

# Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you have had a good week and are gearing up to a bit of a break now in the near future. As lovely as routines are, it is always nice to have an excuse to break these and relax for a while I know.



We continue to be busy here right up until the very last day. Thank you to parents who joined the Summer Bash in Alcester last Sunday. £600 was raised for our Rock Academy move and refit. This was incredible. Mr Badham continues his *World Tour* of primary schools until the end of term.



Break a leg (not literally!) to all of our students auditioning next week for a part in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. I'm sure that we'll have a cast list before Friday.

## **Farewell Mr Simms— Headteacher, Bidford on Avon Primary School**

Today, we visited Bidford on Avon Primary School in order to offer our sincere thanks to Mr Simms on the occasion of his retirement.

Mr Simms has been Headteacher at the school for many years. Several of our students have been supported by him over their educational time. We wish Mr Simms a restful, well-deserved retirement ahead.

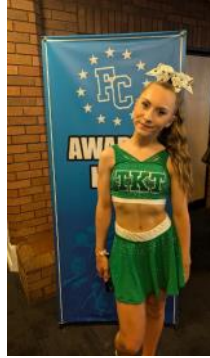


## ***What's inside this week...***

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### Congratulations to...

Grace in year 7 who took part in the Future Cheer International Competition in Bournemouth last weekend. Grace competed in the Under 16 Level 2 category and had such a wonderful time and experience. The team's performance was the best they had ever done, and thankfully they didn't fall during any of the stunts! Phew!



The competition marks the end of the British Cheerleading season and is huge, with thousands of athletes competing for National Champion Status.

Both girls had the most amazing time, with both of their teams delivering fault free routines, which is not an

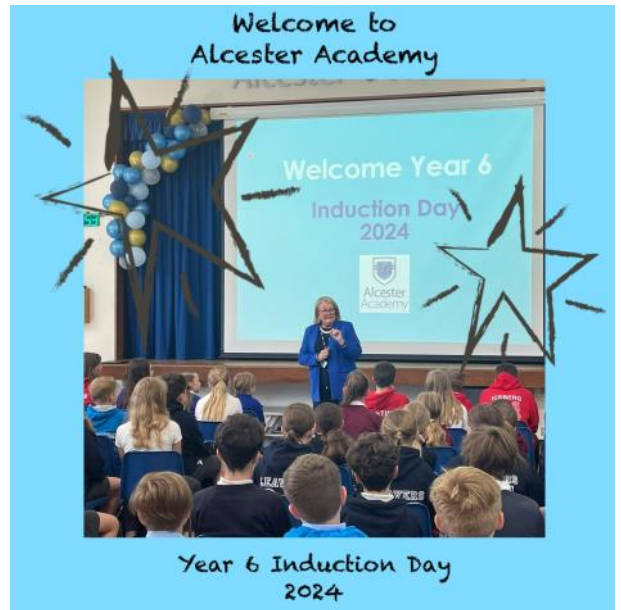
easy task. The girls have both trialled for next season and they are hoping they may make international teams.

Lottie-Dot, a year 8 pupil, also competed in Europe's largest cheerleading competition in Bournemouth.

### Transition Day

Huge congratulations go to our year 6s for their hard work on Transition Day on Wednesday. It was lovely to see our new cohort in school, and a pleasure to meet with parents on Monday night at our new parents' event. The Summer School staff team are finalising plans now and looking forward to seeing the children in the first week of the holiday. Thanks to our primary colleagues for supporting the transition process for 2024, and to Miss Bartlett and her team for making the year 6s feel so supported.

Our year 9 buddies were tremendous on Wednesday, and these were superbly led by Finlay and Tom in year 10.



## Celebration Evening 2024

We held an incredible Awards Evening last week. Once again, I'd like to thank Miss Buckthorp and the staff team for organising this. Many congratulations to our Award Winners for 2024. As a staff, we were all extremely proud of them. Please see the article later in the bulletin.

