Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

16th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This will be our last bulletin of this academic year sadly. I hope that the weekly updates have kept you in touch and informed of issues, and you have been able to celebrate the numerous events and activities throughout the year with us. I must take this opportunity to thank Miss Home for her superb work each week on the bulletin. She often only gets the pages of information on a Friday morning, and has to present these to you by mid afternoon.

We acknowledge those students who were part of our celebration event last week later on in this bulletin. Many congratulations to these students and thank you to the staff involved in helping us to record this for families. We hope to publish the *Review Of The Year* to you all before the end of term so that we can share a brief video of our experiences as a community this year.

This week has been an exceptional week at the academy. Later on in the bulletin, you will see highlights from the various end of term trips and from Sports Day. We hope that these events have given the students some wonderful experiences that will create long term memories. I'd like to thank all of the staff who work tirelessly to make these things happen. Many staff extended their working day on Tuesday in order to be with the students. 456 students went on trips on Tuesday! I'm so pleased that we were able to make this happen safely and this was largely down to Miss Buckthorp and Mrs Savery organising everything behind the scenes here. We did lift the attendance target this year for the trips because of covid; please recognise that attendance and behaviour will form a huge part of the incentive for students getting on these trips in summer 2022. Current year 7 and 8s are not especially used to this because of covid and will have to start the year off well in September.

This week, our year 10 Enterprise group worked extremely hard to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust with their mini fete. Mrs Hale has written about this further on. I certainly needed some work on my own Hoopla skills!

Our KS4 students celebrated the end of their catch-up tutoring for this year with Coach Bright this week. We are so proud of them for their hard work and the extra hours invested in this. Mrs Farnell has written about this later in the bulletin. Our auditions for *Beauty and the Beast* took place in earnest. Our year 6s will have a chance to audition early in the new term. A record 130 students auditioned this year in years 7-10. Wow!

131 year 6 students logged in to our virtual induction day on Friday. 91 of these students have signed up for our Summer School week of 26th July. We can't wait to see the students in person finally.

And, as if that isn't enough, Miss Buckthorp and Miss Hammond visited year 5s and 6s at St Nicholas and Bidford primary schools this week too.

Health and Safety

On Wednesday we held a whole school fire drill. The school was evacuated in just 4 minutes with year 10s role modelling exemplary behaviour which the other year groups then followed. Please be assured that this was as speedy and safe an evacuation as it could be. I was extremely proud. You could hear a pin drop as the registers were being checked!

Year 10 update

Further to my school comms earlier this week, we then heard from Ofqual that reasonable adjustments will be made to the exam series next year for our current year 10s. This was the update on Tuesday 13th July. I will write to parents in the new term with more secure updates on this matter:

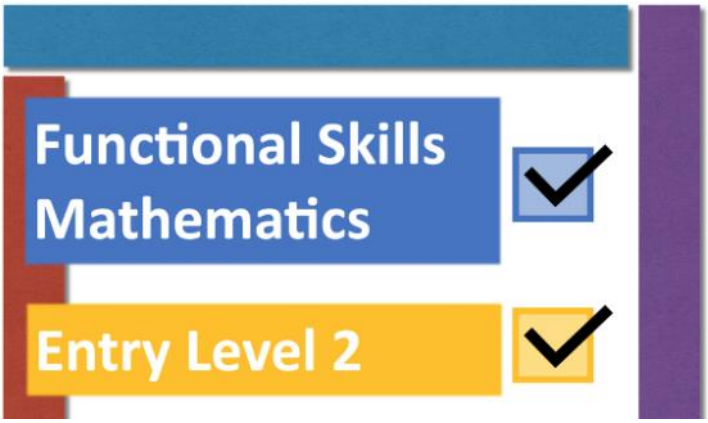
The Department for Education and exams watchdog Ofqual have launched a three-week consultation on proposed modifications to next summer's exams, including proposals that would give schools and colleges some choice over the content to be assessed. Under the plans, in recognition that many students will not have not had time to complete the whole curriculum because of lockdowns, pupils will be allowed support materials, such as a formulae sheet for GCSE mathematics and an expanded equations sheet for GCSE physics and combined science. There will also be adjustments to science practicals and art and design assessments. Education Secretary Gavin Williamson said that exams "will always be the fairest way to assess students, which is why they will take place next year, but it's right that next summer's arrangements take into account the disruption young people have faced over the past 18 months.

