

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



10th June 2022

Good afternoon everyone,

Welcome back after half term and the resplendent national Jubilee celebrations. How proud we all felt to be British—I am sure. I cannot quite choose a favourite moment from the few days that we all shared; the Red Arrows, Prince Louis faces whilst standing on the Palace balcony or indeed finding out what has been in Her Majesty's handbag all of these years! At my time of life too, I thoroughly enjoyed seeing Dame Joan Collins in the Pageant in her Vintage Jaguar. What a shame for Dame Prue Leith however as she broke down



mid parade! Those buses full of famous faces were amazing with Sir Cliff singing his heart out. Truly a remarkable occasion indeed. I saw the photographs of the Alcester Street Party. It looked like a glorious community event.



Back down to earth then, here at the Academy this week, our year 11s have got back into the swing of their GCSEs. Revision sessions this week were well attended, and the students worked hard towards some big core exams. Thank you also to staff who led revision sessions during half term. Our year 7s are just getting their first tasters of exam preparation this week as they then head into a testing week in class next week. We wish them good luck!

Our year 10 geographers have spent a few days on their field trip to Blencathra. I'm very grateful to the staff who have attended with them. This is really above and beyond. Waterproofs seemed to be the order of the trip though sadly! I'll have a more detailed report on the trip next week for you all.

Miss Buckthorp led assembly on the theme of diversity this week and as you will see when you arrive at school, we are celebrating PRIDE month in June too.



Ofsted Update

I heard yesterday from Ofsted again. As a response to my complaint about how our first inspection appeal was handled, there were no grounds found for any changes, or any concerns found by Ofsted to the inspection process.

Ofsted said;

'I regret that you were disappointed with the handling of your concerns. This internal review has established that all available information was carefully considered and your concerns were addressed thoroughly and in line with our published policy.'

Thank you to the year 11 parent who found the time to visit our Director of Education, Nadhim Zawahi at his Constituency Surgery just before half term, on the matter of our Ofsted Inspection. As a result of this, Mr Zahawi has asked if I might invite him to visit Alcester Academy so that he can reassure staff here that there are no concerns as a result of our recent Inspection. As ever, I will keep you updated.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your amazing support and the community unity shown during our Inspection process.

Good luck @Mr_B

<https://worcestershirehour.co.uk/awards-voting/>

You will recall me announcing recently that Mr Bowater, teacher of geography had been shortlisted for *Worcestershire's Social Media Personality of the Year*. Voting is now open, and I know you'll help get everyone behind this award.

The Green Bus

We are aware of the £95 surcharge that the Green Bus are requesting off customers. I can only apologise to parents who are faced with this right now.

Last year 11 Saturday School

Tomorrow is the last year 11 Saturday School of the academic year for maths, from 10am -12 noon, live in school. Thanks to the maths team for this and all of our teachers who have provided extra sessions for students this year. I will have some random prizes on offer to those students who attend this last session as an incentive! Watch this space.

Congratulations to our new Student Leaders for 2022-23

I am delighted to announce our new Student Captains as Luke and Maisie.

And their deputies Ted and Emily.



I want to offer my thanks to all of the year 10s who put themselves forward for these roles. We had more this year than in any other. I'm also very grateful to our outgoing Year 11 team for their time and commitment to the school: Louie, Poppy, Tiago and Gabrielle. I am delighted with their contribution to the school over the last year. I wish them every success for the future.

Congratulations Toby!

Well done to Toby in year 10 and his sales team this week for making and selling cakes in order to raise money for his Scout Jamboree.



Good Luck Esme

We wish Esme in year 9 the best of luck as she embarks on her hair cut in support of the *Make A Wish* charity. Esme's lovely long hair will be donated to the Princess Trust. Esme is doing this after benefitting from the *Make A Wish* Charity after her own Stem Cell Treatment. We are very proud of you! £530 raised so far!



Year 8 Options

Mr Hollis has now received all of the Options forms, thank you. Students will be updated before the end of term on their final subject allocations. This will be in a letter to parents.

Welcome – New Governor

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome another new Governor to Alcester Academy; Mrs Louise Horne




“I have lived in the area for 8 years and moved to Alcester over 5 years ago. My son attended a local primary and is now in year 11 at Alcester Academy, sitting his GCSE exams.