## Farewell Staff

Next week we shall be saying farewell to Miss Kavanagh, teacher of maths. I'd like to thank Miss Kavanagh for everything that she has done for students at the school since she began with us.

And, Mr Jones, cover teacher, is retiring after thirteen years at Alcester Academy and a teaching career spanning 47 years—we think! Mr Jones began his teaching life as a science specialist. He has been a committed and dedicated member of the team here and I would like to sincerely thank him for his contribution over many years. Mr Jones is a keen ornithologist and fisherman, and more recently a devoted grandfather and so I know that he will be extremely busy in this new phase of his life.

## Thank You Governors

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Dean, Chair of Governors and all members of the Board for their commitment and support over this academic year. The governors work extremely hard to support the school. This is a voluntary position.

## Pre-Loved Uniform

We are very happy to receive any unwanted, outgrown uniform items, please. Do not throw these away, just let us have these in reception, thank you.



## Communication over the summer

We will be taking a break over the summer and so safeguarding details will be added to the school website home page for reference. Parents have been encouraged to let us know if you want a check in by telephone over the six-week holiday period. Senior staff begin to return to school for GCSE Results Day and therefore responses to any communication sent won't occur until around this point. Thank you for your understanding.

Next week, Mr Moffatt be leading with news of our wonderful Sports Day. I will include some final messages for you however, as well as an end of term letter to follow.



I know that you'll join with me in wishing our Silver D of E students the very best for their expedition over the weekend. Good luck Mrs Jones!



And finally, many congratulations to Mrs Clarke, on behalf of us all, who gets married today! I do hope that there is some sunshine breaking through for her big day.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.  
Come on England!

*Sarah Mellors*  
Headteacher



## Celebration Evening 2024

Last Thursday we held our annual Celebration Evening, which saw over 180 students receive trophies and awards based on their achievements over the last academic year. Awards were given out for subject attainment, effort, most progress and our Students of the Year Awards.

Our theme for this year was *To be the best you can be* and the evening started with a poem on the theme performed by Miss Lewis's year 8 English group, and then the year 7 pop band performed a Taylor Swift number.

We were treated to some great performances that showcased some of the work that students had done over the year highlighting events and activities that have taken place.

Our year 10 newly elected school captains Charlie, Darcie, Tom and Liv did an amazing job at hosting the whole evening. It was fantastic to see so many students involved in the performances, including a performance by the musical theatre club singing and dancing, *You've never had chocolate like this*, from the film *Wonka*, and a performance by the year 10

performing arts students of *Welcome to the Rock* from the musical, *Come From Away*.

Finally, a highlight of the evening was a fabulous display of all the textiles work in a fashion show, when students from all years took to the Alcester Academy catwalk.

Many thanks to the parents and carers who attended the event and all the staff who helped put on another great evening and finally to our amazing award winners.

*Miss Buckthorp*

TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE



## School Captains 2024-2025

Liv & Tom—Deputy School Captains  
Charlie & Darcie—School Captains

## Effort Awards

The following students have all consistently received the best attitude to learning scores out of their whole year group:

Year 7—Phoebe, Charlotte, Isla, Freddie, Jack, Tom, Alfie & Will

Year 8—Lily, Eva, Ben, Emma, Annabelle, Daniel, Naomi, Aaron & Hester

Year 9—Courtney, Carlee, Lottie, Faith, Ollie, Sam & Dylan

Year 10—Em, Liv, Charlie, Charlie & Ben

## Best Progress across the year

The following students have made the best progress across all of their subjects out of their whole year group:

Year 7—Macie & Ranveer

Year 8—Lottie-Dot & Elliot

Year 9—Fleur & Dylan

Year 10—Iris & Luca

## Student of the Year 2023-2024

Chloe —Year 7 Student of the Year

Harry —Year 8 Student of the Year

Harriet —Year 9 Student of the Year

Osian —Year 10 Student of the Year



TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE



## Alcester Academy Academic Terms and Holidays

### SUMMER TERM 2024

Summer Term ends Friday 19th July 2024 at 12.40pm

### AUTUMN TERM 2024

*School closed Monday 2nd September—Teacher training day*

### **Autumn Term begins**

Years 7 and 11 only Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Years 8, 9 and 10 only Wednesday 4th September 2024

