

Alcester Academy

WEEKLY BULLETIN



13th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. Where did that half term go! I hope that you have had a positive week and you're looking forward to a short break for a while.



At the risk of a weekly repeated message for you, there have been numerous opportunities in school for the students this week yet again. Staff leading these areas have taken the time to update you later on in this edition. I am grateful to them all for facilitating these events for the students. The students are equally, always a credit to the school too.

House Charity Day

Today marked our first House Charity Day at school. We will write about this in lots more detail after half term. Thanks to Miss Sacco and the year 10 students who led on this. I'm also grateful if you supported with book and cake donations.

Our nominated charities are:

Billesley—Teenage Cancer Trust:
Greville—WWF
Oversley—Race Equality Foundation
Ragley—PTA Friends of Alcester Academy



What's inside this week

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Chinese New Year

School Prism work this week focussed around learning about Chinese New Year. This is the year of the Horse. It represents speed and strength, passion, ambition and adventure!

You can find out more about our Prism Curriculum on the school website:

[Pastoral Development | The Prism](#)

Students spent tutor time making lanterns and learning about Chinese traditions.



Year 8 Reports

It was a pleasure to see some outstanding reports for year 8s at the end of last week. Congratulations to so many students for these after such hard work. I hope that you found year 8 parents' evening useful last night as the first step towards the KS4 options process. Exciting times!

Key options dates for year 8 parents and carers:

Week of 13th April—

Option Taster Lesson Week

Wednesday 29th April from 6-7.30pm—

LIVE Options Evening. All teachers available, with a Headteacher's briefing at 6pm.

All the Best Skiers!

I'm sure that you will join with me in wishing our skiers a safe and memorable trip over half term in the Spanish Pyrenees. Keep your eye on X for some photographs appearing during the week. Thanks to Miss Buckthorp, Mr Powell, Mr Nash and Miss Lee for accompanying the students.

Congratulations Year 11s

Students made another step towards the summer exams by completing their practical assessments this week in Food and Nutrition. There were some absolutely wonderful dishes created. Thanks to parents for supporting the purchase of ingredients and to Mr Tuckey for Saturday School last weekend.



3:2 days

With year 11 mocks starting after half term, we return to 3:2 days for a period of time.

Safeguarding Over Half Term

If you have concerns that a child is suffering any form of abuse, neglect or cruelty contact the Warwickshire Children and Families Family Connect 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.

[Safeguarding Children](#)

Water Safety

I noted the comments on Facebook this week about the levels of water rising around Gunnings Bridge in Alcester, after all of the rain that we have had. Please be sure to talk to your children about the dangers in this area therefore.

<https://www.rospa.com/water-safety>



ROSPA

accidents don't have to happen

Safer Internet Day

You might be interested in the research gathered for a recent national survey.

[Almost all young Brits use AI—more than half say it makes life better - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

The research, carried out for Safer Internet Day (10th February 2026) by Nominet – the UK registry and the UK Safer Internet Centre, polled 2000 young people (aged 8 to 17 years old) and 2000 parents and carers across the UK with questions about their attitude to the fast-evolving world of AI.

This year, Safer Internet Day aims to start conversations about the safe and responsible use of AI, giving young people a voice in creating a safer environment for all online.

Safer
Internet
Day 2026 | Tuesday
10 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

The role of AI in young people's lives—some of the report findings:

Almost half of young people (48%) say that AI is an important part of their everyday life, and 41% think AI can be a great source of emotional support.

However, many young people (45%) are worried about people their age getting really close to AI, like it's a friend, and 41% of teens feel like people their age rely heavily on AI for emotional support or help with personal issues. The research also found that 39% of under 13s feel like people their age use AI a lot when they feel sad or need help.

We found that over a quarter (27%) of young people have seen people their age using AI to get advice, instead of talking to their friends or family.

Uniform

Please do take half term to check that all uniform items are correct. Huge thanks. We seem to have a growing number of children without a tie, and more wearing shoes that cannot be polished. If you could also be certain that students don't have piercings done that cannot be removed, it helps us hugely. We would much prefer to concentrate upon student welfare and wellbeing.

Fidget Tools

We've seen a rise in the numbers of students bringing fidget tools into school from home. Please can I ask parents to work with us regarding this. If not utilised properly, these can often become a distraction more than a positive and helpful strategy in class and around school. Our SENCo, Mrs Ball and her team may choose to issue fidget tools in liaison

with parents . If you wish to reach out to us at school about this, please do, otherwise, we will be speaking with students to ask them not to bring these in.

Reception

There will be a new CCTV camera in reception at the start of March. Signage in reception will indicate this to any visitors.

Thank you all for your continued support over this half term. It is always appreciated. Wishing you all a lovely Valentine's Day, and a fabulous week now to rest and recharge. We all return to school on Monday 23rd February.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

What's Coming Up After Half Term

Monday 23rd February	Year 11 mocks begin
24th/25th/26th February	Year 9 Employer Experience at Corbett's Farm
Thursday 26th February	Year 10 DT trip
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Monday 2nd March	Year 9 Exam Focus Week, with exams taking place in the hall the following week.
Monday 2nd March	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Monday 9th March	Year 8 Geography Super Learning Day
11th/12th March	Year 8 Maths trip to the races!
Thursday 12th March	Year 11 Music controlled assessment day
Tuesday 17th March	Student Climate Change Conference
Thursday 19th March	Year 7 Parents' Evening. LIVE school hall
Thursday 19th March	Christopher Edge author visit
19th/20th March	Year 11 performing arts controlled assessment days
Friday 20th March	Year 10 Super Learning Day <i>Safe and Sound</i>
Friday 20th March	Family Bingo Night
Monday 23rd March	Year 9 Enrichment Day
Monday 23rd & 26th March	Year 8 Shakespeare in the Forest trip
Tuesday 24th March	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
Tuesday 24th March	Rock Academy Concert
Wednesday 25th March	Year 10 D of E Training
Thursday 26th March	Year 11 final school photographs
Thursday 26th March	Year 7 and 8 Warwickshire Book Award Final
Friday 27th March	End of term. School finishes at 12.40pm

As always, this covers most of the next half term, but certainly not everything that will be in place.

