Alcester Academy
WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday 10th July 2020

Good afternoon everyone,

I hope that you have had a great week. Thanks so much for your on-going support. We are nearly there! Your contributions and those of the students continue to be just amazing and we are all very grateful.

We have continued to enjoy seeing year 10 students this week; thank you if you have helped with journeys to and from school during unusual hours. This provision will continue in to next week for selected students.

On Wednesday, we were delighted to see our new year 7 students joining us for their very different transition morning virtually! It was so great to see how excited they were about joining us in September. I'd like to thank Miss Hammond, Transition Co-ordinator, year 7 tutors and those staff who delivered lovely lessons for the students. Miss Hammond has written more about the morning later on in this edition. Behind the scenes, lots of our support staff have helped to create a smooth hand-over for new parents and I extend my gratitude to them. I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome new parents and carers to Alcester Academy. This will be your first bulletin; we have a round up each Friday of what has happened every week with some key information highlighted for you. In light of the last few months, this has become an essential celebration of virtual school life. Where possible, we try to advertise any community news or events that might be key to you.

On Wednesday, English also took the reins for our weekly Super Learning Day. Once again, I was overwhelmed with the work created and I thank students for embracing the day, and staff for planning this.

Language Proverb of the Week

Every cloud has a silver lining.

Après la pluie, le beau temps.
"After the rain, the nice weather"

Auf Regen folgt Sonnenschein.
"After the rain comes the sunshine"

Key dates until the end of term:

Monday 13th July – final Super Learning Day. 'Around the world in 7 hours' or 'Hands on History' Code: **mqjseab**. This looks like a superb day! Thanks in advance to staff. I look forward to seeing the work produced.

Wednesday 15th July – staff are all in school. Work will be set on Google Classroom. Students will be encouraged to watch the end of year video 'Celebration Event' lesson one and two. The link will be sent out to you.

Thursday 16th July – year 7/8/9 combined end of term assembly on TEAMS at 9am. A link to be sent out.

Frid**ay 17th July** – Year 10 end of term assembly at 9am. A link to be sent out.

The end of term Google Classroom will be open from Thursday 16th July and into the summer holidays as required. Code: **3p67ry6**

Year 7/8 reports will be issued over this period and I have written to you all to highlight the extent of other communications that will be going out over the next week in order to finalise the term.

Summer Holiday Activities

Warwickshire have encouraged parents to sign up for the Family Information Service newsletter service. This will continue to get circulated over the holidays. Next weeks edition is dedicated to summer activities for children. Simply google 'Family Information Service, Warwickshire' . There is a newsletter tab then.

https://us5.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=7346556874

Preparation for September

As a reminder, we are closed for the summer period for all students. This will be from Friday 17th July. I am on duty after the first two weeks of the break as required and will reply to any emergency concerns.

I will be writing to you separately regarding our plans for September before the end of term. We will send guidance for year 11 parents and carers and students on the collection of GCSE results/ assessments. To give you warning, I am not getting any resolutions to transport for students for September. I'm so sorry! I find this very frustrating with the lengths that we are going to in order to keep year groups separate within school. Students are being encouraged to walk, cycle or be driven to school in order to stay as safe as possible. I really appreciate that this won't be practical for you all.

Confirmed training days are:

Tuesday 1st September

Wednesday 2nd September

In the interim, please can I ask that you contact us over the holiday should there be any confirmed cases of COV-ID so that we can continue to monitor this and stay vigilant as we plan to have all students back with us in September head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Please can parents ensure that students are equipped for September with their own stationery items. Thanks. This is more important than ever in light of us not being able to loan items out for fear of any viral transfer.

Lourdes IT
Devise Loan Scheme

Thanks to year 8/10 parents and carers for joining us on Monday evening for the Lourdes IT remote presentation on their device lease scheme. Just a reminder that if you wish to sign up for this, there is no money required until September. Please go to the portal to do this http://www.lourdesit.org.uk/devices/

We will be including other year groups in the future.