All students back Thursday 5th September 2024

Half term Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 2024

**Back to school Monday 4th November 2024**

Autumn Term ends Friday 20th December 2024 at 12.40pm



  
Alcester Academy  
TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE

# ALCESTER ACADEMY

## OPEN EVENTS 2024

*Open Evening—including headteacher address*  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September—6.30pm to 8.30pm

*Guided Open Mornings*  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September—at 9.30am

Open Evening—guided evening tour with a student guide or  
Guided Open Mornings—guided tour with a member of the leadership team.  
All guided tours are pre-bookable only.

To book a guided tour at either our open evening, or an open morning, call the main office on 01789 762285 in September, or alternatively email [admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk) anytime.

*Prospective students and their parents will have a unique opportunity to gain a real insight into Academy life*



## \* SPORTS NEWS \* SPORTS NEWS \*

### Sports Day—Monday 15th July

We look forward to hosting our annual Sports Day for all students on Monday 15th July.

**Please can all students familiarise with the key information below:**



#### SPORTS DAY STUDENT INFORMATION

- ⇒ All students come to school in full PE kit.
- ⇒ House colours may be displayed in the form of glitter, body paint (no “full” coverage please) and hats.
- ⇒ Lesson 1 and 2 are as normal. Break and lunch time runs from 11.10am to 12 noon.
- ⇒ At midday students go to their tutor rooms to be registered for the afternoon and then will be escorted to the top field by their tutor.
- ⇒ The first events start at 12.30pm so students must be prompt in getting to registration and up to the top field after lunch.
- ⇒ On arrival tutors should direct their tutees to the assigned house areas where students will be based for the afternoon when not competing.
- ⇒ Students are advised not to bring valuables on the day, as their belongings will be left within designated House areas whilst competing.
- ⇒ Students will be able to find out where/when their events are taking place from the maps and schedules that can be viewed at the information desks situated in the House areas.
- ⇒ Sports Leaders/House Captains will be assigned in each House area alongside members of staff to manage teams and help students get to events on time.
- ⇒ The first events will see the girls on the track, with the boys starting on their field events. This will switch around at 1.30pm approx. with everyone coming together at the end for the relays and presentations.
- ⇒ On arrival at an event students must make sure they register with the member of staff.
- ⇒ If students are doing two field events at the same time, they must register at both, do one and then go and do the other.
- ⇒ Any students who are excused from competing will be expected to support during the afternoon in some capacity.
- ⇒ Strictly NO ball games during the event.

#### ***VERY IMPORTANT***

- 1. Bring and drink lots of water.***
- 2. Wear a hat and sunglasses for protection when not competing.***
- 3. Bring and remember to use a high factor sun cream and try to stay in the shade as much as possible—gazebos provided.***
- 4. Bring money should you wish to buy refreshments.***



# The Library!

The Library is open from **8:30 to 4:00**.

If you need to complete homework or just need a quiet place to quiz or read, the library is the best place to go. If you can't complete homework or quiz at home because you have no computer or resources, the library has:

- Computers
- information books
- paper and pens

**You always have what you need!**



If you are cold, come to the library to warm up!

Jasmin - Y8



## PRE-LOVED PE KIT

**DONATE, RE-USE, GIVE BACK!**  
**Help the school community**  
**and give back**

Please donate your unwanted  
 (no longer needed or using)  
 PE kit, which would then be given  
 back to students here.

We would particularly welcome  
 skorts, leggings and socks.

Please give your donations direct  
 to the PE department!

