



Plans for next year

We have been working hard in the academy to plan for the next academic year and ensure that we raise our standards even further. We are now in a position to let you know about some of our most exciting plans for September onwards.

We are going to be offering a much broader curriculum next year and can promise that music and art will feature much more regularly. In addition, we are planning to increase the number of educational visits that our pupils take part in so that each pupil goes on a visit at least twice during the year. For year four pupils and year six pupils, there will be a special residential visit. In year four this will be a stay in the countryside with a number of challenges related to nature and in year six, it will be a visit to London to see a number of the capital's sights.

As well as our new curriculum, we are going to be introducing something to the pupils called 'The Ark Chamberlain Challenges'. This is a list of all sorts of different challenges for our pupils to complete during their time with us in the academy. They are wide-ranging and varied including things like learning to tie a variety of knots, meeting a politician and visiting a castle. We will let you have the full list in due course. Pupils who achieve our challenges will be awarded with special recognition certificates from our governing body.

Year Six and SATs

Well done to all our Year VI pupils who have now completed their SATs testing stage. The final assessment will be of their writing skills and we will be submitting their work towards the end of June. In the meantime our pupils, as well as continuing daily writing, will undertake a number of different projects and visits so that they can go onto their secondary schools ready for the new challenges ahead. SATs results will be available in early July.

Wendy Baxter
Principal

Having Your Say/Keeping in Touch

If you have not already completed our parent survey, please take a few moments either to complete it online using the link below (also available as a link direct from our website) or complete the attached paper version and return to the academy before half term.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BB79RJB>

We try and keep our parents updated on a daily basis with the activities of the academy and its pupils via Facebook and Twitter (@arkchamberlain) and also our Marvellous Me app. Please sign up to these if you haven't already.

Uniform



Just a reminder to parents to take the opportunity of the half term holidays to ensure that your child's uniform is complete and labelled with their name. Children may wear a red uniform dress and white tights during the summer term if they wish. However, leggings (tight trousers), boots and skirts that are significantly below the knee are not allowed. Please make sure that your child also has an academy tie if wearing a shirt.

We will be undertaking a full uniform check of all pupils in the first week after half term. We will let you know if we have any issues that need resolving.

A big thank you to the vast majority of our parents who send their children into the academy each day looking so smart and ready for learning.

PS We are currently talking with our uniform supplier about having an optional uniform sports hijab with academy logo from September.

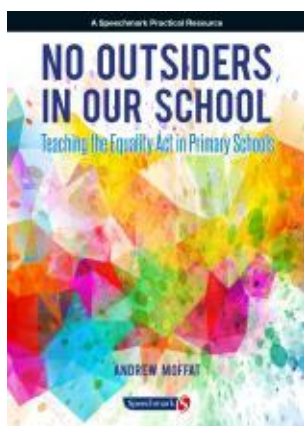
Meet the staff

We are pleased to introduce our new receptionist, Miss Bushra Iqbal, who you will meet if you come into the academy. She has previously worked at Small Heath School and prior to that spent 6 years in a doctor's surgery. Miss Iqbal says that she knew instantly that she wanted to work here because the welcome was warm and the staff greeted her with kind words and smile.



Miss Iqbal has a number of hobbies in her non-working hours including playing badminton, walking and spending time with friends and family.

Safeguarding – “Everybody’s business”



From September 2016 we will be adopting the ‘No Outsiders’ curriculum as part of our overall approach to PHSCE. This is a curriculum that enables us to teach the Equalities Act 2010 to our pupils and covers the British Values of respect and tolerance.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 9th June – Sports team to Ark Primary Sports Championship in London

Friday 10th June – INSET day, the academy is closed

Monday 20th June – Agrawal Building official opening

Tuesday 21st June – Maths team to Ark ‘Mega Maths Wrangle’ event in London

Monday 27th June – INSET day, the academy is closed

Thursday 30th June – Transition day, Y6 to their new secondary schools

Tuesday 11th July – Reports out to parents

Wednesday 12th July – Parents drop-in session

Wednesday 13th July – Summer Fayre

Thursday 14th July – Y6 to Drayton Manor

Friday 15th July – Academy Celebration Event

Last day of term Wednesday 20th with a 13:30 finish

Staff training dates for next academic year are:

5/09/16	6/09/16	09/12/16
31/10/16	14/11/16	
03/01/17	17/03/17	
26/06/17	07/07/17	

We will also close for one day over Eid, date tbc

Staff Changes

We have made a few changes to class allocation in the last week due to a change of staffing and in preparation for next year.

Miss B Brown is now with III Cambridge

Mrs J Adel is now with V Oxford

Mrs H Naseem is now with V Leeds