Laptops for students in September

Several parents have contacted school asking about whether students will be able to bring in their own devices in September to work on in class. After the new way of learning during lockdown, I do completely understand this desire. At present, we are unable to find a satisfactory safeguarding solution however. I have been working on ideas with Lourdes IT and if anything changes in the near future, I will update you regarding this.

Headteacher Challenge

Please don't forget that I'm requesting your favourite lockdown learning moments for our keepsake final issue next week. I'd like students to be able to look back in years to come and recall how we all felt about this time. Parent and carer views are especially important. I'm sure that we've all share amazing moments and...well, moments

Alcester Academy

Virtual Open Week 2020

Monday 14th September to Friday 18th September

Alcester Academy

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

Virtual Open Evening Presentation & Virtual Open Mornings

Alcester Academy is happy to virtually open its doors to prospective parents for Open Week 2020.
The Virtual Open Evening Presentation will be posted on the school website week beginning 14th September 2020.
Alcester Academy will host Virtual Open Mornings from Monday 14th September to Friday 18th September, at 9.30am and 11.30am, via TEAMS. Respectfully we ask families to book one meeting at their convenience during this week. Please call the main office on 01789 762285.

'There is a culture of high expectation in lessons. Pupils are encouraged to aim high and teachers do not accept mediocre answers.' *Ofsted 2019*

tes schools awards 2016 Winner Maths teacher or team of the year

View our 360° tour at: http://tours.lourdesit.org.uk/Alcester/

Alcester Academy, Gerard Road, Alcester, B49 6QQ * Tel: 01789 762285 * Email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk * Website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk

that have tested us for sure! Email: head@alcesteracademy.org.uk.
The deadline is Tuesday 14th July.

Staff are sharing their moments with me for this and students have done this as a tutor activity.

New term uniform reminders

Please refer to the website for an up to date uniform list. https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/life-at-alcester-academy/uniform

We thanks the National School Wear Centre in Alcester for supporting parents with new purchases required for September.

As a useful reminder list:

- Shoes must be polish-able. No suede or canvas shoes are permitted. No boots or heels.
- Tailored uniform shorts are reserved for the summer term only.
- We are currently permitted to do outdoor PE safely and so consider kit items required to stay warm as the seasons change!
- Hair colours need to be natural. No shaved-in patterns or holiday braids.
- Nails are short and natural in colour.
- One stud is allowed in each ear. No further piercings.

I appreciate that times are changing with regard to personal expression through our appearance. We embrace this for students in their own time and space. Our standards remain appropriate within the context of school life and I'm very grateful for your support with this.

Congratulations!

We were thrilled to hear that Mike Dean, Chair of Governors is now helping to organise the Alcester Resilience Group after superb work by Mike Bowe during this period.

Thank you!

Thank you so much to Alcester Town Council for the loan of gazebos to support spaces during this time. We are very grateful. We are very excited to see news that the High Street will be back in action for the community soon. Thank you to everyone involved in this for helping to keep nus all safe!

I am looking forward to next week's bulletin as we reflect on the year together. In the interim, this will be the last time I say 'have a lovely weekend' for a while. Sincere thanks for everything that you have done, and are still doing. Try to relax this weekend.

Very best wishes

Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Governors

I would like to take the opportunity in this edition to thank the school Governing Body for their support and guidance over the last academic year. Remembering that this is a completely voluntary role, these individuals have given hours of their own time this year especially. We are all extremely grateful.

Virtual Induction morning for our future year 7 students

On Wednesday 8th July, we welcomed over 120 of our future year 7 students to our virtual Induction morning on Google Classroom. The morning focused on providing all of our new students the opportunity to get to know their tutors, their tutor group and become more familiar with life here at Alcester Academy.

The morning began with student logging into their tutor google classrooms and watching an assembly and introduction videos from Mrs Mellors, Miss Buckthorp and Miss Hammond, before participating in a live tutor session. The year 7 tutors then passed the baton on to subject teachers who gave taster sessions in a variety of subjects. Throughout the morning we were impressed by the enthusiasm and maturity of the students and all the staff involved commented on the excellent questions asked, the work produced and the engagement in the lessons from all participating students.