Congratulations year 9 Mathematicians

Huge congratulations to our year 9s who were successful in achieving their Functional Skills in Maths Entry 2:

Cobey, Bayanda, Alfie, Joshua, Kaitlyn, Tyler and Adam

The students have worked very hard towards this alongside Mrs Case. Well done everyone!



SEND Local Area Inspection – Warwickshire

I was invited to be part of the Warwickshire meeting with Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection team yesterday as part of the SEND local area inspection. I will update you as soon as the report is published.

Exciting news!

On Friday, Miss Nemeshanyi gave birth to a gorgeous baby girl; 9lbs and 11 ozs! She and her husband have chosen a French name; Ottilie meaning prosperous. We wish the new family our very best wishes at this lovely time.

Next Tuesday, we say farewell to two valued staff. Mrs Hale leaves us after a number of years at Alcester Academy. She was first appointed as our librarian, she then became a teaching assistant and has spent the last twelve months as our Careers Advisor! Not many staff can say that! I have worked closely with Mrs Hale over this time. She is such a genuine, lovely lady; I know that I will miss her greatly along with lots of other staff and students. We wish her well for her future 'early' retirement (I'd be in trouble if I didn't say that!), as she prepares to become a grandma for the first time. Thank you for your years of service Mrs Hale, for being a great friend to lots of us and for helping so many of our students in your numerous roles.

We also bid farewell to Mrs Case in the maths department. Mrs Case has been with us for just a year, and she has made a huge contribution to the maths team and the school as a whole. I will miss Mrs Case's effervescent personality and kindness. Good luck in your new role Mrs Case as you head off to your promotion in Coventry! We'll miss you!

Our new staff had the day with us on Wednesday. We are looking forward to seeing them in September and we will drop you a reminder of who is who in the first edition of the new term.

Meeting with Councillor Piers Daniell

We welcomed Councillor Piers Daniell into school today for a meeting with myself and the Chair of Governors, Mike Dean whilst considering the future of the academy as we remain over-subscribed as a school.

Thank you

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Barley for arranging sponsorship of six new laptops for school. We are very grateful.

Support Alcester Academy Pta

When you shop at **smile.amazon.co.uk**, Amazon Donates

Visit smile.amazon.co.uk

smile.amazon.co.uk

Contacting staff over the summer break

Naturally, I am very keen that staff get a full break over the summer holidays. Could I ask that parents do not contact staff via email therefore please. I appreciate this understanding. Staff are back in school on Thursday 2nd September for the first training day and will be happy to catch up with parents as needed then. In the event of an emergency, I can be contacted: head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

For year 6 Summer School queries, week beginning 26th July, please contact GrahamBastock@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Safeguarding over the summer holidays

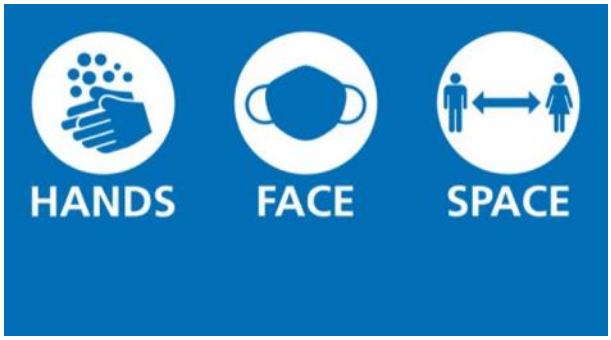
Warwickshire Safeguarding Children

https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/report-it
Please email - mash@warwickshire.gov.uk
Out of hours - if you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Emergency Duty Team immediately on 01926 886922.
Emergencies - if you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the police immediately on 999.

These details will be added to the home page of the website for your reference.

