



# Ark John Keats Academy

29<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Families,

Our school has always run brilliant activity days where pupils take part in extended activities that enrich their curriculum and provide them with brilliant learning opportunities outside of the classroom. This Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March pupils will take part in our first Pillar Day of the year. All year groups will be taking part. Attendance is compulsory, all pupils must attend. There are two further Pillar Days in the summer term. Please see a summary of what your child can look forward to on Thursday. Your child will need to attend in their full uniform, bring their school bag, water bottle, planner, pencil case and reading books. We expect there may be rain on Thursday so your child should also bring their waterproof jacket.

**Year 7** – Communication and Technology. Pupils will take part in a number of workshops developing their coding, ICT and technological skills. You can support this further at home by helping your child use Khan Academy coding at home <https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-programming>.

**Year 8** – Art and Design. Half our pupils will be cooking and designing a brand campaign to go with their homecooked vegetable curry. The other half will be taking part in a design and engineering workshop with an external expert. You can support this further at home by asking your child to help you cook dinner!

**Year 9** – Unfortunately, due to inclement weather conditions we have had to cancel our planned trip to Walton on the Naze. Pupils will take part instead in a Geography and team building based workshop in school. *Year 9 only should come into school in their PE kit.*

**Year 10** – Relationships. Pupils will be building on the work they have done in their character sessions to consider what a healthy relationship is and how to stay safe as they grow into adulthood. You can support your child by using this guidance from the NSPCC to talk about relationships <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/sex-relationships/healthy-relationships/>

**Year 11** – Workshop on GCSE preparation. Pupils will have lots of fun and interesting workshops to help them revise and prepare for their forthcoming exams. These will start next term. Pupils in Year 11 should bring their English Literature, Science and Maths books into school as they will need them for this day. You can support your child with this revision through the following website's top tips <https://www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk/curricula-and-exams/revision-top-ten-tips-for-parents>

**Year 12 and 13** – Next steps. Pupils will work through the skills and knowledge needed to make a successful transition into post-18 education and work. You can use this website to support your conversations with them.

Yours faithfully

*S. Mullarkey*

Sean Mullarkey  
Vice Principle

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