I would like to thank all of our feeder schools and parents for supporting students during this morning and for all of the staff involved, from IT support, to the LSU staff and all the staff who led sessions, for helping the morning to run smoothly and making it a success.

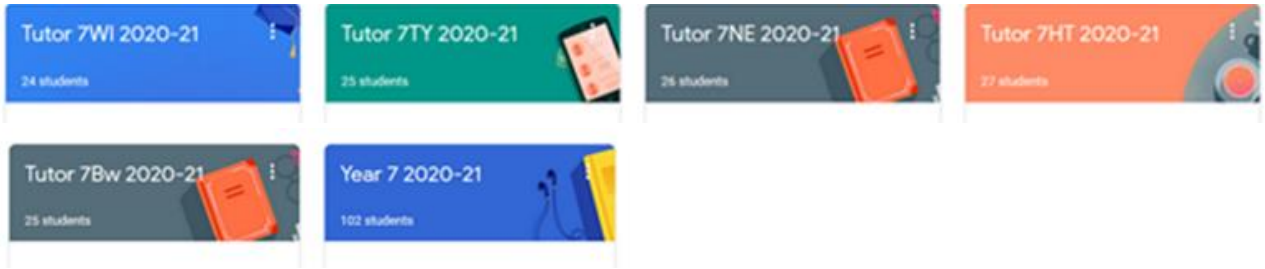
We now look forward to September and are really looking forward to welcoming our new year 7s.

Miss Hammond

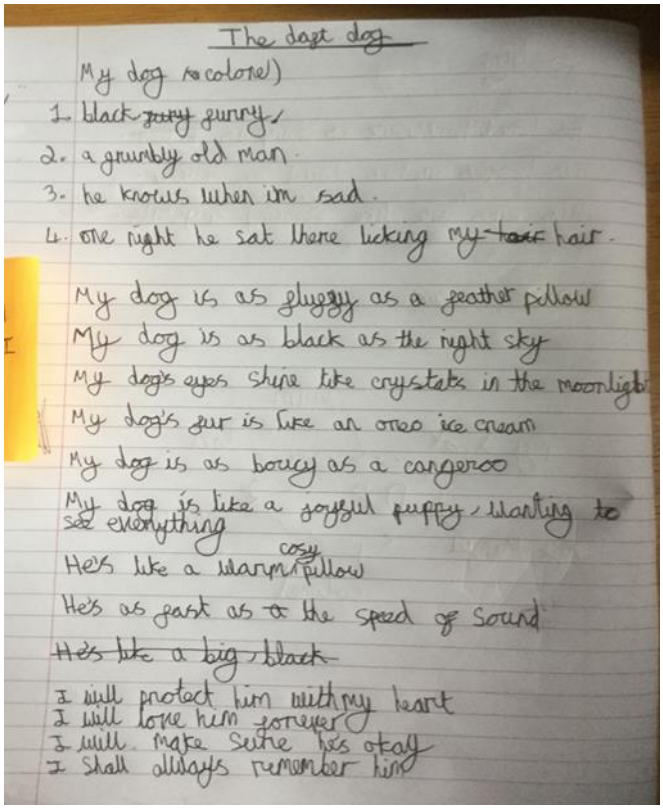
My Hamster - Dinka Poem

My hamster is as soft as silk.
Her eyes are as dark as night.
minute, pink nose as small as an ant.
She scampers as fast as the speed of light.
Her fir is as grey as steel.
As soft and slick as black velvet.
She grooms as fast as a bullet.
Her paws are as delicate as a China doll.

I will care for her.
I will feed her.
I will clean out her cage.
I will love her.



During the Induction morning our future year 7 students produced some outstanding English and art work. Thank you. *Miss Hammond*



The last dog

My dog is colored)

1. Black ~~furry~~ furry.
2. a grumbly old man.
3. he knows when im sad.
4. one night he sat there licking ~~my hair~~ hair.

