



**ARENA**  
ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st May 2021

Proudly sponsored by **CORE** Education Trust

Good afternoon parents and carers,

We are sure many of you are aware this year the GCSE examinations are not taking place and students in Year 11 will be given Teacher Assessed Grades. This requires teachers to mark, assess, and moderate large amounts of evidence before submitting grades to the examination boards.

Over the last few weeks, staff have undertaken this work, most of which would usually be undertaken by examination boards. It is imperative that this process is undertaken with the utmost diligence and integrity by staff to ensure that the grades Year 11 students receive in August are a fair and accurate reflection of the work they have produced.

To enable teachers to undertake this task requires a considerable amount of time and in order to create additional time, **school will be closed to students on Friday 28th May.**

Students will be required to work from home and access work through Microsoft Teams.

End of Year examinations will be taking place from Monday 14th June for all students in Years 7 – 10. In preparation for these examinations on Thursday 27th May, students will bring home the following:

- An End of Year Examination timetable.
- A summary of the topics to be assessed in each of their subjects for the End of Year Examinations.

- Techniques based on how students should revise.
- Guidance on how to help your child revise.
- Revision tips and techniques, websites and revision materials

As well as all the work around year 11, we've had two very important foci areas in school over the last two weeks. Last week was Mental Health Week with the emphasis on connecting with nature. This week we have been focussing on gangs and knife crime. All students have been involved in a webinar with a youth worker and we've hosted workshops and assemblies on this subject.

Our tutoring programme continues apace though we are aware that there have been some issues around the availability of tutors. Please accept our apologies for the delay in some of the tutoring. This is an issue nationally and is out of our control, but we are doing all we can to satisfy demand for the tutoring programme.

Don't forget that we break up for half-term at the end of next week. Students are in school on Thursday 27th but will be working online on Friday 28th. Students are then back in school at their normal times on Monday 7th June.

Wishing you a safe and relaxing weekend.

All at Arena

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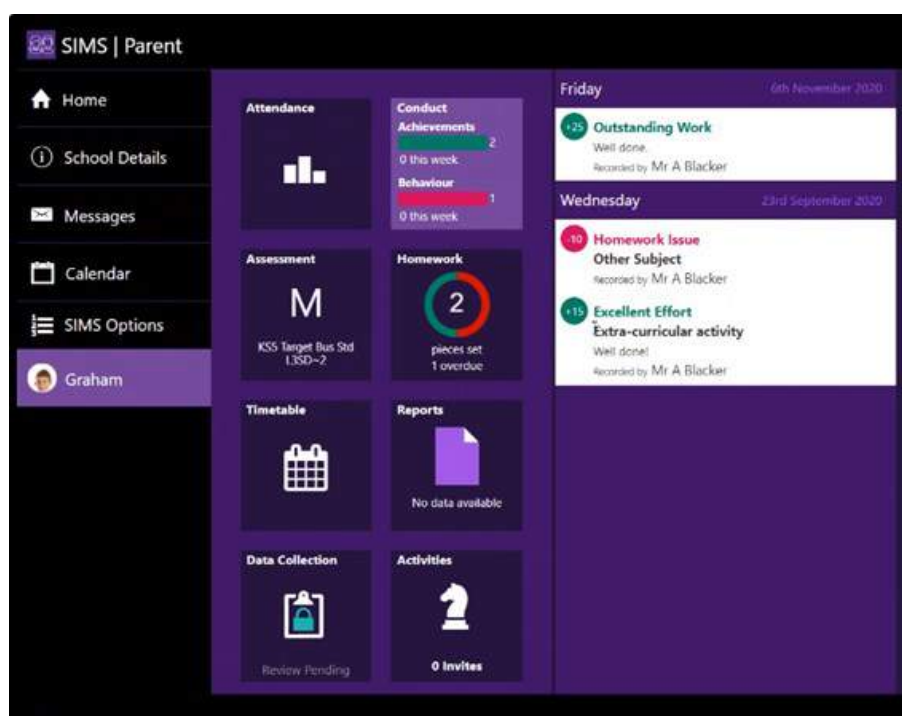
# Arena Parent App

Exciting news!

We will be launching a new application called SIMS Parent. You will be able to download this as an app from the App Store or Google Play to use on your mobile device (tablet or smart phone) or you can access it via web browser on your PC or laptop.