I'm a Chartered Accountant, with a background in both practice and industry, and currently head up the accounts function for a subsidiary of a multi-national company.

Having experienced being a parent of an Academy student, and also being a part of the Alcester community, I wanted to 'give something back' and am looking forward to drawing from my professional knowledge and expertise in the capacity of Governor.”


I would like to take this opportunity to thank Louise for responding to our request for volunteers to join our full governing body.



Alcester Court Leet Street market

“THE ROMANS ARE BACK IN TOWN”

PARADE / STALLS / PIG ROAST / BANDS / ENTERTAINMENT / GREAT FAMILY FUN



KINDLY SPONSORED BY
AGS Gas Limited
The Heating Engineers

Alcester High Street
June 12th 2022
1pm-6pm

Rock Academy – World Tour!

I am sending our rockers the very best for their primary school tour that begins this half term. Thanks to our own 'Brian May Badham' for organising this.



Community Fridge

Thank you for the donations to the Community Fridge project. Together, we raised £944.00. There is a meet and greet gathering for volunteers on Monday evening 20th June at Alcester Baptist Church at 7pm. Please attend if you are interested in supporting this further.



Our next non uniform day is Thursday 23rd June in aid of the charity - Heart Link

<https://www.heartlinkchildrenscharity.co.uk/>

This will be the last charity driven non uniform day of the academic year. I am very grateful to you for supporting these throughout the academic year. They still remain the easiest solution in school for generating donations to our charity causes. The Heart Link day is already available on the Gateway for you.

Jubilee Draw - EPRAISE

Congratulations to Lottie, year 7 for being the EPRAISE winner for the Jubilee Draw. If you recall, we put the top 70 EPRAISERS in to a draw for a chance to win this.



Our top 70 students with the most Epraise points were entered in a draw to win top prize £70 voucher of their choice.

Lottie was delighted with her £70 Sports Direct voucher along with Molly, Fiona, Jude, Fynn and Scarlett who won £25 vouchers for Amazon, PlayStation & ASOS.

Well done on earning all those points!

TEXTACADEMY

Report incidents of bullying, theft, cyber issues, crime or anti-social behaviour



I'm being bullied - I don't know what to do -

textacademy to 07563130478

with your message

or

email your message to:

textacademy@alcesteracademy.org.uk

07563130478

You will be staggered to read that between the various events in school this year, you have helped us to raise £9,069 already.

Fizzy drinks

Just a reminder that fizzy drinks and energy products are not permitted in school.

Uniform

Nose studs are not permitted in school, or clear posts in replacement of these. Thank you.

Equally, false eye lashes are not a required item of school wear.

**Holidays in term time.
Again, I ask for parents not to request
leave of absence in term time,
thank you.**

The GRAND Marathon

This June, Marathon Kids UK will be challenging children all across the UK to complete a marathon by walking/running/skipping or hopping with or in memory of their grandparents. To register: Simply donate £2.62 per person to <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/thegrandmarathon-marathonkidsuk>

MARATHON KIDS U.K.

Clean Air Day – 16th June 2022

<https://www.actionforcleanair.org.uk/campaigns/clean-air-day>

Clean Air matters to everyone, and children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of pollution. Schools across the county are invited to engage with the topic of clean air and encourage their students to enter our competition. Pupils can pick any topic relevant to our theme, including the causes and effects of air pollution, ways to reduce it (for example cycling to school, walking to the shops, using public transport, tree planting, etc) and so on.



The competition is open to children and young people in every Key Stage, and each Key Stage has two categories:

- Visual art: for example, drawings, paintings, posters, papier-mache, cartoons, etc.
- Written art: for example, short stories, poetry, news articles, comic strips, etc.

Schools then select the best from their pupils' work, submitting one for each Key Stage and category for the final judging. How to make that selection is up to each individual school to decide.

**The deadline for submitting entries is
7th July.**

The category winners in each Key Stage will be announced on 20th July and there will be a prize and a certificate for all winners.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries should be emailed (copied, scanned where appropriate, and files attached) to Clean Air Warwickshire in the first instance at: cleanairwarwickuk@gmail.com.

Please write 'Clean Air Arts Competition' in the subject line.

By entering the competition, entrants agree that their artwork may be displayed on the Clean Air Warwickshire and Warwickshire County Council websites and social media channels, at the Leamington Spa Eco-fest in September, and at other venues across the county.