Thank you, *Mrs Powell*

November 2023			2 0 0 C L U B  2 3 / 2 4	May 2024		
1st	2nd	3rd		1st	2nd	3rd
20	222	87		222	63	160
£70	£42	£28		£70	£42	£28
December 2023				June 2024		
1st	2nd	3rd		1st	2nd	3rd
39	202	149		115	178	22
£70	£42	£28		£70	£42	£28
January 2024				July 2024		
1st	2nd	3rd		1st	2nd	3rd
27	10	223	?	?	?	
£70	£42	£28	£70	£42	£28	
February 2024			August 2024			
1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	
192	149	89	?	?	?	
£70	£42	£28	£70	£42	£28	
March 2024			September 2024			
1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	
19	147	39	?	?	?	
£70	£42	£28	£70	£42	£28	
April 2024			October 2024			
1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	
213	136	7	?	?	?	
£70	£42	£28	£70	£42	£28	

## First News—Free Summer Reading!

First News is the leading source of news and news-based learning for children. It is age-appropriate (aimed at 7 to 14-year-olds but accessible for all ages), impartial and helps keep kids reading and developing their critical literacy skills.

We love using First News in the classroom and are thrilled to offer all Alcester Academy students a free First News digital subscription over the summer holidays. It's packed with fun and educational content that will keep minds active and entertained all summer long.

First News digital is available via an app and includes:

- ⇒ Daily news stories which children can read, listen and react to. These include

- ⇒ reports on the Euros, the Summer Olympics, and the upcoming general election.
- ⇒ The latest issue of the newspaper and many past issues
- ⇒ Weekly polls to vote on
- ⇒ The latest episodes of Sky Kids FYI weekly news show
- ⇒ Fun puzzles and games: great for improving vocabulary
- ⇒ Tips & Talking points for parents and carers to help you talk about tricky topics with your children

Click here for our school's unique access link:  
<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/summer-reading-2024/?fn=0CD47352>

Mrs Hands—LRC Manager



## Sports Tour— Wimbledon Tennis Championships & Chelsea FC's Stamford Bridge



We had a fantastic trip to London last weekend where we took a group of 39 students to the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on Friday 5th July.

Despite the awful rain forecast for the day, our students were lucky for a break in the rain during the afternoon, allowing us to observe the tennis of the highest levels on Wimbledon court number 2 with Tommy Paul of USA taking on Alexander Bublik from Kazakhstan. Next up for our students was Daniil Medvedev of Russia taking on Jan-Lennard Struff of Germany. In between play students were able to explore the grounds within Wimbledon, including the many outdoor courts, practise areas, museum and of course watch the play on the centre court on the famous 'Henman Hill'.

We left Wimbledon on Friday evening and made our way to central London for a panoramic sight-seeing tour where students observed some of our capital's most famous landmarks including Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, The London Eye and the Palace of Westminster.

After a nights stop, we travelled to the home of Chelsea FC—Stamford Bridge. Students had a VIP tour of the behind the scenes areas of the football stadium including the press areas, home and away changing rooms and the pitch side dugouts on the famous pitch at Stamford Bridge.

We hope all students enjoyed experiencing two of our countries most successful and popular sporting venues during this trip. *Mr Moffatt*



## Year 9 Geography Field Trip to Bristol



We started the day off on a lovely bus ride to Bristol. Once we arrived at the harbourside next to the River Avon, we discussed the history of the area, including the industrial revolution and regeneration. After that we got into the designated groups that we got sorted into during class. We went to our numbered areas and started to collect our data such as; crime survey, environmental, economic and social impacts etc. When we finished with our data collection we took a walk to Cabot Circus. This gave us a chance to talk and explore the area we had come to.

Once we arrived at Cabot Circus, we discussed the massive regeneration that happened there, and how retail is a central part of Bristol's economic development. Then, we split into our groups and learnt about the areas of Cabot Circus. When we had finished our second data collection, we were able to have our own free time in the shops and have our lunch. We saw some of the students come back with lots of bags. We had a great time exploring the human part of GCSE geography. *Dylan, year 9*



## Safeguarding over the Summer



<https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/safeguarding-children>

If you have concerns that a child is suffering any form of abuse, neglect or cruelty contact the Warwickshire Children and Families Front Door (Front Door) immediately by calling 01926 414144.