Coronavirus

For Coronavirus advice over the summer, please contact your GP or call 111, or visit https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/



September – Return to school

I will write to you late August time with details of the return to school and the implications of covid at this time; we are all used to things changing now over just a few weeks. It should be all-systems-go for a normal return in September (refer to last week's bulletin). At present, this does include LFTs of all students twice however at the start of term. We will conduct these tests in school again.
You could help us massively by conducting testing as well before the return to school as follows:

New year 7/9 –
LFT at home on Monday 30th August, Thursday 2nd September and Sunday 5th September

New year 8/10/11 –
LFT at home on Sunday 29th August, Wednesday 1st September and Saturday 4th September

This would help us hugely to continue to keep the community safe.

Students in the current year 7-10 will need to ensure that they have LFT kits in order to do this. The current local centres for collection of kits are:
Right Hand Grafton House, B49 5BX
Alcester Primary Care Ctr, B49 6QR
Lloyds pharmacy, 51-53 High Street, B49 5AF
Bidford Health Centre, B50 4LX
Boots, Evesham Retail Park, WR11 4QR
Morrisons Alcester Road, CV37 9DA
Rother House Medical Ctr, CV37 6PP
Avon health care Arden Street, CV37 6HJ
Evesham Library, WR11 4PJ
Elgar House Surgery, B97 4AB (Redditch)
Redditch Library, B98 8AR
Boots, 11 Bridge Street, CV37 6AB
Tesco, Birmingham Road, CV37 0UA
Unit4 The Rosebird Centre, CV37 8LU

The students will have a Standards assembly on Monday and we will remind them of the uniform expectations for the September return.

Sunday night

Thank you to our year 9 parents who remained very patient whilst we communicated about a positive covid result just as the game was about to kick off on Sunday night! We were very grateful for your support with the details of this. Equally, thank you to academy staff who pulled out all of the stops to avoid a group having to isolate unnecessary. Superb work!

The match was such a well fought game! Not to be though this year…maybe next? We will do more work in school with the students next year on the shocking and blatant racism that resulted as a consequence of the game.

Year 10

Thank you to our year 10s and parents for working so proactively to keep the school safe on Thursday morning when we were updated about the covid case. We nearly made it this term with no isolations! Stay safe everyone. We are sorry that some year 10s can't be with us to see the end of term through. Thinking of you all!

Lourdes IT

I want to recognise the work that has supported the academy this year by Lourdes IT. We are very grateful for this. Thank you!

Governors

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the full Governing body for their continued support this year and the hours of commitment that they give to the school in numerous ways.

Early finish

We will be finishing at 12.40pm on Tuesday 20th July. Details have been published in previous bulletins. For parents in year 7 who are unaware, we do operate a temporary one-way system to help with traffic. Please drive in to pick up children via Captain's Hill and along Gerard Road and exit out via Throckmorton Road. It helps everyone massively and keeps the students safe if we can do this.

Final words of the year

The bulletin takes shape slowly throughout each week. As things take place during the week, I add sections on to it in order to keep you all as updated as I can. This week I have struggled to find the most fitting words to summarise this year however, and this has taken a while to write as I reflect upon the year that we have shared. Despite the continuation of a global pandemic, the Alcester Academy students have arrived at school each day with enthusiasm and a commitment to learn. They make us smile every single day and we are proud of each and every one of them for the contribution that they make to our special community. I pause now to thank them all for working so hard this year in very difficult circumstances yet again. They have been a true credit to the school.

Every Headteacher should feel proud of their school, why else would we do the job? At Alcester however this is not about work for so many of us though. The staff are invested in the heart of the school and the lives of the children here. I feel extremely lucky indeed to be part of that. I have worked in three very different schools and have never felt the strength of pride that we all have at Alcester Academy.

It wouldn't be right if I didn't end the year therefore by sincerely thanking the entire staff here for their own tenacity and hard work. It is an absolute privilege to work along side such a supportive team every day and I wish everyone a peaceful and relaxing summer break ahead. It is very well deserved. There is no doubt in my mind that their ability to 'go the extra mile' has enhanced the provision that we have made for Alcester Academy students this year in so many ways.