New Alcester Headteachers

I would like to take this opportunity to personally welcome the new School Leaders to Alcester at AGS and St Benedict's. Both Rachel Thorpe and Luke Payton took up their new roles on Monday. I'm sure that they will find our fabulous town as welcoming as I have.

Thank you Kerri Sparkes

Thank you to parent, Kerri for continuing to work on making our grounds look so delightful. Kerri gives up her weekends and evenings to do this for the school.

Mrs O' Shea

There are just a couple of weeks left to send in parent best wishes for Mrs O' Shea; head teacher at St Nicholas' Primary School. Please email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Uniform for 22-23

Further to my feature last week on savings to be made with uniform for September 2022, we would welcome any donations of good quality uniform at the end of term that is now too small or not needed. Thank you.

Is there a small group of parents who might be kind enough to volunteer to run a drop in shop at school before we break up in July? Please let me know head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

I suspect that 2-3 hours would be required. Items would be sold for a very small donation, listed in advance of the sale.

Congratulations!

Many congratulations to Harvey, year 11 and Ellis, year 9 who have helped out volunteering for *Variety, The Children's Charity* for quite a few years now. One of their recent events was a fundraising awards ceremony in Birmingham, hosted by Jonnie Irwin, TV presenter. Harvey and Ellis helped throughout the night with the raffle, auction and other fundraising initiatives. The event raised £1000s of pounds for disadvantaged and disabled children across the West Midlands

region. We are very proud of you indeed boys!



I always sit down to update you on the week here and am amazed at quite how much we cover. I'm certain that there are things missed out too. Good luck to our athletes competing this weekend. Mr Powell has an early start tomorrow for sure!

Finally, good luck to Mr Badham and the bands performing at the Alcester Street Market on Sunday too.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend ahead.

Best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Alcester & District Friends of CRUK
30TH ALCESTER GARDEN WALKABOUT
Sunday 26th June 2022
ADMISSION from 12.00 to 5.00pm

Around 20 gardens large and small will be open for viewing behind the ancient houses in the centre of this historic town. Also open the award-winning Malt Mill Lane area and St Nicholas Church.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS
TEAS, REFRESHMENTS AND ICE-CREAMS
PLANTS FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICES!

TICKETS £5 EACH
(Accompanied Children under 12 Free)
ON SALE AT OUR STALL IN CHURCH STREET
or in advance from www.cruk-alcester.org.uk

Sorry, but dogs are not allowed in the gardens.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
SUE BLACKBURN
cruk.org TEL 01789 764756

In aid of
CANCER RESEARCH UK

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATORY
Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (2089406) and Scotland (SC0416661)

Alne Fest 2022 18th JUNE 3-9pm

Live music • Local bands & singers
BBQ & bar • Stalls & family fun
Great Alne Primary School

Tickets available at: www.alnefest.co.uk

Vacancy Lead Teacher of RE



Starting September 2022 (*Preferred but not essential*)

MPS1 £25,714 to UPS3 £41,604

Closing Date: Friday 24th June 2022 at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 27th June 2022

A vacancy has arisen to become the Lead Teacher of R.E within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally as a result of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance.

This is an exciting role for the right candidate and will require passion and energy for the subject. At Alcester Academy, teachers enjoy the freedom to deploy their individual skills, and talents, whilst conveying a passion for their subject and delivering excellent outcomes.

Students in Year 7 and 8 currently study Philosophy as part of the R.E curriculum and then spend Year 9 and 10 studying Theology. A small group of Year 11s currently choose to continue on to study a GCSE in RE with Christianity and Buddhism as the main religions.

We are looking for someone to:

- *Strategically lead the curriculum development and teaching of GCSE Religious Education*
- *Further develop and coordinate the delivery of the RE curriculum at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 (both as an option subject and as whole school RE) so that it is relevant, engaging and coherent.*
- *To assess, track and monitor student progress and plan and enact intervention and support as needed and to be accountable for this.*

Keep up to date with national and local developments in religious education.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including newly qualified teachers.