Lines are open Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 5.30pm,  
Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm.

If you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Emergency Duty Team immediately by calling 01926 886922.

If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the Police immediately by calling 999.

## Attendance Updates

**Whole School Attendance this week is 92.8%**

**Top tutors this week:**

7RA with 98.5% attendance

8SI with 94.7% attendance

9BI with 92.4% attendance

10PW with 99.2% attendance

If your child is absent from school, please inform the Attendance Officer, Mrs Louise Hatcher, of the reason before 9.30am each day. This can be done through SchoolComms, by calling 01789 762285, or by emailing [louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk).



The rules on taking children out of school for a holiday are set to become stricter, with tougher penalties to take effect at the start of the next school year.

From August 2024, parents who take their children on term-time holidays will face fines of £160 each, which could even lead to imprisonment. The fines will increase along with a new national framework that requires schools to consider fines when a child misses ten or more sessions (equivalent to five school days) without authorisation or medical evidence.

England saw nearly 400,000 penalty notices handed out in the previous academic year for unauthorised holidays during term-time. Parents are being urged to prioritise their child's education and follow attendance regulations to avoid serious legal consequences.

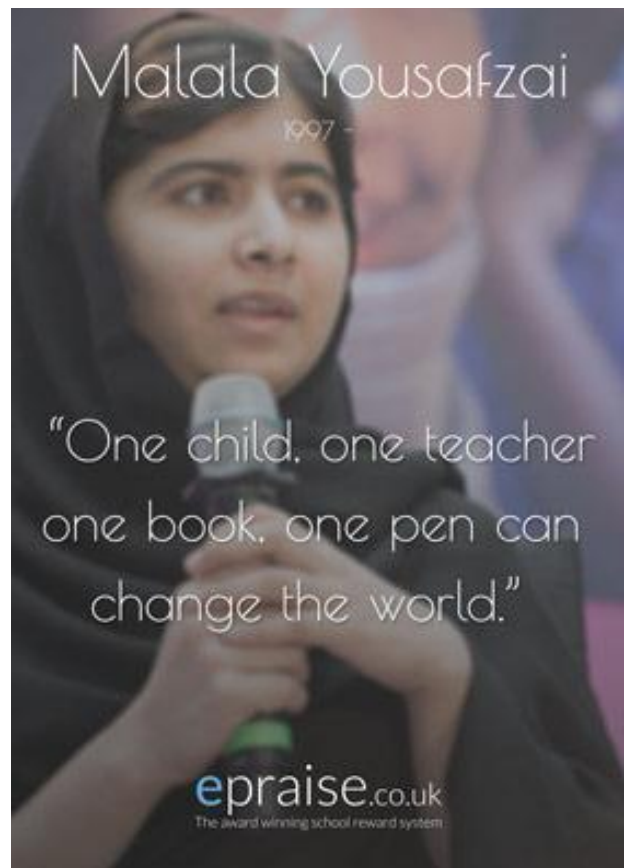
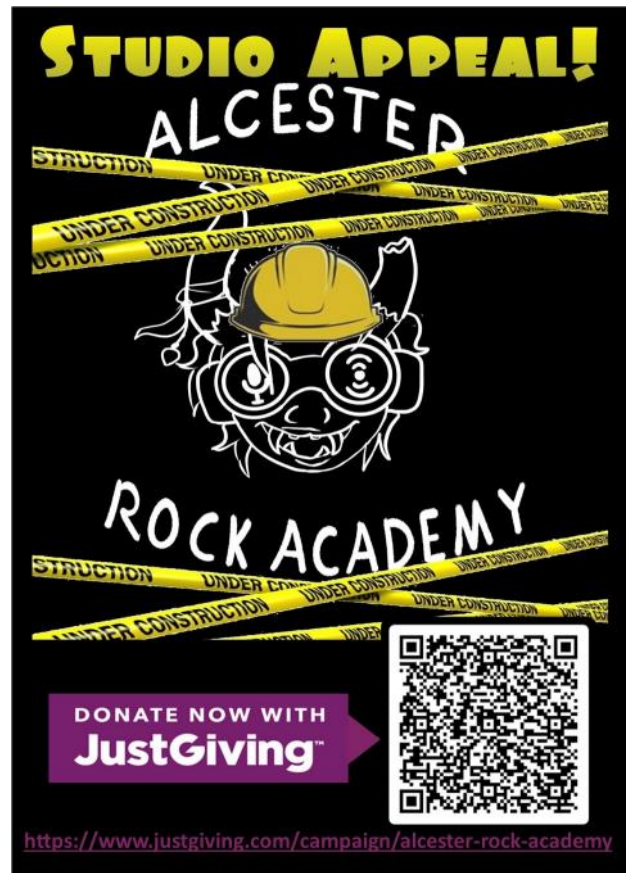
*Mrs Hatcher—Attendance Officer*