And so now, I wish you all a superb summer ahead. I urge the students to stay safe over the coming weeks as they begin to enjoy some more free time themselves. We look forward to seeing the students return in September to what should be a normal routine at school finally. Fingers crossed! Thank you all for the part that you play in our community every day. Take care all. Signing off for the summer!

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

Epraise Updates—week ending 15.7.21

Congratulations to the Top Students this year:

1	Harvey	7NE	328 points
2	Maya	7BW	276 points
3	Jack	7HT	260 points
4	Lucas	7WI	256 points
5	Isabelle	9WA	245 points

Top Scorers this week:

1	Harvey	7NE	14 points
2	Tom	7HT	12 points
3	Toby	7HT	11 points
3	Poppy	7HT	11 points
5	Fin	7HT	8 points
5	Olivia	7HT	8 points
7	Aaron	7HT	7 points
7	Jess	7HT	7 points
9	Katherine	7HT	6 points
9	Chloe	7BW	6 points

Top Staff this week:

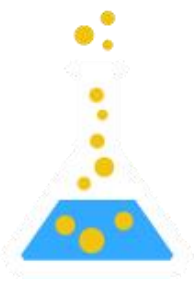
1	Mrs Burgess	159 points
2	Mr Yarrington	117 points
3	Miss Heitmuller	106 points
4	Mrs Stedman	65 points
5	Mrs Megee	43 points

Top Tutor Groups this week:

1	7HT	137 points
2	7NE	48 points
3	7WI	45 points
4	7BW	37 points
5	7TY	34 points

Top Subjects this week:

1	Science	191 points
2	Art	117 points
3	Geography	66 points
4	Design Technology	43 points
5	English	32 points



Achievement Award Winners 2020-21

Effort across the year

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

Tom	Year 7
Liv	Year 7
Charlie	Year 8
Esther	Year 8
Emily	Year 8
Joshua	Year 8
Matthew	Year 8
Jess	Year 8
Henry	Year 8
Zac	Year 8
Chloe	Year 9
Cobey	Year 9
Jessica	Year 10
Freya	Year 10
Isabel	Year 10

Best Progress across the year

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

Harvey	Year 7
Darcie	Year 7
Madison	Year 8
Lucas	Year 8
Charlotte	Year 9
Alfie	Year 9
Hannah	Year 10
Daniel	Year 10

Students of the Year

Alex	**Year 7**	**Student of the Year**
Hannah	**Year 8**	**Student of the Year**
Isabelle	**Year 9**	**Student of the Year**
Freija	**Year 10**	**Student of the Year**

The *Achievement Award Programme* has been sent out with the bulletin, celebrating the winners this year.

Curiosity and Creativity * Respect and Tolerance * Honesty and Integrity * Tenacity and Perseverance * Kindness and Compassion

Curiosity and Creativity * Respect and Tolerance * Honesty and Integrity * Tenacity and Perseverance * Kindness and Compassion

Alcester Enterprise

Alcester Enterprise 2021— Freija, Olivia, Lily, Gabrielle, Bea, Amelia, Jess and Kaitlyn

Alcester Enterprise held their first summer fete which proved to be a huge success. It was held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtime this week. There was a variety of activities including: hoopla and hook a duck, handmade scrunchies, face masks, friendship bracelets and sanitary bags. The group have worked tirelessly from start to finish, deciding on what stalls to have, making the products, advertising the event and then selling their handmade goods.

All money made is going to their chosen charities Teenage Cancer Trust and Four Paws.

The event was supported by students and staff. Alcester Enterprise raised a whooping £189.07 and they even received a donation from a local business.

Marathon Kids

Over the last six weeks we have been taking part in a physical activity programme called *Marathon Kids*. We have been learning how physical activity affects us as teenagers and how stopping it can take a huge toll on our mental health. We have been learning about how sport doesn't just mean running and how comfortable we feel doing sport around other people. We have also all talked about how we feel about our body image and our mental health.