**DATES FOR
YOUR DIARY**

Year 9 Weather the Storm: Isla Ventura Hurricane Challenge

On Tuesday, 10th February, the forecast for year 9 was heavy engagement with a chance of high-pressure decision-making!

During a special Geography Enrichment morning, our students were transported to the fictional Atlantic paradise of Isla Ventura. However, trouble was brewing on the horizon. The students were tasked with a high-stakes simulation: preparing the island for a catastrophic hurricane event.

Working in teams, the students had to combine their geographical knowledge with essential life skills to save the island's population. It wasn't just about knowing where the wind blows; the teams faced a complex variety of challenges:

- **Engineering & Design:** Creating "hurricane-proof" defences to protect key infrastructure.
- **Financial Strategy:** Managing a tight budget to fund disaster prevention measures.
- **Crisis Management:** Making tough calls on who to evacuate and where they should go.

Once the "storm" hit, the pressure didn't let up. Students had to pivot immediately to aftermath management, making critical decisions on recovery and aid.

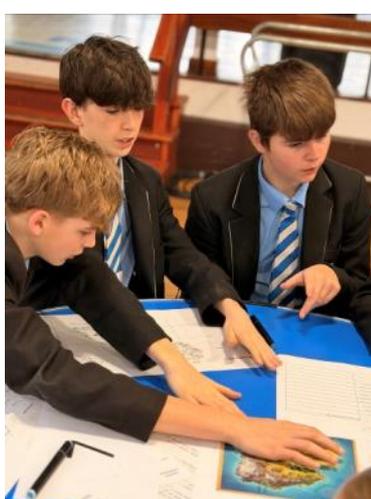
The Geography department was blown away by the response. The entire year group was absolutely brilliant, diving into the role-play with maturity



and enthusiasm. A special shout-out goes to our three winning teams, who secured victory not just through good planning, but by demonstrating superb resilience, motivation, and engagement when the scenario got tough.

Well done, year 9, for weathering the storm and showing us what true teamwork looks like!

Mrs Sandells—Lead Geography



Year 11 Food Prep & Nutrition Practical Success!

This week, our year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition students completed their practical assessments as part of their coursework. They demonstrated impressive effort throughout, producing a fantastic range of dishes that showcased their culinary skills, creativity, and confidence in the kitchen. Well done to all involved! *Mr Tuckey*



Safeguarding Children over Half Term

Staff will be spending time with their own families over the half term break. If you have any concerns about any children, please therefore use the following details:

If you have concerns that a child is suffering any form of abuse, neglect or cruelty contact the Warwickshire Children and Families Family Connect 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.

Safeguarding Children

These details are always posted on the school website home page during every holiday period.

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



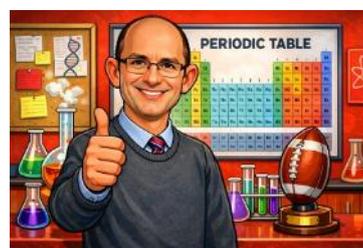
Celebrating Outstanding Effort in Science

The Science Department is delighted to introduce our brand-new Science Praise Postcards—a special initiative designed to recognise and celebrate students who demonstrate outstanding effort in their science lessons.

In science, success is built on resilience, curiosity and determination. Whether it's contributing thoughtful answers, persevering with challenging concepts, producing exceptional classwork, or showing dedication to improvement, we believe effort deserves to be recognised and celebrated.

Each postcard will be awarded to students who go above and beyond in their approach to learning. These postcards will be sent home to share the good news with families and acknowledge the hard work taking place in our classrooms every day.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and commitment our students show in science, and we look forward to celebrating many of them through this new initiative. Keep up the fantastic work—you could be our next Science Praise Postcard recipient!



Using Unifrog to Support Careers Planning

Students and parents also have access to Unifrog, our online careers platform, which provides a wide range of resources to support decision-making about future pathways.

Through Unifrog, students can research apprenticeships, T Levels, colleges, universities, and careers, explore labour market information, and compare different routes side-by-side. The platform also helps students reflect on their skills and interests, record careers activities, and build a clear picture of their next steps.

Please use the following link to access LMI about apprenticeships.

<https://cdn.unifrog.org/video/n1legc96lb/720.mp4>

Students were also invited to explore the Apprenticeship Fair this week. Details can be found on their Unifrog accounts or on the Google Classrooms.

<https://webapp.spotme.com/login/eventspace/apprenticeship-fair>

Miss Bartlett



How parents can support careers conversations at home

Parents and carers play an important role in helping young people explore their future options.

You can support these conversations at home by:

- Encouraging your child to talk about what they enjoyed or found interesting during National Apprenticeship Week
- Discussing different post-16 and post-18 pathways, including apprenticeships, T Levels, college, and university
- Exploring local and national apprenticeship opportunities together
- Helping your child consider their strengths, interests, and career aspirations
- Reassuring them that career pathways are flexible and that there are multiple routes to success.

Apprenticeship Careers Fair 10th March 2026

Year 11 students will be attending this Apprenticeship Careers Fair next half term.

The fair will give students the opportunity to meet a wide range of employers, training providers, and apprenticeship organisations. Students will be able to learn more about different apprenticeship pathways, entry requirements, and how apprenticeships combine paid employment with training and qualifications. This event is designed to help students explore practical post-16 options and make informed decisions about their next steps.