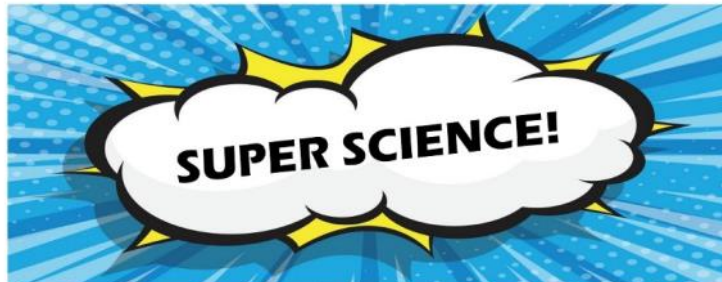
## Super Technician!



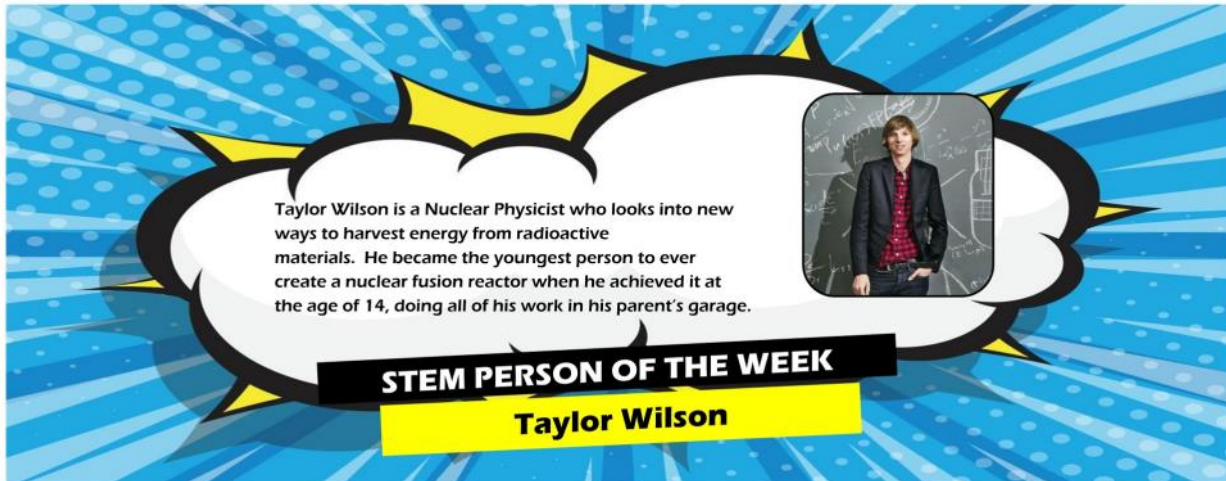
The schools science technician, Mrs Passantino, has been recognised by Breckland Scientific for her work.