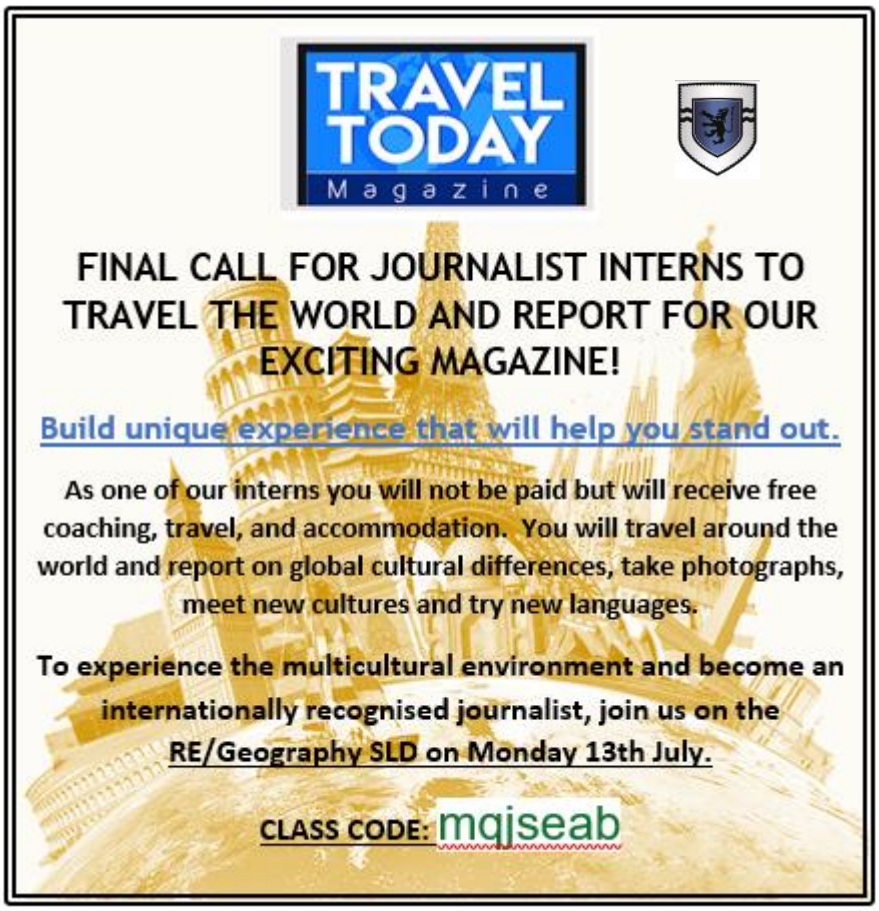
My dog is as fluffy as a feather pillow
My dog is as black as the night sky
My dog's eyes shine like crystals in the moonlight
My dog's fur is like an oreo ice cream
My dog is as bouncy as a kangaroo
My dog is like a joyful puppy, wanting to see everything
He's like a warm cosy pillow
He's as fast as the speed of sound
~~He's like a big, black~~
I will protect him with my heart
I will love him forever
I will make sure he's okay
I shall always remember him

My dog - Dinka Poem

When we are in the field he jumps around like a kangaroo
My dog is precious like a sparkling diamond
He is as cute as a tiny kitten
My dog is as funny as my Dad's dancing
He is black and white like a zebra
Fergus plays like a toddler that just got a new toy

Super Learning Day—RE/Geography

Monday 13th July



Alcester Academy scouts...

Please send us any photographs of you enjoying this weekends Great Indoor Scout event.
Have a super time! *Mrs Mellors*

Lourdes IT

Alcester Academy Staff, Parents and Students would like to thank Lourdes IT for their support and guidance during the lockdown period. We look forward to working along-side you in the next academic year.