Further details, including the date, location, and arrangements for the day, will be shared with parents and carers in due course.

Miss Bartlett

Work Experience Placements—Urgent Reminder



With only two weeks remaining until Work Experience commences (2–6 March), a small number of students are still required to secure their placements. We kindly ask that these placements are confirmed as soon as possible to ensure students are fully prepared for this important opportunity.

All placements must be created and recorded on Unifrog, allowing Miss Bartlett to track and support any last-minute applications. A full step-by-step guide to using Unifrog can be found on the Careers Zone Google Classroom.

Please know that employers are automatically prompted to complete Unifrog, via email, every three days. If you are aware they still haven't done this, please make contact directly. Without the relevant checks students will not be insured to attend.

Work experience is a valuable and compulsory part of our careers programme, giving students the chance to:

- Develop key employability skills
- Explore potential career pathways
- Build confidence and independence
- Strengthen future applications for education, apprenticeships, and employment

Students who do not secure a placement risk missing out on these important benefits.

Miss Bartlett—Careers Co-ordinator

Useful Websites for Parents and Students

- **National Apprenticeship Service**—
<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>
- **Amazing Apprenticeships**—
<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com>
- **T Levels**—<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk>
- **National Careers Service**—
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>
- **Stratford-upon-Avon College**—<https://www.stratford.ac.uk>
- **Unifrog**— <https://cdn.unifrog.org/video/n11egc96lb/720.mp4>



National Apprenticeship Week 2026

During National Apprenticeship Week 2026, students took part in a range of activities designed to increase their understanding of future pathways beyond school. Tutor time activities and year group assemblies were delivered, explaining what apprenticeships are, how they work, and the opportunities they can provide. These sessions also introduced students to T Levels, outlining how they differ from other post-16 options and the progression routes they offer.

Across the curriculum, subject-specific lessons explored apprenticeship availability linked to different career areas. This helped students understand how their subjects connect to real employment opportunities and the skills and qualifications required by different industries. Today, Mr Bryan Andrews from Stratford-Upon-

Avon College held a drop-in session for students who wished to learn more about the local labour market and the opportunities available in the area. We wish to convey our sincere thanks for supporting us.

Miss Bartlett



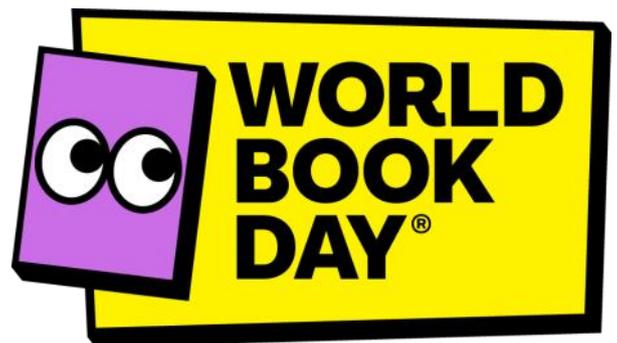
World Book Day 2026!

Get the date in your diaries—World Book Day is on Thursday the 5th March. This is a great year for us at the Academy to celebrate a love of books and all things reading. This is especially pivotal this year as 2026 is the UK's National Year of Reading in which we are encouraging pupils, staff and parents to *Go All In* and read anything and everything!

This year, we will be holding a non-uniform day in which students from KS3 can dress up as their favourite books or characters. There will be prizes available for the best outfits.

More details on the day will follow after half term.

Miss Lewis



Worcester University Law Degree Drop-In

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome representatives from the University of Worcester, who hosted an informative drop-in session for our students. The session focused on exploring the wide range of law degree options available at the university and highlighting the many exciting career pathways these courses can lead to.

Students had the valuable opportunity to speak with Jenny Wakins, a Family Law Lecturer at the University of Worcester. Jenny shared her expertise and insight into studying law at degree level, as well as the diverse professional opportunities within the legal sector and beyond. We are very grateful for Jenny's continued support and her commitment to inspiring our students.

Providing opportunities for students to engage with higher education institutions is incredibly important. Events like this help broaden horizons, raise aspirations, and support students in making informed decisions about their future pathways. We are proud to continue offering experiences that connect our students with universities and potential career routes.



Poetry Live—Student Takeover!

gcse poetry live!



Last Friday, we visited the King's Centre in Oxford to see the poets we study in the *Power and Conflict* anthology, perform their poems and talk about their inspirations.

Carol Ann Duffy, the poet famous for writing *War Photographer* alongside many others, explained the inspiration behind *War Photographer*, *Warming Her Pearls* and *Before You Were Mine*. This helped us to understand her poems on a deeper, more emotional level.

Throughout the day we also had two separate sessions with an AQA Examiner to get a wider understanding on what examiners are looking

for in our Unseen Poetry responses. We were given a programme at the start of the event filled with information about our poets and some partial model answers.

Another one of our speakers was Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage. He spoke about the war veterans that inspired his poems in one of his most famous collections: *The Not Dead*. We ended on a high note with

the one and only John Agard, who sang his poems and got the audience to join in! At the end of his session, he received a standing ovation, unlike any others.

Some of the students were even lucky enough to have a photo with him and get his autograph as we were leaving! It was a good opportunity to widen our understanding of *Power and Conflict* poetry, which will hopefully help us in our upcoming GCSEs and mocks.

By Georgia (Ragley) and Alice (Greville), year 11 students





Bringing History to Life: GCSE Students at the Doctors Show

On Wednesday 62 year 11s went to the Palace Theatre in Redditch to watch the Doctors Show. The Doctors Show is a light-hearted play which tells the story of Health and Medicine in Britain since the Middle Ages.

