

Primary Weekly News

20.01.2023

Head's Introduction

Thank you to all parents that took time out of their busy morning to meet the Primary Senior Leadership Team. I speak on behalf of the team when I say we are looking forward to working with you watching the scholars grow both physically, academically, and socially. I do believe that through this partnership we can achieve more for the children and the community. I am aware that some parents and carers were unable to join us, so I have included key information below that was shared during the presentation.

Emma Penzer

Primary Headteacher



This is my 26th year of teaching in London schools. This is my fourth headship. I feel very passionate about improving opportunities for scholars at Ark John Keats.

My role is varied, and as an experienced Headteacher, I believe the following are my most important priorities -

- To recruit the very best staff that are aligned with our vision
- To ensure children attend school, are well behaved, safe and happy
- To build an ambitious and positive team that feel valued
- To ensure children enjoy their lessons and make very good progress
- To work with parents and carers and other stakeholders
- To build on the work of previous leaders to ensure AJK is at least good or better, every day.



Alex Gordon

Assistant Principal for Curriculum



My role means that I'll be working hard to develop the curriculum here at Ark John Keats. This means I'll be working with teachers to ensure that every subject we teach is taught well and in a fun, engaging way that develops our children's knowledge and skills over time, as they move from Reception through to Year 6.

This is my 9th year of teaching, and I've previously taught across large, three-form entry primary schools across Cambridgeshire, and have previously been both Deputy and Acting head.



Diane Whight

Assistant Principal for SEND & Inclusion



My main responsibility is to ensure that our school is an inclusive place, which means all scholars are welcome and included in everything that we do. I am the Inclusion Lead and SENCO, which means I oversee Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) at the school.

My main role is to ensure all scholars a well-planned academic curriculum which is differentiated according to each of their needs. We believe that with the right support, all scholars can achieve their best.

I have been teaching for many years and I have previously been SENDCo at other schools in Enfield.



Louise Baldwin

Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning



I have taught in secondary (4 years) and primary (9 years) schools across London. Prior to starting here, I worked as an Assistant Head Teacher in Newham (2 years) and Waltham Forest (5 years).

My role involves:

- ensuring all our teachers get the training and support they need (planning, teaching and marking) to ensure the scholars they are teaching make excellent progress
- overseeing the training that all staff members receive, including after school and during INSET days
- supporting all trainees and teachers who are new to the profession



Proposed Strike Action

As you know, one of the teaching unions, the NEU has voted for strike action on the following dates which affect our school:

- 1 February
- 2 March
- 15 and 16 March

The first strike day (February 1st) will not affect you as this was already booked as an INSET day and school will therefore remain closed to all students as planned.

As for these other days, we do expect some disruption to the normal running of the school day as some of our staff are members of this union and will therefore take part in this industrial action. We will update you in February when we have more information about the impact of the strike days in March.

If your child is in Year 3 – 6 they are entitled to free chromebook from school. If your child requires the chromebook please contact the school office.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Weekly Achievements Award

3	Lovelace	Natalie
3	Lovelace	Patrick
3	Jemison	Andreas
3	Jemison	Meron
3	Hawking	Kate
3	Hawking	Chloe
4	Darwin	Krystal

4	Darwin	Lavin
4	Evaristo	Oscar
4	Evaristo	Karena
4	Al-Fihri	Emma
4	Al-Fihri	Obapa

Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
23.01.23	1	Paradise Wildlife Park Trip
24.01.23	5	British Museum Trip
25.01.23	1	Mosque Trip
01.02.23	All year groups	Inset Day
02.02..23	4	London Zoo Trip
03.02.23	6	Mock SATs Week
08.02.23	All year groups	100% attendance bouncy castle parties
10.02.23	3	Trip to London Aquarium
10.02.23	All year groups	Last day of term

Happy New Year to all families celebrating.