Summer Reading Adventure
Six weeks, six books and six adventures ready to be embarked on – there's no time to waste...
Looking for a fun-filled celebration of reading that takes readers on a journey that promises to broaden their reading horizons? Then look no further...
Summer Reading Adventure PASSPORT Key Stage 4
Summer Reading Adventure PASSPORT Key Stage 3
To help along the way there are reading passports that encourage adventurers to write down what they thought of the books, all-the-while building something that they can look back on at the end of the summer.
Please contact Aimée for more details or to place an order-
07392297511
www.facebook.com/aimeestanleyindependentusborneorganiser
Free local delivery
GERALDINE McCAUGHREAN
WHERE THE WORLD ENDS
THE WILD FOLK
Key stage 3
100 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE HUMAN BODY
NOTHING EVER HAPPENS HERE
POLITICS FOR BEGINNERS
MITCH JOHNSON
KICK
save £1 on every title included from now until 31st July.
AFTER THE FIRE
Will Hill
The Unpredictability of being HUMAN
key stage 4
VANESSA CURTIS
The Stolen Ones
ORPHAN MONSTER SPY
HOLLY BOURNE
AM I NORMAL YET?
YES
NO
DEVIL DARLING SPY
save £1 on every title included from now until 31st July.

Alcester Academy LRC News

Use this Google Classroom code to access:
The LRC Online

Please note that you will be able to read and quiz on AR all through the summer

To access Accelerated Reader quizzing at home: Make sure are using Google Chrome and this link/ URL to access the system: https://ukhosted26.renlearn.co.uk/1893467/

Then type in your username as you usually would and the password - abc

As long as you use Google Chrome and the link/ URL above, then this should all work.

Get free access to eBooks and eAudiobooks, with Warwickshire Libraries using your library membership!

If you need to join you can do so online - https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jointhelibrary

Then use their online 'Borrow Box' - https://fe.bolindadigital.com/wldcs_bol_fo/b2i/mainPage.html?b2bSite=6404

Renaissance have also given us continued access to myON - their eBooks library

Go to myon.co.uk and enter your login information:

a. School Name: **Alcester Academy** (type the first few letters of your school and select from the drop-down menu)

b. Username: **alcesterb49student**

c. Password: **read**

Click on the Sign In button, select a book and start reading!

Our library system is online! You will be able to access your library account and write book reviews!

You can access it through any mainstream web browser by using the URL: https://apps.libresoft.co.uk/9374240-hmlpg8jkqb72jyx911bd-aa

You log in by entering your library account number, which you can ask for by emailing: juliehands@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Passwords are in the following form: Use the school site ID, which is **518ch** and the first two letters of first name and the first two letters of surname.