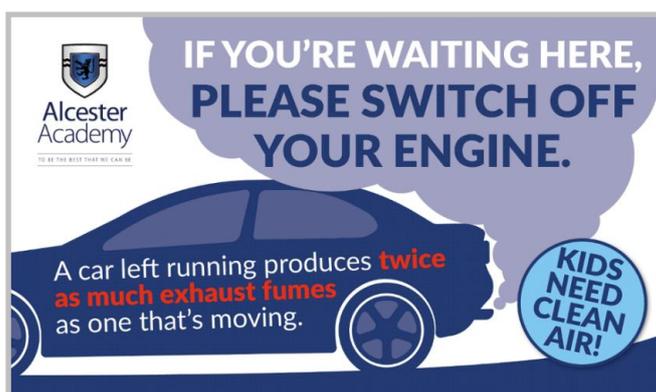
Using a TV show format, it brings to life key events and developments in medieval Britain, the Renaissance, the industrial period, and modern Britain. The show gave pupils the opportunity to identify the factors of change involved in these developments, and to assess their impact.

The play is in four parts and each part leads into a workshop session that looks at how the events

of the play relate to the GCSE course, and offers advice to students about how to improve their performance in their final exam. The workshop presenters did this by getting students to mark sample examination answers, as if they were assistant examiners in a moderation session.

The pupils were a credit to the Academy with their behaviour and attitude, and the show was definitely a memorable way to learn about the history of medicine, whilst also gaining some valuable exam tips.

Mr Rossiter—Lead History





**EASTER
BINGO**

*Prepare your lucky charms for our Easter Bingo Night!
Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled evening of
games, music, and exciting prizes.*

Licenced bar and tuck shop available.

**20
MARCH** **FRIDAY**
DOORS OPEN 6:30PM
EYES DOWN 7.00PM

**"FRIENDS"
OF
ALCESTER ACADEMY**



Book Online Now

Year 11 Revision Timetables



WEEK A	Lunch 1.50-2.20	After school 3.30-4.15
Monday	Music coursework - MU1	
Tuesday	Music coursework - MU1 Grade 7-9 Club Geography	English
Wednesday	Music coursework - MU1 DT coursework	Science Combined Computer Science
Thursday	Music coursework - MU1 History Clinic with Mr. Rossiter (invite only) History	Maths
Friday	Music coursework- MU1 Geography intervention	



WEEK B	Lunch 1.50-2.20	After school 3.30-4.15
Monday	Music coursework - MU1	
Tuesday	Music coursework - MU1 Grade 7-9 Club Geography Media Studies	French German Food and Nutrition
Wednesday	Music coursework - MU1	Science Triple
Thursday	Music coursework - MU1 History Clinic with Mr. Rossiter (invite only) History	Art & Photography Further Maths
Friday	Music coursework - MU1 Geography intervention	

Saturday/Holiday School Sessions 2026

Saturday 21.2.26 - Maths - Sets 1 and 3 - 9am-10.30am in school

Saturday 21.2.26 - English - 10.45am-12.15pm in school

Saturday 28.2.26 - Maths - Sets 2, 4 and 5 - 10.45am-12.15pm in school

Saturday 7.3.26 - Performing Arts - 10am-4pm in school

Thursday 9.4.26 - French - 9am-10.30am in school

Thursday 9.4.26 - German - 10.45am-12.15pm in school

**Ambition
is the first
step to
success.
The second
step is
action.**

Bromcom Positive Points Leaderboard 6th February—12th February 2026



Top Positive Point Students:

1	Jada	9NA	Billesley	15 points
1	Amalie	9DA	Oversley	15 points
3	Bella	9AN	Billesley	13 points
3	Charlotte	9AN	Billesley	13 points
3	Garan	9AN	Billesley	13 points
3	Robbie	9RO	Billesley	13 points
3	Lauren	9NA	Billesley	13 points

Top Positive Point House:

1	Billesley	634 points
2	Greville	603 points
3	Ragley	595 points
4	Oversley	546 points

Top Positive Point Tutor Group:

1	7RA	139 points
2	7PA	138 points
3	7WI	135 points
4	7TN	134 points
5	9AN	122 points

Top Positive Point Subjects:

1	Science	327 points
2	English	313 points
3	Maths	296 points

Top Positive Point Staff:

1	Mr Hall	627 points
2	Mrs Hirji	299 points
3	Mrs Weatherley	288 points



Bromcom



Bromcom



Bromcom

Celebrate La Chandeleur!

In France, La Chandeleur marks the end of the Christmas period. It is exactly 40 days after Christmas Eve.

It marks the return of light, a symbol of protection and prosperity. To mark this occasion and to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, the MFL faculty are running a pancake competition for year 7.

The task is to make and decorate a pancake, preferably with a French theme and then to attach a photo of your pancake to the assignment on Google classroom. Teachers will go through the task in lessons. The deadline for entries is Monday 2 March and there will be prizes!

Mrs Weatherley—Lead MFL



Student Librarian Notice

COME AND USE THE LIBRARY!

We have a lovely library at Alcester Academy but we have noticed that not all students are using it (especially year 9 and above). But we would like you to know that even if you don't quiz anymore you can still take books out of the library just for the enjoyment of entering another world of adventure. You see, reading a book just for enjoyment can help with knowledge of the world around us (non-fiction) and to help build your imagination (fiction), it can also give you new interesting facts to share with others around you. If you have taken art or photography or are thinking about it it is very helpful to have a good imagination as it can help with creative ideas and new techniques, and a book gives you that imagination you may need.