Fabulous!  
*Mrs Marshall*






# SUPER SCIENCE!



Taylor Wilson is a Nuclear Physicist who looks into new ways to harvest energy from radioactive materials. He became the youngest person to ever create a nuclear fusion reactor when he achieved it at the age of 14, doing all of his work in his parent's garage.



**STEM PERSON OF THE WEEK**  
**Taylor Wilson**



**All the world's bacteria stacked on top of each other would stretch for 10 billion light-years**

**DID YOU KNOW?**



**UNDER THE MICROSCOPE**  
**WHAT IS THIS?**

ANSWER: Coca-Cola

## Epraise Leaderboard—past 7 days

### Top Students—past 7 days:

1	Lucy	7LX	29 points
1	Harriet	9NE	29 points
3	Lydia	7TN	27 points
4	Matilda	8YA	25 points
5	Eva	8SI	23 points
6	Mia	9BI	22 points
6	Jessica	10PW	22 points
6	Mia	10SO	22 points
9	Marijke	9MA	21 points
9	Lauren	7TN	21 points

### Top Staff—past 7 days:

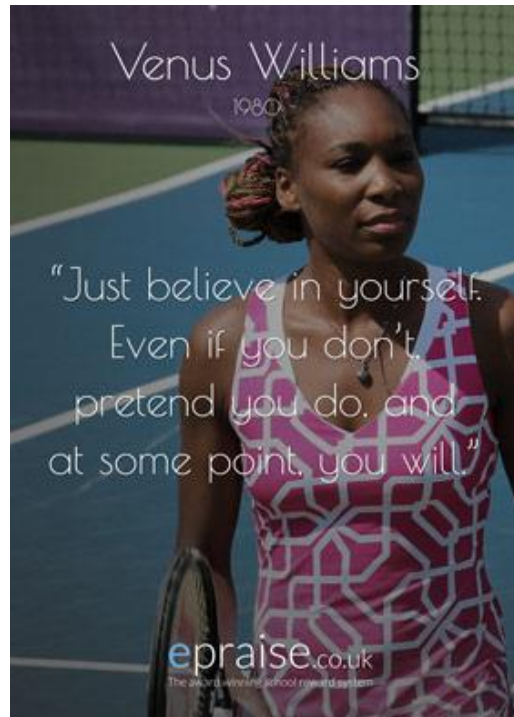
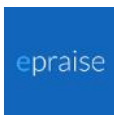
1	Miss Wincup	340 points
2	Mrs Weatherley	337 points
3	Mrs Gorner	248 points
4	Mr Yarrington	244 points
5	Mr Martin	227 points

### Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	English	496 points
2	Art	360 points
3	Maths	350 points
4	French	333 points
5	Science	206 points

### Top Tutors—past 7 days:

1	7RA	335 points
2	8SI	322 points
3	8TU	320 points
4	7TN	313 points
5	8YA	286 points
6	8GA	283 points
7	9MA	269 points
8	7LX	266 points
9	10SO	262 points
10	7WI	257 points





# Music



Alcester  
Academy



EVER DREAMT OF  
PLAYING A MUSICAL  
INSTRUMENT?

START NOW !

CONTACT MR HALL ON  
LIAMHALL@ALCESTERACADEMY.ORG.UK  
FOR MORE DETAILS



PERFORMING ARTS



MUSIC LESSONS



## Administrator

**Part Time – 8 hours per week**

**Working Term Time Only**

**(39 weeks including 3 Teacher Training days)**

**Scale B FTE £22,366 starting salary (pay award pending)**

**(Actual pro rata for 8 hours per week £4,141)**

**Closing Date: Friday 6th September 2024**

**Interviews: Week beginning 9th September 2024**

### [ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

#### **Purpose of the Role**

To provide effective administrative support to the Academy, maintain Academy management information systems related to the Pastoral Team.