A TLR would be considered for the appropriate candidate.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Headteacher, for an informal discussion, or simply complete the application form.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Epraise—the past 7 days

Top Students past 7 days:

1	Molly	7HT	20 points
2	Tom	7WI	17 points
3	Rosie	7SI	16 points
4	Fleur	7SI	15 points
4	Alice	7HT	15 points
4	Tibault	7SI	15 points
7	Seven	9YA	12 points
8	Ryan	9BW	11 points
8	Noah	7WI	11 points
8	Harry	7TY	11 points

Top Staff past 7 days:

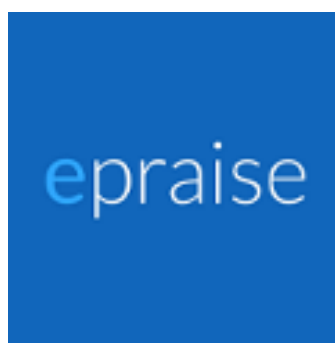
1	Miss Lewis	417 points
2	Mr Yarrington	223 points
3	Mrs Scott	124 points
4	Mr Rossiter	107 points
4	Miss Heitmuller	107 points
6	Miss Simpson	105 points
7	Mrs Weatherley	103 points
8	Miss Burgess	92 points
9	Mr Bowater	70 points
9	Miss Home	70 points

Top Tutor Groups past 7 days:

1	7SI	178 points
2	7HT	167 points
3	7RA	142 points
4	7TY	140 points
5	7WI	136 points
6	9YA	103 points
7	9WE	100 points
8	9BL	98 points
9	8SO	80 points
9	9BW	80 points

Top Subjects past 7 days:

1	English	543 points
2	Art	242 points
3	Science	209 points
4	History	142 points
5	Geography	119 points
6	German	106 points
7	French	103 points
8	Maths	77 points
9	Performing Arts	65 points
10	IT	51 points



Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2022

Half term Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
 Back to school Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Term ends Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 3.25pm

AUTUMN TERM 2022

School closed
Teacher training days Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th September 2022

Autumn Term begins

Years 7 and 11 only Wednesday 7th September 2022
 Years 8, 9 and 10 only Thursday 8th September 2022
 All students back Friday 9th September 2022

Half term Monday 24th October — Friday 28th October 2022
 Back to school Monday 31st October 2022
 Autumn Term ends Friday 16th December 2022 at 12.40pm

Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable

Year 11

GCSE Examinations — Monday 16th May — Tuesday 28th June 2022
 GCSE Contingency Day — Wednesday 29th June 2022 — all students must be available

Year 10

Internal MFL Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 20th June 2022
 Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 9

Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 8

Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 7

In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13th June 2022
 Full Report published to parents/carers — Tuesday 19th July 2022

Dates for your diary – next half term

Week beginning 13th June	Year 7 exams in class
Thursday 23rd June	Year 11 prom
Friday 24th June	Year 9 geography trip to Bristol
Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th June	KS4 West End Trip
Thursday 30th June	Celebration Evening. Invited students.
Tuesday 5th July	New Parents' Evening
Wednesday 6th July	Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 14th July	Sports Day year 7-10
Monday 18th July	Rewards Trips
Tuesday 19th July	Finish for the summer holidays at 3.25pm
Thursday 25th August	GCSE results in school from 8.30am. More detail to follow

Views of parents whose children have an EHCP

As part of a project to improve the Annual Review Processes, Warwickshire County Council are seeking the views of parents and carers whose children have an Education Health and Care Plan which has had, or was due to have, an Annual Review between 1st June 2021 and 31st July 2022.

If this is true for your family please could you complete the survey. To access the survey please scan this QR code



Or follow this link <https://forms.office.com/r/mTfJgYKkJV>. The survey will close on 31st July 2022.

If you would prefer a paper copy of this survey please contact sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk to request this. This survey can be made available in other languages, again please contact sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk to request this if required.

Warwickshire's SEND Local Offer



Has lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families including:

- Early Help
- Early Years
- Parenting Support
- Education
- Health and Wellbeing
- Social Care
- Preparing for Adulthood
- Travel and Transport
- Community Support



If you need help accessing the local offer, please speak to your school or early years setting, local library or children and family centre.

Or contact the Family Information Service on 01926 414144 option 1, Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send  @WarksLocalOffer  @WarksFIS 



Music in Warwickshire

Have Your Say!

The [Warwickshire Music Hub](#) provides musical opportunities for thousands of children and young in schools and communities across Warwickshire every week.

To help ensure that we are providing the right musical opportunities, in the right way, at the right time and in the right place for you.