Spring Term Extra-Curricular Clubs

Extra Curricular Timetable

Spring 2026



Alcester Academy

Monday

Lunchtime

- Pride Group- E4
- Acoustic Group- Music Hut
- ART- A1 & A2

Tuesday

Lunchtime

- Science club -S2
- Pattern & Print - T3
- Young Enterprise -H4
- Youth Speaks - E4
- Pop Band- Music hut
- Christian Union - R1
- ART- A1 & A2

Afterschool

- Dungeons & Dragons-R1
- Media film club - E6

Wednesday

Lunchtime

- Board Games- LRC
- Orchestra - MU 1
- Book club (invite only) - E1
- Wednesday Statistics Gcse -S5
- Chess club -M3
- ART- A1 & A2

After School

- Cookery Club - Food Room

Thursday

Lunchtime

- Book Club- LRC
- Rock Band - Music Hut
- Loom Weaving - L2
- Year Book (y11) - H4
- History Clinic - H1
- ART- A1 & A2

After School

- Dance - Drama
- Dungeons & Dragon -R1
- GCSE Art and Photography - A2

Friday

Lunchtime

- Mr Palmieri's Maths Clinic- M1
- ART- A1 & A2
- Y7 Rock band - Music hut

Alcester Academy Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2026

Half Term Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

Back to school Monday 23rd February 2026

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 27th March at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2026

Summer Term begins Monday 13th April 2026

School closed Friday 1st May 2026—Teacher training day

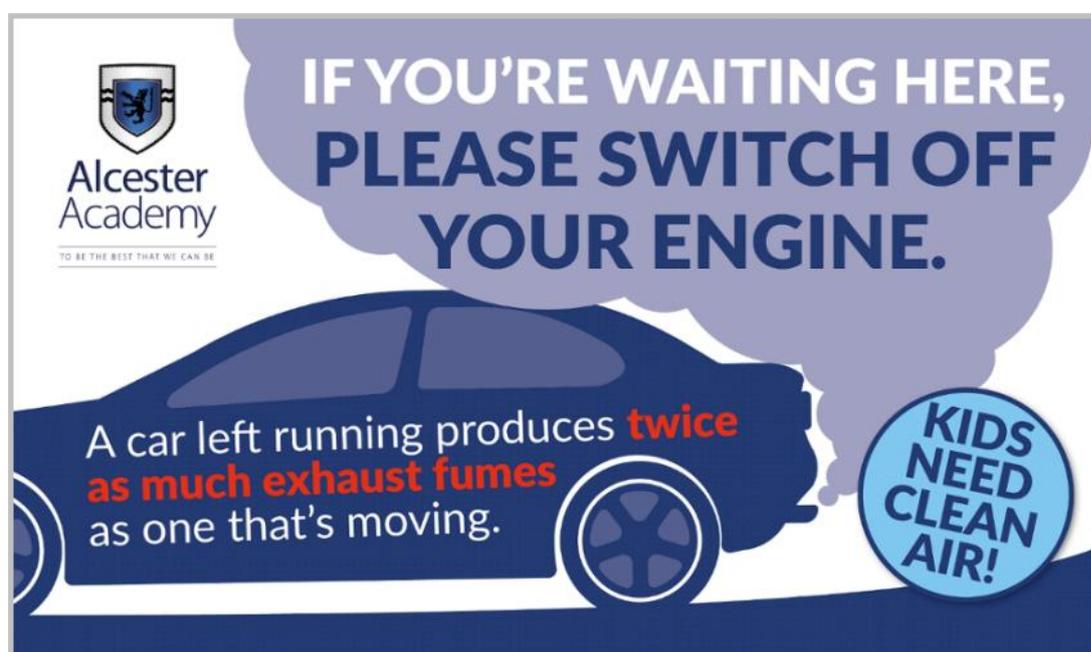
May Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2026

Half Term Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026

Back to school Monday 1st June 2026

Summer Term ends Friday 17th July 2026 at 12.40pm

School closed Monday 20th July 2026—Teacher training day



Attendance News

**Whole School
Attendance this week: 92.7%**

Top 5 Tutors this week:

- 9AN with 99.6% attendance
- 7LX with 98.8% attendance
- 7RA with 98.5% attendance
- 8SA with 97.8% attendance
- 8RW with 97.7% attendance

Top House this week:

Ragley with 93% attendance

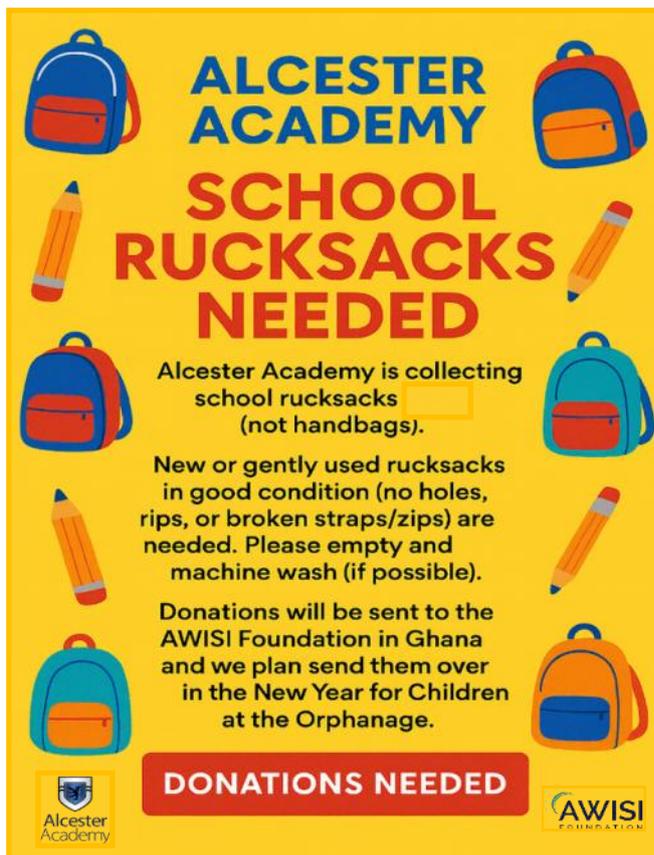
*Data from
Friday 6.2.26 – Thursday 12.2.26*