The SIMS Parent application will allow you to monitor your child's performance in many different areas, such as: behaviour conduct, praise points and attendance. In addition to this, you can view your child's timetable and see their termly progress reports and exam results sheets. More information about this will follow soon.

Mr Khan



## HPV Vaccinations - Year 8 Boys

Following on from the vaccinations earlier this month, please note that on Thursday 27th May our year 8 boys will be receiving their HPV vaccinations.

## Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 27th May: All students in school as normal. Year 10 Parents Evening via Schoolcloud. Bookings close Tuesday 25th May at 4pm.
- Friday 28th May: School closed to students for GCSE TAGs. All lessons on Teams. School closes for Whit-week half-term holiday.
- Monday 7th June: School reopens. 8.30am for years 7 & 8. 9.00am for years 9-11.

## Hot Chocolate Friday!

Each week our students will have the opportunity to take part in Hot Chocolate Friday! Mr Mann will be personally inviting students who have gone 'above and beyond' in their learning throughout the school week to share a hot drink and a chat together.



This is an opportunity for Mr Mann to spend time with members of the school who always do the right thing and get on quietly - it is so important that our fantastic students get the recognition that they deserve! These students and their achievements will also be displayed on our TV screens throughout the following week.

A big well done to the following students who were invited to this week's Hot Chocolate Friday:

Year 8 - Kyle 8SVA, Roseanna 8SVA, Rihanna 8HCU and Tarikul 8HCU

Year 10 - Deenah 10CFI, Harkiran 10KBL, Harry 10SCO and Luke 10SNA



## Parental Questionnaire - Your input requested

Dear Arena Academy parents and carers,

My name is Jeannette Weir and I am clerk to the governors at Arena Academy. Your school has kindly agreed to help me make contact with you to invite you to take part in my university research project.

I am interested in finding out about your involvement in your children's learning during lockdown, regardless of how much or how little you were able to provide support. The first part of the research is completing a questionnaire which can be accessed through this link:

<https://outofschoolllearningproject.info/questionnaire/>

All submitted eligible questionnaires will go into a prize draw for a £50 shopping voucher. I am looking forward to hearing from you!



## Covid India Appeal



Last Friday we held a fundraising day for the appeal to aid India with the ongoing Covid crisis. We were all moved by the pictures we saw on the news and felt that we needed to respond in some way.

Therefore we held a 'trainer day' in which we could all come to school in our trainers in return for a donation.

We were delighted and humbled by the generosity shown by our community and over £400 has been raised so far. Many thanks to everyone who has dug deep for this cause.

It is not too late to donate if you wish, and donations can be made by clicking this link:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/covid-19-india>



## Gangs & Knife-Crime Week

Many thanks to Craig Pinkney from Solve: The Centre for Youth Violence & Conflict for hosting a webinar this Monday on the reasons for and the dangers of knife-crime.

This was a thought-provoking and moving session which formed part of our week-long focus on the dangers of knife-crime.

Students have also been involved in assemblies and workshops throughout the week to raise awareness of the issues surrounding gangs and knife-crime, and we were visited by local community police officers who spoke face-to-face with form groups. Many thanks to Ms Blackwood for organising this important and thought-provoking week.





# Gangs & Knife-Crime Week

Many congratulations to Deeya in 10SCO for winning the knife-crime poster competition, chosen by West Midlands Police. A brilliant piece of work, Deeya!



Runners-up prizes will also go to:

Alice 7FTI

Xin Yi 7FTI

Amari 8SVA

Havwa 8FBE

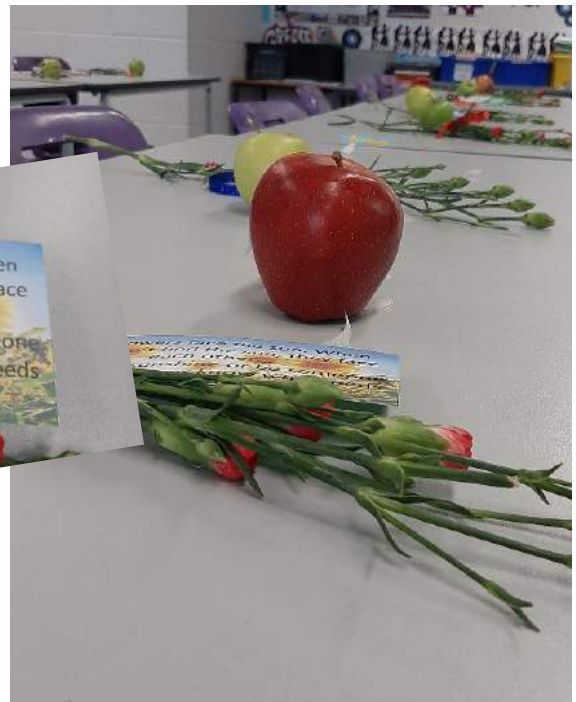
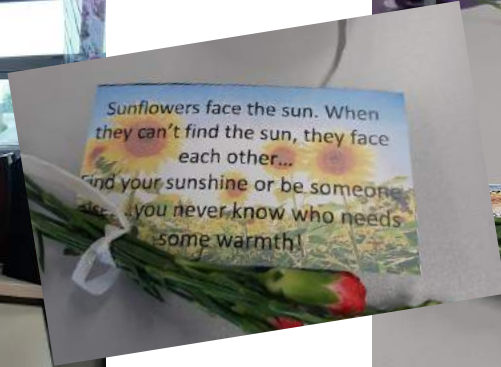
Josephine 9JDH

Well done everyone!



# Mental Health Week

Last week was Mental Health Week in school with the focus on Connecting with Nature. All our students were involved with assemblies and various workshops took place throughout the week. Many of our classes were given time to go outside and spend a little time in the world around us.



7FEI

Thank you to everyone who took part in Mental Health Awareness Week with the theme of Nature. All of your efforts were really appreciated and I hope this is something that carries on and not just for the week. The winning Form Groups had not only had plants inside but also embraced the theme with the atmosphere in the rooms and also walks in nature.

8SVA



7LFR



7HBR





# Family Literacy

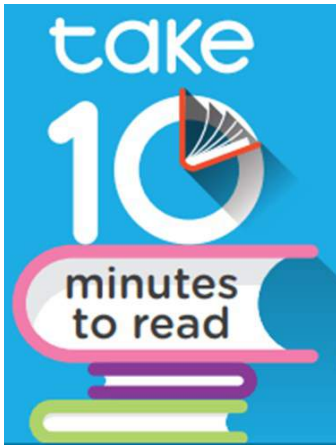
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**ARENA  
ACADEMY**

This month at Arena we decided to take part in the National Literacy Trust challenge: **Take 10 to Read!** Over 100,000 individuals across the country took part and helped spread the message that reading is great for your wellbeing! Our learners understood that reading for just

- Improve your wellbeing and boost your mood
- Help us connect with our emotions
- Improve our confidence in reading and

## Teacher's Favourites



Here are some of our teachers favourite books, parents/carers let us know what you enjoy reading!

The benefits of reading 20 minutes a day are abundant and worth the time. Make reading 20 minutes a day a priority to improve test scores, grow vocabulary, build empathy for others, decrease stress, and increase your sleep. That is a win-win.

If you need more resources and strategies to get your child reading 20 minutes a day check out the links below.

[How to Instill the Love of Reading in Your Child](#)

[Super Simple Trick For Children Who Struggle With Reading](#)



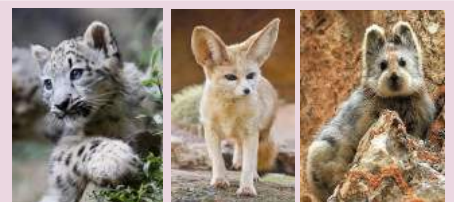
Word of the  
Week

**Endangered**

Friday 21<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**National Endangered Species Day**

Can you guess which one of these animals are



Thank you for reading! If you have any questions, feedback or good literacy practice you would like to share, please email me at:

nyesmin@arena-academy.birmingham

# School Nurse Virtual Drop-In Clinic

Birmingham School Health Support Service



Birmingham  
Community Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

## SCHOOL NURSE VIRTUAL DROP-IN CLINIC

Every  
Tuesday  
from  
4:30-5:30pm

Your School Nurse is here to help you feel healthy, happy and safe during your school years and to get the best from your education.

**Join the link and talk to a School Nurse.** We provide a confidential and friendly service.

<https://nhs.vc/BCHC/C-F/Schl-Nurse/Drop-In>

