



Tees Grove Birmingham B38 9DH

T: +44(0)121 458 5380 | E: [info@arkkingsacademy.org](mailto:info@arkkingsacademy.org) | W: [arkkingsacademy.org](http://arkkingsacademy.org)

**Aspire. Expect. Achieve. Together.**

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you are all well.

There has been much in the news regarding tighter restrictions in England to be able to contain the spread of Coronavirus. Birmingham is now in Tier 2- High Risk. Please keep continuing to do what you are doing to keep yourselves, your family and our school safe. The further restrictions for Birmingham coming into force from Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October are to maintain social distancing, not mix households indoors or outdoors (either in private homes and gardens, pubs, restaurants, leisure facilities and shops) and keep to the rule of 6. We have had confirmation from Birmingham City Council that schools will remain open and continue to operate in bubbles as we are.

Many of you are keeping in regular contact with us regarding any health concerns you have, thank you for this. By keeping informed we can ensure that if we need to, we can act quickly to keep our pupils and families safe.

Our attendance has been wonderful again last week, with Friday having the highest day of 98.2%! Keep it up!

This week, school is closed on Friday as it is an ARK Network INSET day. Pupils are back in school as normal on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Lots of parents have been asking if we will be holding our popular Spooky Discos this year again. Due to Social Distancing we won't be this year. However, we are going to have a Spooky Fancy Dress Day on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020. We do not celebrate Hallowe'en in school, but always have a 'Spooky' theme this time of year. Children are welcome to come dressed in their Spooky costumes- **no full-face masks please or accessories e.g. wands, play swords etc.** This is not compulsory and there is no charge for this.

Normally, at this time of the year, we also hold Parent Meetings. We are postponing these to later in the term, when we hope to run these on site, all socially distanced of course! Thank you for your patience and understanding.

### **Key Dates to note:**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020- SCHOOL CLOSED- ARK Network INSET Day

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020- Break up for Half Term 12.00 midday

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020- voluntary Spooky Costume day- free of charge- **no full-face masks please or accessories e.g. wands, play swords etc.**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020- All pupils return to school

### **Pupil Absences:**

Please ensure you have phoned the school office on 0121 458 5380 **before 8.45am** if your child is unwell and unable to attend school. Thank you.

### **Home Learning**

Well done to all the pupils for completing their Home Learning each week and thank you to parents for supporting this. Keep up the hard work!

### **Free breakfast and break time snack:**

**ALL** pupils receive free breakfast and break time snacks every day, which will continue all year. We are not running a breakfast club due to not being able to mix bubbles. Gates will be open from 8.30am each day with breakfast ready in each classroom.

**Free lunch for ALL pupils September-December 2020:**

As you know, for the first half term, we have given a FREE lunch for all pupils in school. I am pleased to let you know that **we will be continuing this throughout November and December**. We will again review this in December and let you know what is happening January 2021 onwards.

**Face masks:**

Face masks are not mandatory in the Primary phase. If you wish your child to wear a face mask to and from school, then please ensure this is a clean mask each day. Before they enter the school building, they will need to place their mask in a plastic bag inside their book bag/ school bag, if they are not wearing them inside the building.

**Reminder on Social Distancing:**

**At drop off and collection, please remember to keep 2m apart from everyone, thank you.** We know these are busy times at the start and end of the day and we aim to get children in and out quickly to reduce time on the playground. With three entrances open, queuing should be kept to a minimum.

**How you can help:**

- ❖ **Please follow 2m social distancing** and sanitation guidelines; e.g. arrival and departure rules; hand washing prior to school arrival and after school departure
- ❖ **Please do not gather outside the school gates.** If you are waiting please ensure you are keeping 2m apart.
- ❖ Please keep school informed of any relevant health issues for your children and family members so we can support you
- ❖ Please ensure your children are in school and on time every day. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please phone the school office before 8.45am.
- ❖ Please continue to commit to learning at home. Please ensure your children complete tasks set for homework and Friday afternoon learning

**And again, a final thank-you:**

I thanked you last week for all of your positive comments and messages. This has continued this week- we really appreciate your support and kindness at this difficult time.

Lots of the children wore yellow clothing or accessories to support World Mental Health Day last Friday- they all looked wonderful to support an important cause.

A massive thank you for all of your Harvest donations to the local food bank too. This has been collected today by Kings Norton Baptist Church; they were extremely appreciative.

#BeKind and #BeSafe

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Brasenell  
Primary Headteacher.