We have really enjoyed *Marathon Kids*, it has allowed us to be physically active whilst having fun at the same time.
By Kaitlyn and Chloe

Catch up work – KS4 working with CoachBright

Following the successful completion of a 10 week, 15 hour intervention programme, pupils from years 9 and 10 were invited to a celebration event on Monday. Imogen Lockyer from the national social mobility charity *CoachBright* came into school to meet face to face the 20 pupils who had been involved in the programme. The pupils engaged in a workshop to set goals for the future and spent time discussing what their Post 16 options could be. Imogen explained the differences between 6th form, college and apprenticeships, followed by a session on designing an ideal education setting. We are immensely proud of what these pupils have achieved, and the comments from their coaches celebrated their tenacity, resilience and determination to succeed.

MFL Word of the Week

vacances d'été (Fr) Sommerferien (Gm)
Meaning: summer holiday
Context:
Nous vous souhaitons de bonnes vacances d'été!
Wir wünschen Ihnen schöne Sommerferien!
We wish you a lovely summer holiday!

Induction Day 2021

On Friday 9th July, we had the joy of welcoming over 130 of our future Year 7 students to our virtual Induction Day through TEAMS and Google Classroom. The day provided our future students with opportunity to get to know their tutor group, ask any questions they had about the Academy, participate in a variety of subject based sessions, and complete a range of transition focused activities.

The day began with a live assembly through TEAMS led by Mrs Mellors, Miss Buckthorp and myself, before the students moved to Google Classroom for their live tutor session. During tutor time our Year 7 tutors went through important information about life at the Academy, the students participated in some ice breaker activities and some of our wonderful current Year 7 students were there to provide excellent advice and reassurance. I need to say a huge thank you to the Year 7 tutors for helping the students feel welcomed to the Academy.

After tutor time, students were then given the opportunity to participate in a variety of subject based sessions, including Maths with Mr Dyer, English with Mrs Farnell and Miss Watson, Design Technology with Miss Wincup and Mrs Megee, Art with Mr Yarrington, Performing Art with Miss Sacco and Music with by Mr Hall. Throughout these sessions, I was extremely impressed with the work the students produced and the level of engagement and maturity displayed by all students. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank subject staff, who worked extremely hard to put such engaging sessions together.

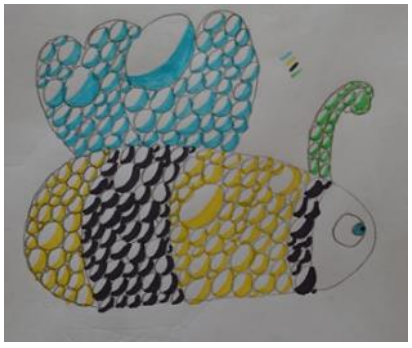
The day ended with the final goodbyes from the tutors and then students were directed to a variety of activities on the Google stream, including a letter writing task and a tour quiz. We were impressed by the enthusiasm and engagement of all students.

I would also like to thank all our feeder schools and parents for supporting students during the day and for all the staff involved, who made the day such a success.

We are now looking forward to Summer School and September and can't wait to meet our future students in person.

Thank you,
Miss Hammond

Infinity circles with Mr Dyer:

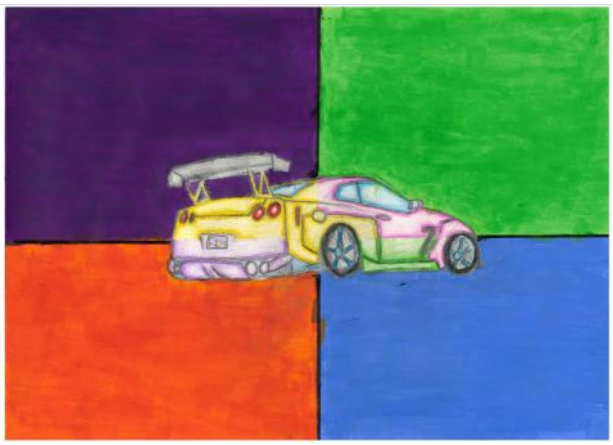


Artwork from Pop Art lesson with Mr Yarrington:

Artwork of the Week

Ed, year 7, has produced this onomatopoeia artwork!