If your child will be absent from school, please notify our Attendance Officer, Ms Louise Hatcher, with the reason before 8.50am each day. You can do this via:

- ⇒ **MCAS App—medical appointments and absences can be reported through the app**
- ⇒ **SchoolComms**
- ⇒ **Phone: 01789 762285**
- ⇒ **Email: louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk**

We kindly ask parents and carers to remind students who are leaving for appointments during the school day to come to the office a few minutes early so they can sign out promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ms Louise Hatcher—Attendance Officer



ALCESTER ACADEMY

SCHOOL RUCKSACKS NEEDED

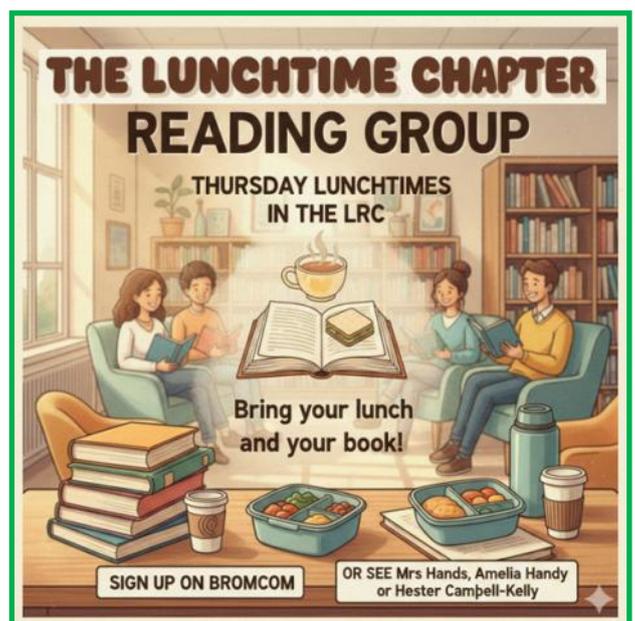
Alcester Academy is collecting school rucksacks (not handbags).

New or gently used rucksacks in good condition (no holes, rips, or broken straps/zips) are needed. Please empty and machine wash (if possible).

Donations will be sent to the AWISI Foundation in Ghana and we plan send them over in the New Year for Children at the Orphanage.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Alcester Academy logo and AWISI Foundation logo.



THE LUNCHTIME CHAPTER READING GROUP

THURSDAY LUNCHTIMES IN THE LRC

Bring your lunch and your book!

SIGN UP ON BROMCOM OR SEE Mrs Hands, Amelia Handy or Hester Campbell-Kelly

Help Us Stock Our Shelves!

The School Library's Amazon Wishlist!

Our Learning Resource Centre School Library (LRC) is a vital hub for discovery!
Help us keep our stock fresh, diverse and up-to-date.



Why a Wishlist?

- ★ Bestsellers & New Releases
- 👥 Diverse Voices
- 🔗 Non-Fiction Resources
- 💬 Graphic Novels & Manga

Purchase a book that goes directly to the school library!

How You Can Help



Let's Start!

- Find the List: Visit the [Amazon Wishlist here](#). (Amazon no longer supports a direct search for wishlists.)
- Pick Your Book(s)
- Select the school's address ("Gift Registry Address") during checkout to ship directly to us.
- Include your name in the gift message if you would like a thank-you note from the school!

Every Book Makes a Difference!

Thank you for nurturing a lifelong love of reading!
For more info: juliehands@alcesteracademy.org.uk



* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

PE Department—Half Term Round-Up

What a whirlwind of a half term! As we head into the break, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible energy, resilience, and talent our students have displayed across a range of sports.

From the echoing cheers and support in the sports hall, to the competitive grit shown out on the courts, it has been one of our most successful periods to date for Alcester Academy sport and some key highlights are reflected upon below:

Cross Country Excellence

We can look back with immense pride at the achievements of three of our Cross Country runners this half term. A massive round of applause goes to our three national qualifiers:

Will (year 11)
Marijke (year 11)
Poppy (year 7)

All three students have officially qualified to compete at the English Schools Cross Country Championships!

Reaching the national finals is a phenomenal achievement that places them among the elite young runners in the country. It is a direct result of their incredible stamina, grit, and the dedication they've shown throughout the season. We are immensely proud to have them representing our Academy on the national stage.

Athletics Excellence

Our year 7 Girls Indoor Athletics team delivered a phenomenal performance in their first Indoor Athletics competition wearing the silver, black and blue of Alcester Academy. Competing against every school in South Warwickshire, the girls pushed themselves to the absolute limit. In a nail-biting finish, they secured the runners-up spot—missing out on the top prize to SGGS by a tiny margin of just 3 points.

To be the second-best team in the entire district is a brilliant achievement, with our girls up against some of the significantly larger schools in the area.

Basketball Fever

It has been a tremendous half term for Alcester Academy's ballers out on the court, also:

District Champions: Huge congratulations to the year 7 girls basketball team, who dominated the district tournament to take home the title. Their teamwork and tactical play were a joy to watch.

Cup Run Success: The year 7 and year 9 boys teams have both shown fantastic form. Both squads have successfully navigated the early rounds to progress to the District Cup Semi-Finals. These high-stakes games will be played soon after the half term break, and we wish them very best of luck.

