



16th October 2019

Dear Secondary Parents,

As we approach the end of Half term 1, I am writing to you with key updates and information which you need to know as a Secondary parent. Please read this information carefully.

1. KSA awarded Ark Secondary of the Year

We were delighted that King Solomon Academy was awarded Secondary of the Year in the Ark network. The award celebrated the sustained excellence in the Secondary school and the exceptional GCSE results. The key measure that secondary schools are judged, the Progress 8 measure was the highest in the network and one of the highest in the country at 1.0, with 87% of pupils getting grade 4 or above in English and Maths. More information can be seen [here](#).

2. Mr Rimmer supporting another Ark school

As a member of the Ark schools network we often have staff work with us from other schools in the network and also have our staff help other schools. Ark's newest school, Ark Pioneer, has started with just Year 7 students. The Principal there is going on maternity leave, and so Mr Rimmer has been asked spend some time each week working at Pioneer in the Spring and Summer Term. Mr Rimmer will continue to lead the KSA Secondary, with the support of Mr Haimendorf and the rest of the leadership team.

3. Key dates for HT2

The key dates for Parents are available on the website here: <http://kingsolomonacademy.org/parents/key-dates-parents>

This will be updated over the next few days to make sure all key dates are accurate. You can check for dates and updates on the KSA website.

School Meal payments

It is important that all parents who do not receive Free School Meals are paying regularly and keeping up to date. We will be contacting all parents who are not up to date with payments, so please make sure that your account is fully paid before the end of this half term. <http://kingsolomonacademy.org/about-us/school-meals>



4. Parent Council – new parents welcome

We are keen to welcome new members to the parent council – more information including how to sign up can be found here: <http://kingsolomonacademy.org/parents/parent-community-counsultation-and-fundraising>. If you sign up by **Friday 18th October**, you will be able to join the next meetings.

5. Parent Governor

King Solomon Academy is currently recruiting for a Parent Governor. We welcome all applications from parents who would like to support the school in this way. Applications will be reviewed and we will announce the appointment of the parent governor. Thank you in advance to the range of parents who took the time to put themselves forward to serve the school.

<http://kingsolomonacademy.org/parents/parent-governor-application-deadline-15th-november>

6. Trips in Secondary – payment deadline in December

At KSA we want to provide a broad and enriching curriculum including a variety of in school and out of school activities. Full details of all the trips are found here: <http://kingsolomonacademy.org/curriculum/extended-learning/trips>.

This offer includes our significant investment in residential trips which we believe provide unique opportunities to our pupils. However, given the significantly reduced funding made available by the government we must ask parents for a contribution to these costs for them to be sustainable. If parents do not make this contribution we will not be able to organise the trips in future.

In Years 7-10 there are residential trips which are costed as follows (the cost of each trip is slightly different, so the amount the school contributes varies) – we have maintained the parent contribution as a consistent amount to allow families to plan ahead, and for simplicity.

	School Contribution	Parent contribution	Actual cost of trip
Free School Meal Eligible pupils	£120-£170	£80	£200-£250
Other pupils	£60-£110	£140	£200-£250

Payments are made through Parent Pay. The deadline for payment for the 2019-20 academic year is **Tuesday December 10th 2019**. Please make your payment before then.

Kind regards,

Mr Haimendorf
Principal