Chloe, year 7, has produced this fabulous example of onomatopoeia!



Fin, year 7, has produced this excellent example of onomatopoeia!

Year 7s are currently working on a self-identity Pop Art unit of work.

Outstanding work everyone—
Mr Yarrington

LRC Summer News

Alcester Schools' Book Award 2021

As part of the Alcester Schools' Book Award we hosted a virtual author event with Thomas Taylor who wrote the book *Malamander*. We sent Thomas a list of questions and he very kindly sent us a recorded Q & A session, which the students thoroughly enjoyed. As well as writing, Thomas also illustrates and the cover of the very first Harry Potter book was drawn by him!

Students voted for their favourite book and while Malamander was a very close second, the winning book this year was Where the World turns Wild by Nicola Penfold – a beautiful dystopian adventure about animals, trees and flowers, and a city that forbids them all.

New Student Librarians

Student Librarians play a very important role in the day to day running of the school library and help with a variety of tasks. I will be recruiting new Student Librarians in September from our current year 7 and 8 cohorts, to work alongside some of the current Librarians from current years 9 and 10.

Twitter account

The LRC has its own twitter account,
please follow us for all our latest news: @AA_LRC_Library

LRC Google Classroom (dt6iw3u)
Keep checking for news and links to useful sites, such as Accelerated Reading and myON.

W9BA—Year 9 Book Award 2021—with the Schools Library Service

This award is aimed at current year 8 pupils who will be moving up to year 9 in September 2020 – I have a group of eager students waiting to take part. A longlist of 10 books that have been published in the last year, has been selected by the Warwickshire Schools Library Service Team. During the week beginning 23rd September the students will take part in a *Longlist speed dating event* students from all across the county will decide from this event which four books will make up the W9BA shortlist! They will then be given two months to read the books and vote for their favourite – the overall winner will be announced online in December 2021.

Accelerated Reading

Lots of reading has taken place in school and I am proud to say that Tom in 7HT became our latest Word Millionaire today, taking our total number of word millionaires for this year is thirteen! They have each been given a certificate, a badge and a book.

Frances, Evie, Archie, Jake, Maya have all become multi-millionaires in just one year!

63,724,091 words have been read this year. The most quizzed book was *Code Name Bananas* by David Walliams, closely followed by *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner and *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* by J K Rowling.

A total of 1,980 books have been borrowed from the library—not bad considering it was only physically open to year 7 for most of the year!

Arrive Alive
Funding Rapid Emergency Response

Do you live in B49, B50, B80, B97, B98, CV37 & want to help to save lives ?

£10,000 is needed to fund a voluntary operated 999 vehicle, to enable emergency medical support in your area.
To donate visit our JustGiving page.

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ALCESTER & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS
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Arrive Alive Registered Charity 1149910.

Warwickshire Secondary Book Award 2021

Some of our year 7 students have been reading and completing activities around books from a shortlist drawn up by the School Library Service. On Tuesday 15th June we had a lively Book Talk Visit from Angela Edwards, School Library Service and then our pupils voted for their favourite books. This year's final event at The Bridge House Theatre was sadly cancelled and a virtual live final was held on Thursday 1st July…..with all the authors present!

Charlie won a prize for his entry into the competition to write an alternative ending to one of the books – *That Time I Got Kidnapped*. The winning book, as voted for by students from all over Warwickshire, was announced as *The Last Paper Crane* by Kerry Drewery – an historical fiction about Hiroshima that I can highly recommend reading.

That time I got kidnapped - Alternative ending

I woke up in the room of the cowboy, he was pacing back and forth, on the phone to someone.
"Get me the money!" he shouted, "I don't employ you for nothing!" like a distant echo I heard the voice of an old woman reply,
"Yes I have the boy," he added, "Now do your job and get your granddaughter, no, get my daughter!" there was only one person that be, Jennifer's grandma, but if it was, that would mean the cowboy was Jennifer's real dad? A million and one thoughts raced through my brain and not one of them made sense. It couldn't be though, could it? It went against all of what Jennifer had told me, it was supposed to be the other way around, but somehow it made sense, he had made us believe that all this time, he had been chasing us, when really, he had just been trying to take us on a wild goose chase, distracting us from the real picture, the Grandma had been sneaking up on us, she was the true enemy. It all just unravelled in my brain, she had obviously been keeping tabs on Jennifer all of her life, lying to her, just to lead her away from finding the truth, the truth about her real dad, the cowboy, this was not run by just one person, this was a family business.

