

SEPTEMBER 2016

Back to School



AND WHAT A GREAT START BACK TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

The children have all returned smart in their uniform, ready to learn and have settled well across the academy.

There is much to achieve this year and already the school has a great buzz about it as we all go about being busy with the business of learning and teaching.

Thank you for helping us ensure your child has started the year in such a positive way.

You will be receiving further detailed information from your child's Phase Leader about what they are learning, homework projects and how you can help them so please look out for that.

Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any queries or worries in the first instance and there are always plenty of staff in and around the academy to help you too.

We are all looking forward to the year ahead!

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

After school clubs begin this week – see your text messages for details
19/9/16

Genes for Jeans
23/9/16

School Photos
29/9/16



**ARK AYRTON
PRIMARY ACADEMY**
SOMERS ROAD
SOUTHSEA
PORTSMOUTH
HANTS
PO5 4LS

ATTENDANCE

The National Expectation for attendance is at least 96%.
Last year we achieved 95% (just!!) - this is not good enough.
Already, our attendance after 8 school days is only 90%.

Whole school this year



Please ensure your child comes to school on time every day unless they are really poorly, we will not authorise term time holiday or leave and will request medical evidence if your child's attendance begins to cause us concern.

Mrs Hewitt, Mandy, Debbie and Helen and your child's class staff are all on hand to support you with this.

We work closely with the local authority. Last year we fined the most parents we ever have for failing to ensure their children attended school well. We will continue to do this.

UNIFORM

Please may we remind you that the only earrings children can wear are small gold studs - this is for uniform and health and safety reasons - we will ask you to remove any other earrings should your child wear them.

All children need a PE kit in school each week. This needs to be black shorts, white t-shirt, a grey track suit in colder weather and very importantly a change of footwear of black plimsolls or trainers.

Again this is to both fulfill our uniform policy and for health, hygiene and safety reasons

We do not have a lot of spare PE kit and whilst we will, lend it to children the first time they forget their kit, we cannot keep doing this. Letters will be issued and children will receive a detention if they continue not to bring their own kit to school.

Every two weeks we are going to focus on teaching and developing a different characteristic in the children to help them develop life-long skills and a mindset that will help them throughout their lives.

We are currently learning about 'RESILIENCE.'

Resilience is being able to bounce back from a problem and being able to manage how you feel about it.

Please support us by talking to your child about this and helping them be resilient eg keep trying to put their own shoes on, complete their homework even if they find it tricky and so on.

We will keep you informed as the characteristics change so we can all practice and do it together!