For example: for a student called Fred Bloggs: **518chFrBl**

Mrs Hands

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Thank you

to the
Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

Alcester Academy

who donated

286 hours

of voluntary service to the local community*
The social value of these hours is

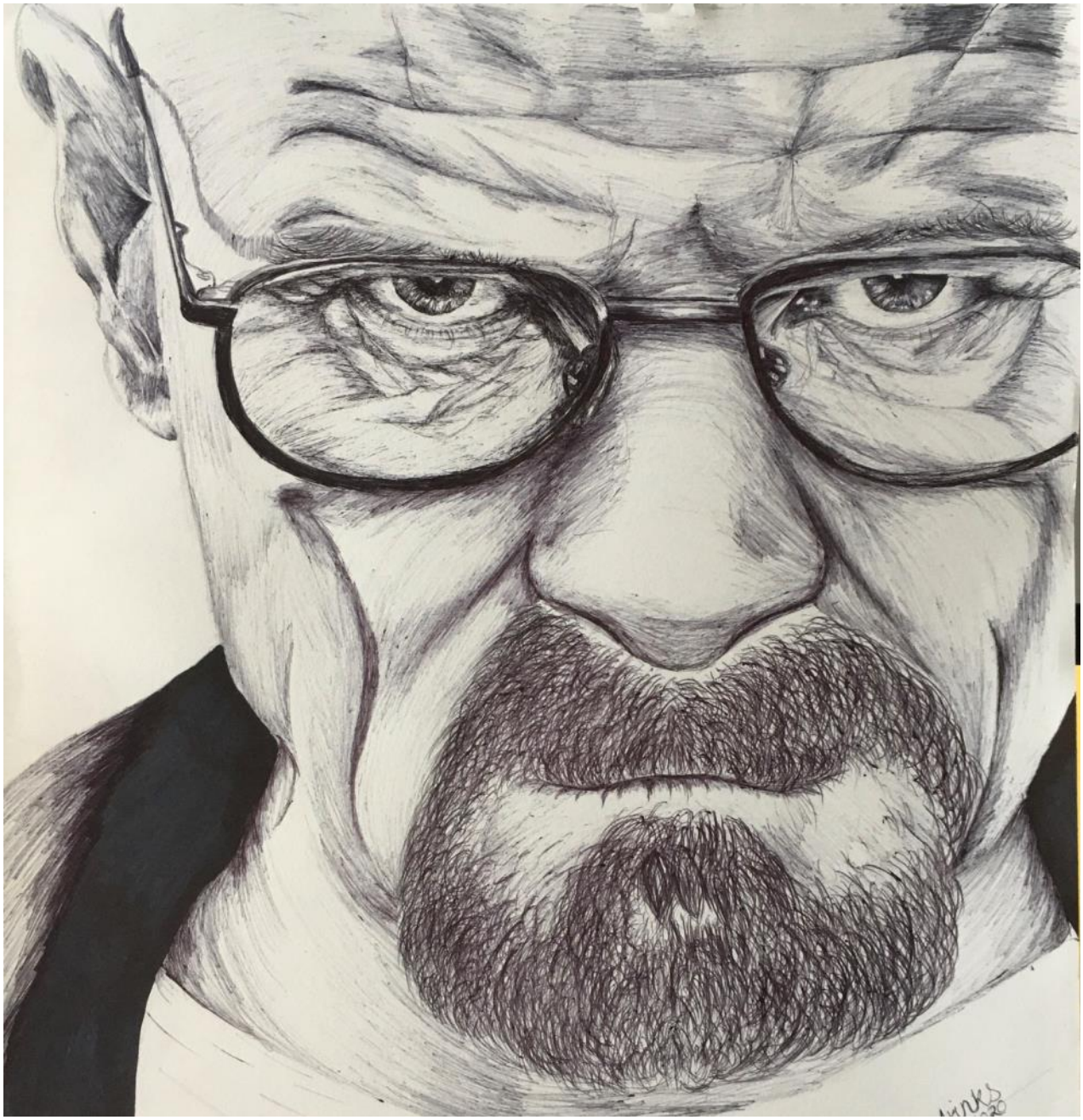
£1,244

* Number of hours of volunteer service
is based on participants who have achieved their
Volunteering section between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020

June 2020

JACKIE BULL, DIRECTOR – CENTRAL ENGLAND

Artwork of the Week



Artwork of the Week is by Mia in year 10.
She is studying GCSE Art and has produced this excellent line drawing.

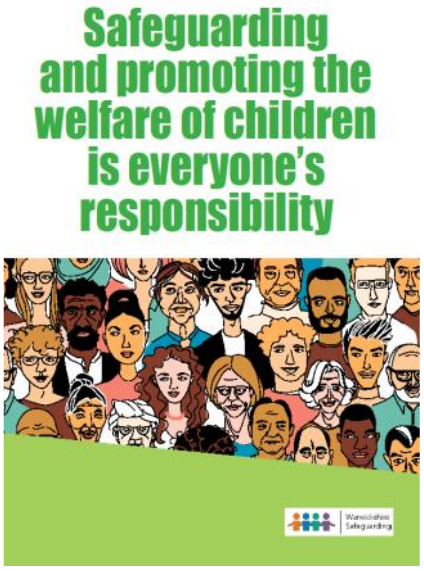
COMPETITIONS

SUMMER SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

If you have any worries or concerns over the summer holidays please do not hesitate to contact

Miss K Buckthorp—Designated Safeguarding Lead

karenbuckthorp@alcesteracademy.org.uk



DT Stars of the Week

Year 7 Food Rotation

Students in DT have moved onto their food rotation making pasta salads, pizza baguettes and scones. Pictured is Katie—year 7—making a pasta salad.

Miss Wincup