	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group C
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group B 9:00 RE: Unit 1 13:00 Sociology	<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b> All day: Art group B 9:00 French: R&L 13:00 Science: Biology 1	<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> 13:00 RE: Unit 8	<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 Science: Chemistry 1 13:00 Sociology	<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 Spanish: R&L 13:00 PE: Unit 1 13:00 Gujarati: R 13:00 Portuguese: R
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b> 9:00 English Literature	<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 Chinese (Mandarin): L 13:00 Geography	<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 Business Studies: Unit 1 9:00 Gujarati: Listening 9:00 Portuguese: L 13:00 Science: Physics 1	<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 Mathematics: Paper 1	<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9:00 English Literature
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 History: Unit 1 13:00 Food Technology 13:00 Chinese (Mandarin): R	<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 English Language	<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> 13:00 Geography	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 Mathematics: Paper 2	<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 A Science: Biology 2 9:00 FA Science: Written 13:00 Business Studies: Unit 3 13:00 Gujarati: W 13:00 Portuguese: W
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b> 13:00 Urdu: R&L 13:00 Hospitality & Catering	<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> 13:00 History: Unit 2A	<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b> 13:00 A Science: Chemistry 2 13:00 FA Science: Written	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 Italian: R&L	<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 A Science: Physics 2 9:00 FA Science: Written 13:00 Russian: R&L
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 Arabic: R&L	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> 9:00 History: Unit 3B 13:00 Graphics		<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b> 9:00 Russian: W 13:00 Arabic: W	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 Greek: R&L	<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9:00 Greek: W		

## Summer 1 Key Dates

Please put these dates in your diaries:

<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	Staff training day (no school for pupils)
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	Start of term for pupils
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	Year 11 parents' Exam Information Evening
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	Year 8 & Sixth Form parents' evening
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May:</b>	May Day bank holiday (school closed)
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May:</b>	National exams begin: GCSEs, AS, A Level
<b>16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	Assessment week (years 7-10)
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	Review week
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	Last day of half term