Suddenly, the cowboy's head snapped on a perfect axis to face me, one step, two step, three steps he took around the bed that I was tied to, his leather shoes making an awful squeaking sound as he did so. I tugged on the ropes that bound me, but there was no escape. I closed my eyes in anticipation of what was about to come, wishing that Jennifer could know the truth. It all went dark.

Alcester Academy

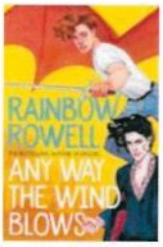
Summer READING

School Library Award GOLD

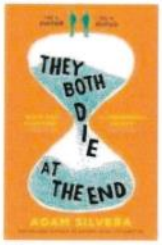
Alcester Academy 2021

Research shows that children who read four or more books over the summer are better prepared for the coming school year and do not go down the 'summer slide'—the loss of reading and learning skills during the summer break. Reading over the summer months really does make a difference to your child's learning. If you are wondering what to read over the summer, here are some great ideas that I got from https://www.waterstones.com/ website.

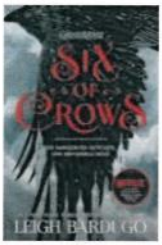
Also, you may be able to borrow some of them free as eBooks from https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries or, keep it local and buy from independent shops using https://www.hive.co.uk/



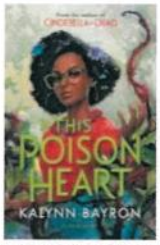
Any Way the Wind Blows
Rainbow Rowell



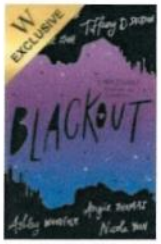
They Both Die at the End
Adam Silvera



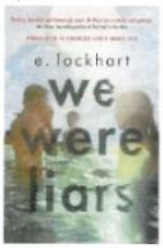
Six of Crows
Leigh Bardugo



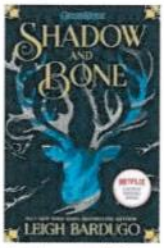
This Poison Heart
Kalynn Bayron



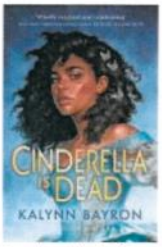
Blackout
Dhonielle Clayton



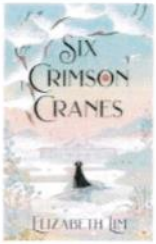
We Were Liars
E. Lockhart



Shadow and Bone
Leigh Bardugo



Cinderella Is Dead
Kalynn Bayron

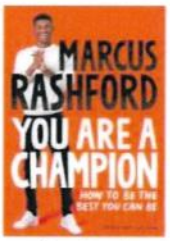


Six Crimson Cranes
Elizabeth Lim

Wranglestone
Darren Charlton

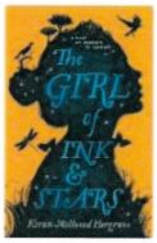
When the Sky Falls
Phil Earle

Twitch
M.G. Leonard



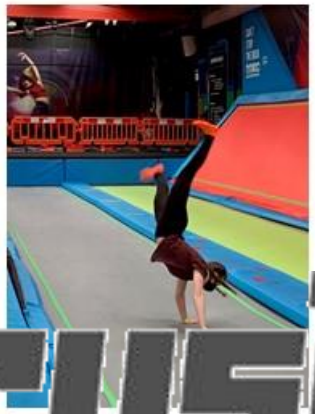
You Are A Champion
Marcus Rashford

Wranglestone
Darren Charlton



The Girl of Ink & Stars
Kiran Millwood Hargrave

End of term trips for our students—2021



A

Last Tuesday 456 students and 32 staff set off from school on ten coaches to go across the country to different venues to celebrate the end of term and to enjoy a fabulous day out.

