

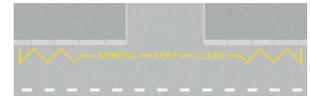


Dear Parents/Carers

We are halfway through our first half term already and so much has been happening in school. Year Six were evacuated during our recent fire drill to help them to understand how it felt to be a child evacuated to the countryside in WWII. Year Three have made a great start to swimming lessons. Reception and Nursery are settling in well to school life and a group of Year Four, Five and Six went to Symphony Hall last Friday to join many other schools from Birmingham – you'll be able to see them on The One Show very soon!

Celebration Assemblies

To match our new values of Ambition, Resilience and Respect we now have a new look celebration certificate. Our first week of celebration assemblies has been fabulous and it has been wonderful to have so many parents join us. If your child has a celebration certificate please join us at 2:30pm on a Monday for KS2 and Friday for KS1.



Parking

Once again we are having parking complaints. We ask you to park with consideration for the safety of all pupils in the school – including your own. If there is no parking space you need to leave earlier and park further away – do not be offended when we speak to you about being late to pick up your child, it is your responsibility to be on time.

Year Six Transition

We are still offering help during Tuesday Coffee mornings to all parents who need to apply for a secondary school place for their child. Please remember that if you put Ark St Albans as your first choice, as we are one of the feeder schools, you will be offered a place. All too often parents change their minds come offer day and at this point it is too late as St Albans is an extremely popular school. Please take the opportunity to go and view the secondary schools in the local area before you make your decision.

Uniform

Uniform forms a large part of our shared identity here at Ark Tindal and as such it is important that your child wears full uniform every day. This includes a tie. Headscarves should be pull on (no pins under any circumstances) and in black or grey. Hair styles should not include shapes shaved in or parts of the head shaved with other bits left long. Boots are not permitted as footwear and this has been reiterated throughout the newsletters. Boys must not have lines shaved into their heads; this is not part of our school identity. For our full uniform policy please go onto the school website.

We have also had an occasion where a child brought in a glass bottle as their water bottle. This is inappropriate in all instances. All water bottles MUST be plastic and have a flip top lid.

Homework



Following on from feedback from parents we have invested in a range of books for home learning. In years 3, 4, 5 and 6 homework will be set on a specific day and a return date given. As the homework will be marked in class it is important that children do not rush through completing multiple pages. This is additional to the Spelloidrome and Mathematics homework that school provides and as such we are asking for parents to donate £2 towards the books. This is not mandatory and every child will receive a book however, if we do not have enough payments we will not be able to provide books in future terms and will instead offer recommendations for additional work that parents can do at home with their children. Please give your £2 donation to your child's class teacher.

Punctuality

It is wonderful that the majority of pupils are in school on time each day. I would remind parents that if your child is late it can be unsettling for them. This is particularly the case in KS1 where the pupils split into groups from 8:50am – often we have pupils waiting to go to their group and they are missing valuable learning time. Whilst we understand that events can conspire against us occasionally making us late there is no excuse for being late on a regular basis.



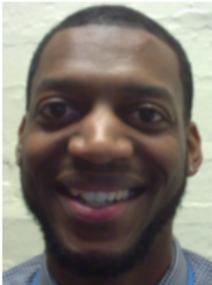
Staffing



We were sad but excited to wave Mrs Tilley off as she goes to wait for her new baby – we look forward to seeing Mrs Tilley and baby very soon! We are delighted to welcome Mr Green. Mr Green is an experienced teacher who joins us fresh from London. He has settled quickly into Year 5 and we are all pleased to welcome him to Team Tindal.



Meet our Staff – Pastoral Team

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|  <p style="text-align: center;">Outreach Worker</p> |  <p style="text-align: center;">Behaviour Worker</p> |  <p style="text-align: center;">Pastoral Support Worker – Attendance</p> |
| <p>Hello! My name is Mrs Mockbil and I have been supporting families as part of the Pastoral Team of Ark Tindal for 15 years. My role has changed over the years which has helped me develop my knowledge and understanding of how best I can support our community. My current role involves helping to safeguard our families and ensuring that all staff have a duty of care in ensuring that this is carried out every day.</p> <p>I went to Wolverhampton University to study Social Policy and Sociology and then went on to do my Masters in Learning Mentoring with John Moores University in Liverpool.</p> <p>Outside of School, I enjoy travelling and spending time with my family.</p> | <p>Hello, I am Mr Deering and I have been at Tindal for 9 years working in the Pastoral Team. I have a background in horticulture and I have a Diploma in Horticulture from South Birmingham College. Prior to working here, I was the Park Warden for Balsall Heath for 5 years and have recently put my skills to good use developing the front garden with the help of the children. I am happy to work with our pupils every day and love the fact that I can make a difference and have a positive impact on their wellbeing. I love cycling and most sports, especially football and am starting to become more skilled in photography.</p> | <p>Hello! My name is Mr Gordon and I am the Attendance Officer at Ark Tindal Primary Academy and the newest member of the Pastoral Team. This is my first year working at this school. I studied Sport Coaching at Sheffield Hallam University for three years, and after graduating I taught Physical Education in different Primary Schools throughout Birmingham with a coaching company. Outside of school I enjoy a new sport I have picked up called Free Skating!</p> |

Safeguarding Information

Our Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its pupils. We believe that everyone has an important part to play in child protection. If you have any concerns about the wellbeing or safety of any child, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Leads, Miss Francis, Mrs Mockbil or Mrs Ivins. For your information, our Nominated Governor is Fiona Parkes, the Chair of Governors is Julie Farr and the Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs) are Nora Malik, Salma Shabir and Tracey Johnson. Our Safeguarding Policy is available on the Academy website.