We want to know:

- About the types of music you enjoy.
- If you learn or would like to learn how to play a musical instrument.
- If you would like to make or create your own music.
- Where and how you do or might want to do this.

Please take a few moments to tell us about your music making, and musical ambitions using the link.

Have Your Say About Music!

- Secondary aged young people [click here](#)

The survey is live until Friday 8th July 2022.

Please share the link with your friends.



Alcester Academy

'Pupils are proud to attend Alcester Academy.'

'Behaviour in school is exemplary, both in and out of lessons.'

'Staff have high expectations of all pupils and pupils are keen to meet these expectations.' *Ofsted 2022*

Open Events 2022

Thursday 22nd September - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

The Staff and Governors of Alcester Academy warmly invite you to our:

Open Evening

Thursday 22nd September - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Guided Open Mornings

Monday 19th September to Friday 23rd September

9.30am to include a SLT Q&A session

Respectfully we ask families to book just one guided open morning at their convenience during this week.

Please call the main office on 01789 762285 in September or alternatively email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk anytime.

Alcester Academy, Gerard Road, Alcester, B49 6QQ tel: 01789 762285 email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire School pupils recorded 31,196 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn term 2019.

School Attendance — up to 9.6.22

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
90.7%	92.2%	92.8%	90.2%	89.4%	91.1%

This week's top tutor groups

7SI, 8PW, 9YA, 10AN and 11HO — *Well done! Mrs Hodges*

Careers Zone



One of the *Careers Zone* highlights this year has been inviting people to join our *drop-in taster sessions* during lunchtimes.

It is an informal way of students accessing a variety of different careers that appeal to them.

They have proved extremely successful and we are now in the process of finding new opportunities for them to explore from September.

If you feel that you could spare an hour to chat about your occupation, no matter what that may be, then please contact me at careerzone@alcesteracademy.org.uk.





Alcester Academy Year 6 Summer School

MONDAY 25TH JULY TO FRIDAY 29TH JULY

Our plan includes:

* TEAM BUILDING GAMES * CONFIDENCE BUILDERS * SCIENCE,
MATHS & ENGLISH * OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES * SURPRISE EVENTS *

There will be a charge of £160 for the week which includes costs for lunch,
refreshments and all activities for the week.

The planned week for summer school is Monday 25th July to Friday 29th July
with each daily session running from 09:00 to 15:00.

If you would like further information please complete:
[Register your interest form](#)



WARRIORS

RUGBY CAMPS

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

SUMMER BOYS AND GIRLS CAMPS
GIRLS AND BOYS YEARS 2-6 & BOYS YEAR 7-10

EARLY BIRD PRICE UNTIL 1ST JULY 2022

DATE	VENUE	DURATION	TIMINGS*	YEAR	EARLY BIRD	FULL PRICE
26 - 27 Jul	Alcester RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
27 - 28 Jul	Bridgnorth RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
2 - 3 Aug	Sixways Stadium	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
9 - 10 Aug	Ledbury RFC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75
15 - 19 Aug	Malvern Residential	5 Days	9:30am-3pm	5-10 Only	N/A	£390
23 - 24 Aug	Shropshire TBC	2 Days	9:30am-3pm	2-6 & 7-10	£65	£75

FROM
£65
 PER PLAYER



01905 459343 - AKINA GONDWE
 WARRIORS.CO.UK/RUGBYCAMPS
 CAMPS@WARRIORS.CO.UK



SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

PE Practices/Fixtures: week beginning 13/6/22:

Monday 13th June:

Year 8 & 9 Girls Super 6 Athletics @ Stratford (selection letters issued)

Tennis Club (All years)

Tuesday 14th June:

Year 8 Archery (invitation letters issued)

Wednesday 15th June:

Athletics club (All years)

Year 8 South Warwickshire Rounders Tournament @ AGS (selection letters issued)

Thursday 16th June:

Cricket Club (All years)

At the end of the school day come down to the gym and get changed as soon as possible. Normal school PE kit is required.

All practices will run until 4.30pm and are open to everyone in the specified year groups. For Fixtures a separate team sheet including all the necessary details will be sent out via School Comms.

**COMPLETELY
FREE**

LADIES RUNNING

THE GREIG LEISURE CENTRE

Every Wednesday
at 6pm

THIS
GIRL
CAN

everyone
ACTIVE