Football Grit

Beyond the trophies, our football teams have been out in force, representing the Academy with pride in various small, sided tournaments. The commitment to the badge and the sportsmanship shown at these events, often in cold and damp conditions, reflects the true character of our students.

A special mention to both our year 9 and 10 football teams who both individually won the South Warwickshire area district tournaments for their age groups. These are fantastic achievements for these groups of players and we hope this form can be continued as the school football season on grass resumes in Spring 2.

I want to extend a massive "well done" to every student who has represented the Academy this half term. Whether you attended training after school, represented in your first-ever competitive match or went on to win a competition, your effort has been noticed.

Enjoy a well-earned rest, stay active, and let's keep this momentum going into the next half term!

Mr Moffatt—Lead PE & Sports

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

After School Clubs for first week back after the February half term break

 NEXT WEEK'S SPORT W/B 23/2/26 		
<i>Day</i>	<i>Extra-Curricular Club & Staff</i>	<i>Location</i>
Monday	Year 7 Boys Basketball v Shipston	Gym
Tuesday	Year 11 Football	Field
Wednesday	Year 9/10/11 Girls Basketball	Gym
Thursday	Year 10 Netball Festival Year 11 Football v Studley	AGS Studley

The lunchtime sport rota will resume after half term with the opportunities below available on a Monday and Tuesday

LUNCHTIME INDOOR FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Time: 1:45 PM - 2:15 PM
Location: School Gym



**IMPORTANT
REMINDERS!**

MONDAY: YEAR 11

TUESDAY: YEAR 8

- CLEAN TRAINERS ONLY!
- NO PE KIT REQUIRED!

PE Opportunities for our Students

Stratford Town Academy Talent ID Event



JOIN US FOR 26/27 SEASON AND FURTHER EDUCATION 🔥



The day:
-16-19 education presentation, life at the Academy & exit routes 🍷
-Training session & games with UEFA & ex Professional coaches ⚽
-First team manager & Chairman in attendance 🏆👏

Register through  in bio!

📅 Friday 20th February
🕒 10:00-13:00
📍 Arden Garages Stadium



Ages 4-16yrs

During half-term

RUGBY CAMP

2 CAMPS IN 1 DAY!



ALCESTER RFC

£25 Per Player

TUESDAY 17TH FEB '26
9AM - 3PM

Alcester Rugby Football Club,
Birmingham Road, Kings
Coughton, Alcester, B49 5QF



OPEN TO BOTH MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



BERRY BALLROOM

CHILDREN'S LATIN DANCE TASTER SESSION

Half term - Friday, 20th Feb
2.15pm to 4.15pm

Alcester Scout & Guide Centre
(Next to tennis courts)

£10 per child

Please register via Text or WhatsApp
Sue Berry on **07969 603856**
as class size will be limited.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?
We'd love to hear from you!

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



A FOOTBALL FOCUSED EVENING
WITH **JANIE FRAMPTON OBE**

Janie is only the second woman to officiate men's professional football, and one of eight FIFA Women Instructors in the world.



FRIDAY 24TH APRIL 2026
@ THE GREIG HALL, ALCESTER

- 5.30pm - Doors and bar open
- 6pm to 6.50pm - Interview with Janie
- Interval followed by
- 7.15pm to 8pm - Q&A session

£5 FOR ADULTS • UNDER 18s FREE

Tickets available from PSW, Alcester, **CASH ONLY**,
or online @ thegreighall.co.uk

Registered Charity Number 1195635




★ **REDDITCH HAS TALENT AUDITIONS 2026**

PRIZES FOR EACH AGE CATEGORY INCLUDING £250 OVERALL JUDGES' CHOICE!

SEND US A SHORT VIDEO: SEE PALACE THEATRE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO ENTER.
SINGERS, DANCERS, BANDS, SCHOOLS, ENTERTAINERS - ALL WELCOME!

DEADLINE 7TH MARCH 2026

PRODUCER MARIA BRANNELLY • RHTPALACE@GMAIL.COM




BIRMINGHAM AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

Train with a coaching team of over 100 years combined experience
No experience needed
Adult Contact, U19's Contact, U16s Contact & Flag Football ages 7-16 available



Join your local **American Football Family!**

Spring Lane Playing Fields
Kingsbury Road
Erdington
Birmingham
B24 9NF

Scan for Birmingham Lions 

Scan for Birmingham Bulls 

28TH FEBRUARY

FREE



TASTER SESSION

AGES 11 - 13

Fence WITH US!

COME AND TRY THE OLYMPIC SPORT OF FENCING - A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE THAT TEACHES CONFIDENCE AND DISCIPLINE!

SIGN UP HERE AT: SHAKESPEARESSWORDS.COM

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Stratford Youth Theatre Presents:

THE BORROWERS

Adapted from the novel by Mary Norton

18th to 21st February
At The Bear Pit Theatre
Stratford-upon-Avon

For tickets SCAN ME!

Tickets available via the website:
www.stratfordyouththeatre.com

With kind support from:
Stratford Town Trust
grenfell james



THE Greig Hall

FRI. 13th MARCH
SAT. 14th MARCH

AYTC Presents

THE WARRIORS OF EZERARD

A story of Mystery, Magic and Drama!

