



Principal
Roger Punton

15th July 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Remembering a memorable year for Ark Kings, Summer School and autumn arrangements

With the summer term at Ark Kings Academy rapidly drawing to a close, I am writing this letter to let you know about the autumn return to school arrangements, details of the Summer School and to share with you a few of my personal highlights of a memorable year for our school.

Starting school - Thursday 8th September

All students will return to school after the summer holidays on **Thursday 8th September**. The day will start at the normal time, with students ready for line up at **8.25am** and will finish at **3.30pm**.

Term Dates for 2016/17 (for students – staff training days are listed separately below)

We will move into our new school at the end of December 2016, start of January 2017. For us to move from our current building to our new school building we are going to need to have more time over the Christmas holiday. As we all know the process of moving house is very difficult with packing, unpacking and settling in. Moving school is on a much larger scale with 60 staff, over 40 classrooms and thousands of books and other resources to move, unpack and organise.

Autumn Term	Thursday 8 September to Thursday 8 December 2016
Autumn Half Term	Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2016
Christmas Holiday	Friday 9 December to Tuesday 10 January 2017
Spring Term	Tuesday 10 January to Friday 7 April 2017
Spring Half Term	Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February 2017
Easter Holiday	Monday 10 April to Friday 21 April 2017
Summer Term	Monday 24 April to Friday 21 July 2017
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 May 2017
Summer Half Term	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2017

Staff Training Days (school closed to students)

Monday 5 September 2016
Tuesday 6 September 2016
Wednesday 7 September 2016
Monday 31 October 2016
Friday 9 December 2016
Friday 6 January 2017
Monday 9 January 2017
Friday 17 March 2017
Friday 7 July 2017
Monday 24 July 2017

Shannon Road
Kings Norton
Birmingham B38 9DE
Tel: 0121 459 4451

Email: info@arkkingsacademy.org
Website: www.arkkingsacademy.org

I know the extended holiday time for pupils at the end of the calendar year to allow the transition to the new building is not ideal, but is necessary to ensure when pupils return on Tuesday 10 January 2017, they will arrive in a building fit for purpose, with teaching classrooms ready for learning. In order to provide continuity of learning, pupils will be provided with study packs to complete during the Christmas break.

As always, please ensure that you book your holidays within our published holiday dates, as we are unable to authorise holidays during term time.

Attached to this letter is a colour coded calendar with all the above dates, which we hope will be useful.

Taking pride in our uniform

As Principal, I am proud of the high standards our school has on uniform and the pride students take from being smartly dressed. Please can I remind parents that we expect all students returning to school in September to comply with our uniform policy. All students are required to wear black leather shoes which would be suitable for a job interview. Black trainers are not acceptable and female students must only wear either flat or low heeled shoes. Please remember to take your uniform vouchers to Clive Marks to receive your free uniform.

Brand new school

This year is going to be very exciting with moving into our new school building in January 2017. Progress with the new build is pleasing and it is now really taking shape. Over the last couple of months we have seen the concrete base, then steel structure, floors and cladding. The windows have been installed and the internal fitting have begun.

Summer School arrangements

I am excited to confirm that the plans for the summer school have now been finalised. The school will run from **Monday 22nd to Thursday 25th August**. We will begin every day at **9.00am** with breakfast and finish at **3.15pm**.

On Wednesday we will be going to Stratford upon Avon. After breakfast we will leave school at **9:15am** and return at **3.00pm**.

On Thursday we have arranged a special end of summer school assembly for parents/guardians to attend from **3.00-3:15pm**, and we would love if you could attend to celebrate your child's successes.

Food: The pupils will be provided with breakfast, healthy snacks and drinks for break times as well as lunch. **Dress Code:** Pupils are **not** required to wear their school uniform. Instead, pupils are requested to wear comfortable sporty clothes and trainers as they will be taking part in a range of activities, including outdoor activities.

If you have any further queries please feel free to contact me by email on m.rajani@arkkingsacademy.org. As the summer school is running when the main school office is closed, in case of an emergency I can be contacted on the summer school mobile on **07935 313504**.

Policies and procedures

In September your child will receive a planner with all the policies and procedures. If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to contact us.

Highlights from the past year

In addition to record GCSE results and building a brand new school on the way, 2015-16 has been a significant year of Ark Kings Academy in other ways.

I am especially proud of the progress we have made as a school on attendance. Thanks to the hard work and focus of students, parents and staff attendance to date for this half term stands at 95.9%. This is higher than our attendance last autumn, when attendance is typically higher. The link between attendance and achievement is well established so by ensuring students are in school every day, we are creating a solid foundation for future success.

I am also proud of the way our students and staff have embraced the unique opportunities available to us as a member of the Ark network of academies. For example, just this month members of our school choir sang alongside 750 young people from other Ark School at the world famous Barbican arts centre. These experiences will live on in our students' memories and prepare them for later life.

On behalf of everyone at Ark Kings Academy, I would like to thank you for your support and wish you a restful and enjoyable summer. I look forward to seeing you again in August/September.

Kind Regards,



Mr Punton
Principal



Mr Rajani
Head of Year 7 & Primary Transition