

# ALEC REED ACADEMY



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Acting Principal and CEO: Phil Cosby

28<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are all enjoying the improving weather and the lighter evenings. Hopefully, the threat of Covid is behind us and we can look forward to once again taking full benefit of living in one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. The Spring Holiday starts on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April when all pupils will be dismissed at 1.15pm. Over the break I encourage you to visit one of the great parks in London or, if its more convenient go to Northala Fields and climb the four distinctive grass mounds running along the south of the A40. There is also a mosaic of different wildlife habitats and great play spaces for primary age children.

We are fortunate to have these opportunities on our door-step as this is not the case in many countries in the world. The ongoing conflict in Ukraine is obviously at the forefront of our minds but we should remember that many members of the ARA community have arrived in Britain due to conflict in their county of birth, examples include Afghanistan, Syria, Somalia and Palestine. I know that our pupils are keen to raise funds for children that have been impacted by conflicts around the world. It may well be that we will, soon have refugees join us from Ukraine and I'm sure we will do all we can to welcome them and help them settle into our community.

Ealing Council have confirmed that they are once again delivering the **Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme** over the Easter holiday. This initiative is funded by the **Department for Education and provides** free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities for children and young people from Reception to Y11 who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals and live in the London Borough of Ealing. You can find out more about what is on offer and where through the web link below.

<https://www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/ealing/directory/haf.page>

Ealing Council is pleased to offer the Spring Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, funded by the Department for Education to provide free holiday activities for school-aged children (Reception to Y11 academic year 21/22) who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. Children must be a resident of Ealing or attend an Ealing school to be eligible.

For more information, to speak to someone or if you do not have access to the internet to book please contact:  
Ealing's Family Information Service  
020 8825 5588, Mon-Fri, 9am to 1pm  
or send an email to [HAF@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@ealing.gov.uk)  
Visit our website for more activities and family support services information.  
[www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk](http://www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk)

Visit our Local Offer for advice and information for children and families with Special Educational Needs and / or a Disability (SEND).  
[www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk](http://www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk)  
Keep up-to-date with news and information for families in Ealing on Facebook.  
[www.facebook.com/ealingfis](https://www.facebook.com/ealingfis)  
[www.facebook.com/ealinglocaloffer](https://www.facebook.com/ealinglocaloffer)

Fun activities - get creative, make new friends and learn new things.  
Alec Reed Academy  
Code: HAF22E134369

Children & Families

Ealing  
[www.ealing.gov.uk](http://www.ealing.gov.uk)

Department for Education

the PiXL club  
partners in excellence

'The Collins PiXL Award for Outstanding Progress' National Award Winners 2014



## ClassCharts

At ARA we use Classcharts in both the primary and secondary to help parents and carers support their children's learning. The programme is particularly useful in the secondary phase where parents and carers can use ClassCharts to:

Access their child's weekly timetable	View assigned homework tasks	Keep track of their child's behaviour
View attendance records	Track scheduled detentions	View announcements from the school.

The software is simple and easy to use and can be accessed through an App on your phone. It helps to keep pupils organised, motivated, praised and rewarded as well as setting out any sanctions that might be used to manage inappropriate behaviours. To find out more about how you can more effectively use ClassCharts go the Academy website at <https://www.alecreedacademy.co.uk/page/?title=WHAT+IS+CLASS+CHARTS%3F&pid=242>

We begin the summer term on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April** and we ask that you make sure that any uniform issues have been resolved for our return. To support families we now have a pre-loved uniform store and I encourage you to make contact with your Child's SaFE Worker should you require support in sourcing items of uniform. It would be appreciated if you could assist us in this initiative by donating any items of uniform that your child has outgrown. I know that these will be well received by parents facing financial difficulty.

In a previous letter I highlighted that one of the areas of improvement in the academy were the Primary Playgrounds. I am pleased to be able to report that the play equipment for the Year Two playground will be installed over the Easter holiday and the Board of Trustees has just signed off a new shelter that will extend along the full length of the Arc. This will enable Nursery, Reception and Year 1 to have an outdoor covered playground area.

Prior to Covid the academy was in the process of trying to eradicate as much single use plastic as possible. This was in line with the announcement by Damian Hinds, the Education Secretary in 2018. During the last two years this plan has had to be placed put on hold. However, we feel that this can now be reimplemented with an aim to dispense with the use of plastic straws, bottles, bags and food packaging. A major step in this process is that we are introducing refillable water bottles that pupils can purchase for £1. These will also be available as one of the prizes in the rewards store. Specialist water fountains where bottles can be filled were installed prior to Covid.



As well as educating our children in literacy and numeracy we also have a key role in teaching them about key personal values such as Respect, Honesty and Kindness. The improved weather last week meant that some pupils thought it was appropriate to have water fights after school. On Friday afternoon, what had begun as a game soon escalated and some of our pupils let the academy down by failing to display these key values to parents and the wider community. The children that were involved in these antics at the local parade of shops will be sanctioned as a result of their behaviour.

We must remember that it is only a small group of pupils who have behaved in this way and let the Academy community down.

Last week I was able to give some of our new incoming Year 7 pupils and parents a tour of the Academy when they were invited in to see some of the learning that is taking place here. I would like to say that I am immensely proud of what I was able to show these visitors.

I wish you all an enjoyable Easter break.

**Phil Cosby**  
**Acting Principal & CEO**