

“It takes a whole community, to bring up a child”



Ark Boulton Academy



2nd November 2021

Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for the support you have provided to your children and our community during these ongoing challenging times. As we welcome students back to the Autumn 2 term, we continue to make academic progress in our compassionate approach to Covid recovery with face-to-face teaching in the classroom. As such, I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you information concerning what your child has been learning last half-term and how this is being developed this half-term.

In September, Year 7 students successfully completed reading tests and our regular fortnightly assessment cycle in all academic subjects started.

In English lessons, Year 7 learnt about the fictional classic ‘Sherlock Holmes’ by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, which continues this term. In daily Literacy lessons students are also reading ‘A Monster Calls’. This is a book about a boy’s school life and how he comes to terms about accepting the harsh realities of his life. Whilst Science lessons were focussed on Chemistry last term, learning about particles, this term, students will learn about the fundamental topic of atoms, elements and compounds. In Maths, students are working on factors and multiples within the Number topic.

In Humanities lessons, students have enjoyed learning about Roman Britain and continue to look closer at historical sources, change and continuity of Romanised Britain. Students' progress from studying local to global perspectives and processes when learning about Human and Physical Geography and our planet. Whilst in Religious Studies students explored what is religion means, where this is reflected, key religious buildings and key people of influence.

In French, students learned basic greetings, the alphabet and how to describe themselves in French. This term, they practise their French when learning about school subjects, telling the time and expressing opinions. On the other hand, in Creative Arts, students have experienced lessons where they learn how to perform a piece of music using body percussion based on the West End performance of ‘Stomp’. In Art, students have been introduced to basic skills in pencil last term and build on this to learn about watercolour and in Drama, students have had an introduction to drama skills and forms through text in how to create a drama performance.

As you will know, Character Education is of central importance in our academy. Last term, students’ Character Education lessons were focused on respect, empathy, what it means to be judgmental and bullying and its harmful effects. We will continue this term to explore relationships which could become unhealthy, harassment, inappropriate language and the effect this has on others. This is important in supporting students to develop a vocabulary around these issues and understand how build effective relationships. As part of the new statutory policy on Relationships and Sexual Education, we will then look at sexual behaviours and how abuse and violence can have harmful and long-lasting effects. This will conclude our work on the importance of respectful

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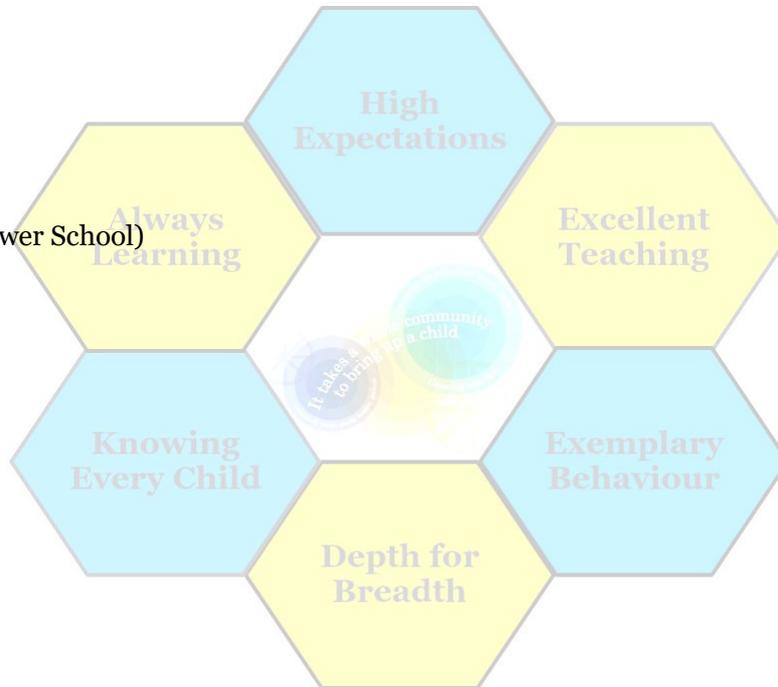
relationships this term. This work is explained further in our policy: <https://arkboulton.org/page-strips/our-policies-18>

These topics, across subjects are interesting and challenging for our students. If you would like to discuss these with us in greater depth, we are offering a voluntary Parent Coffee Morning on Friday 12th November at 10:30 am – 11:15 am where senior leaders will be available to meet with you in our Main Reception area. Please complete this survey if you would like to attend: <https://forms.office.com/r/dfgcWVvQX>

Finally, we will be writing to you later this term to provide you with an update of your child’s academic progress following their ‘Boulton Termly Assessments’.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Assi
Assistant Principal (Lower School)



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