Main duties and responsibilities include:

- Student filing to include the creation of high profile or vulnerable cases
- Referrals to external agencies; calls or documents to be completed
- Support as needed with Subject Access Requests
- Support for the administration of Super Learning Days
- Minute taking at high profile meetings such as permanent exclusion panels
- Creation of student voice surveys and evaluations using Google Forms or similar
- Liaising with external agencies

If you have any questions with regard to this vacancy or wish to visit the school, please contact: [admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk). We look forward to receiving your application.

Alcester Academy reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

*Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.*



## Teaching Assistant Level 3

**Full Time 1:1**

**Working term time only (39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)**

**Scale H range 17-22**

**FTE £28,770 starting salary (Actual pro rata £24,746)**

**Immediate Start**

**Closing date: Thursday 5th September 2024 at 12 noon**

**Interviews: TBC, provisionally week commencing 9th September 2024**

### [ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

#### **Learning Support at Alcester Academy**

Working under the supervision of the responsible teacher, assist and support teaching and learning, working with individuals or groups, and assist in providing general care, safety and welfare for pupils.

#### **The Post**

This is a full time, term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5 teacher training days) as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of working with children with communication and interaction needs, including autism, though this is not essential. This is a temporary post for 12 months in the first instance with a view to becoming permanent after this period.

If you have any questions with regard to this vacancy or wish to visit the school, please contact: [admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk). We look forward to receiving your application.

Alcester Academy reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

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# CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

At The Depot

## KIDS HOLIDAY LUNCHES

EVERY WED 12:30PM ONWARDS



Savour the flavours and share the laughter at our weekly kids holiday lunch club. Hot food, drinks, fruit and yummy treats!! every Wednesday during the summer holidays. Everyone welcome.

FREE TO ATTEND



## spark

Youth Music summer Band Programme

Ages 10-14

#haf2024



### JOIN A BAND THIS SUMMER!

Purple Sun Studio, Bearley, Stratford upon Avon  
Monday - Thursday, w/c 22nd & 29th July 2024

- No previous experience needed/instruments provided
- Learn Guitar, Drums, Bass, Keyboard or Sing!
- Design and keep band t shirt
- Take part in a band photo shoot
- Perform in a professional gig (free tickets for friends & family)
- Lunch provided each day
- Free for HAF code holders

@sparkyouthmusic

Band members must be able to attend all or most of the 8 rehearsals which will be held 12-3pm on Monday to Thursday of weeks commencing 22nd and 29th July, plus the gig at The Greig Hall, Alcester on the evening of Thursday 1st August

*SPARK Youth Music is The Regional Winner for The Midlands and finalist for The Department for Education National HAF Provider of The Year Award for dedication and commitment to outstanding youth provision*

To Book: ☎ 07711 372538 ✉ sparkmusicuk@gmail.com



## Summer Sailing

Full details & booking online:  
<https://bit.ly/DWSCSummerCourse>



**Kit provided**  
(wetsuit, buoyancy aid & helmet)

**Small groups with qualified instructors**

**Safety & rescue staff**

**Ages 8 - 16**

**Suitable for beginners**

# CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Posts

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Videos

More ▾



**Cherry Trees Care Home - Barch...**



1d · 🌐

★ We need your help! 🙌 ★

We have a wonderful resident called Peter who will be turning 100 years young at the beginning of August! 🥳 Peter is a huge part of Cherry Trees and is very much loved by all!

We would very much love to celebrate this momentous occasion by asking you to send Peter a card, in hope of receiving 100 cards before his special day! 🥳 🎂 🎁 🎈

We are extremely grateful for your love and support in helping us to make Peter's birthday, one to remember! 🙏

Please send your cards to;

Activities Team - Peter  
Cherry Trees Care Home  
Stratford Road  
Oversley Green  
Alcester  
B49 6LN

Thank you 🙏 ❤️