Friday 13th March
Evening - Doors open at 7pm

Saturday 14th March
Matinee - Doors open at 2pm
Evening - Doors open at 7pm

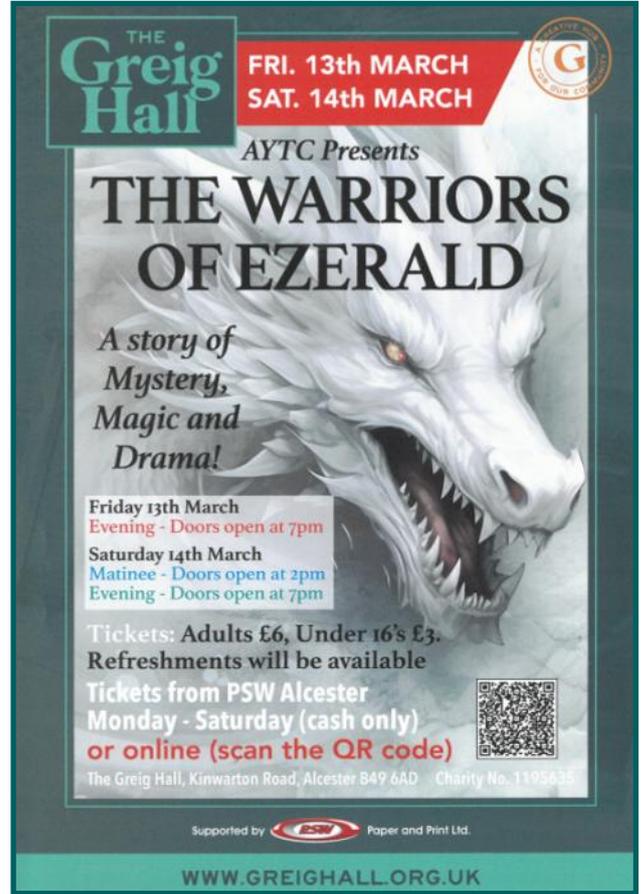
Tickets: Adults £6, Under 16's £3.
Refreshments will be available

Tickets from PSW Alcester
Monday - Saturday (cash only)
or online (scan the QR code)

The Greig Hall, Kinwarton Road, Alcester B49 6AD Charity No. 1195835

Supported by  Paper and Print Ltd.

WWW.GREIGHALLORG.UK



RECRUITMENT IS OPEN NOW!

INTERESTED IN POLICING?

KEEN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY?
LOOKING FOR A NEW OPPORTUNITY?



Warwickshire Police
Cadets

Recruitment for 2026

Now Open

What do I do next?

Scan the QR code
and apply!

RECRUITMENT IS OPEN UNTIL
1st March 2026

keep Calm
Recruitment
is Open



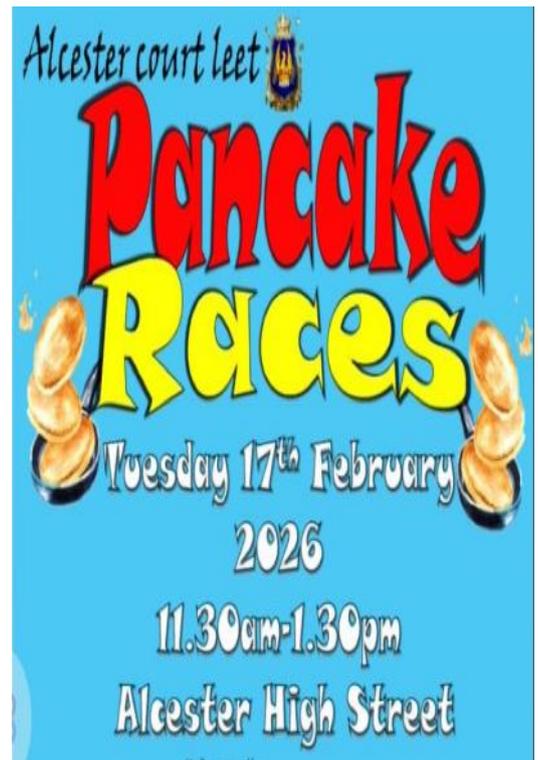
Alcester court leet

Pancake Races

Tuesday 17th February
2026

11.30am-1.30pm

Alcester High Street



CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

KIDS HOLIDAY LUNCHES



**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY
18TH
12:30 -
1:30PM**

Come along during half term and grab a takeaway kids lunch to enjoy in the park, including a drink, fruit and snacks

**FIRST COME,
FIRST SERVED!**

At The Depot, Eric Payne
Community Centre, Alcester
B49 6AG

Hedgehogs in Your Garden – A Community Evening

Date: Tuesday 24th February 2026
Time: 6:30pm – 8pm
Location: Eric Payne Community Centre

Did you know hedgehogs are in serious decline across the UK?
Come and find out how you can help these prickly garden visitors thrive in Alcester!

- Talk by Haven 4 Wildlife on hedgehog behaviour and threats
- How to make your garden hedgehog friendly
- Demonstrations of hedgehog homes, feeding stations and tunnels
- Free hedgehog highway for everyone
- Activities for children
- Hot drinks and cakes



Hedgehog Evening

Alcester Connected for Climate and Nature
<https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/information/natural-environment/>









MOBILE PLANETARIUM SHOWS

AT
THE GREIG HALL
SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

25 MINUTE SHOWS FROM 10:00AM - 3:30PM
£4:50 PER TICKET
ALL AGES WELCOME
BOOK YOUR TIME AND TICKET HERE....




The Greig Hall
CIO
Registration No. 1195636



TRY IT!
LOVE IT! LEARN IT!

SCHOOL LEAVER OPEN EVENT



**Wednesday
18th March
5:00-7:30pm**

Check our website to find out which courses are available.







Pre-register now at www.stratford.ac.uk

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

BILLS

Kids eat free Monday 17th - Friday 28th Feb

BREWDOG

Kids eat free this Feb Half Term

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 under 16s get free breakfast daily with 1 adult!

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE from 10th to the 16th of Feb 2026.

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PREZZO

Kids eat for £1 from 6th Jan to 11th February 2026.

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

PIZZA HUT

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free all day Feb 16th - 20th 2026

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