The year 9 and 10s experienced the adrenaline rides of The Stealth, Colossus, Detonator, the scary Walking Dead rollercoaster in the dark, Nemesis Inferno amongst others, including some very wet water rides at Thorpe Park.

130 year 8 students went off to Drayton Manor for a similar day of thrills and rides on Accelerator, Buffalo Coaster and the Flying Dutchman, whilst the year 7s went on safari at West Midland Safari Park before an afternoon in the funfair. Another group went off to RUSH trampoline park in Birmingham where they practiced their jumps and tricks from the heights of giant airbags.

The end of the day saw everyone return safely with some very tired but happy students who were just exemplary in their behaviour out on the trips and were an absolute pleasure to take out for the day. Thanks to the parents for supporting the trips.

Miss Buckthorp

THORPE PARK OFFICIAL

THORPE PARK

WEST MIDLAND
SAFARI
&LEISURE
PARK

HENLEY IN

Drayton Manor
THEME PARK

Little Dresses for Africa

Our year 9 textiles students have been busy making summer dresses during their lessons.

They will all be sent to the *Little Dresses for Africa* charity, who distribute them.

Little Dresses for Africa was founded in 2008, It is a not for profit charity that strives to send beautiful clothes for vulnerable children across Africa.

The little dresses are always delivered to small villages and distributed alongside a local church or orphanage. The charity always ensures that the villages that are receiving dresses do not have easy access to clothing items, therefore do not negatively affect the local economy or compete with a local business.

Miss Wincup

Design an emblem for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Would you like to see your artwork on posters, flags and big screens across the country? The Royal Household in partnership with the V&A is inviting young people aged 13 – 25 to design an emblem for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

The winning emblem will be prominent at celebrations marking Her Majesty's 70 years as Monarch, including street parties and televised national events. It will also appear on Jubilee publications, merchandise, official websites and the Royal Family's social media accounts. And you'll be invited to take part yourself: you and a guest will be invited to attend celebrations in the Platinum Jubilee year. The Top 10 designs will also be displayed at the V&A in June 2022.

No other British Monarch has ever celebrated a Platinum Jubilee. So get designing, and you could play an important part in defining the spirit of the first ever Platinum Jubilee!

https://www.vam.ac.uk/info/the-platinum-jubilee-emblem-competition

Sports Day 2021

After a year "off", Sports Day returned to the Alcester Academy calendar to provide a day of fantastic performances and competition. The unfortunate loss of year 10 meant that the remaining three year groups were battling it out for House glory and they did not disappoint.

Competition across all disciplines was hard-fought with numerous close finishes in both track and field events.

Credit to Tom (year7) for a record-equalling 100m (13.12s.) and also to the year 9 Ragley Boys who took a second and a half off the previous 4x100m record. The best finish of the day though goes to the year 7 girls 4x100m race which had Greville and Billesley battling it out down the home straight with Greville narrowly taking the honours by 0.3 of a second. Phew!!

After the dust settled the overall crown went to Billesley this year, but congratulations and thanks should go to all participants for making the day so memorable and entering into the events with so much enthusiasm and commitment.

Huge thanks, from the PE Department, to both students and staff for supporting Sports Day with such passion. Looking forward to next year already!

Mr Powell

OVERALL	7	8	9	TOTAL	POSITION
BILLESLEY	263	190	269	722	1st
	2nd	3rd	1st		
GREVILLE	225	232	193	650	3rd
	3rd	2nd	2nd		
OVERSLEY	207	176	147	530	4th
	4th	4th	4th		
RAGLEY	265	254	177	696	2nd
	1st	1st	3rd		

RAGLEY

RAGLEY

GREVILLE
BILLESLEY

GREVILLE

RAGLEY

GREVILLE
RAGLEY

BILLESLEY

RAGLEY

OVERSLEY

GREVILLE
BILLESLEY

BILLESLEY

Alcester Academy

TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE

Remembrance and Thanksgiving Weekend

Saturday 14th August

Alcester Baptist , Alcester Methodist, Our Lady and St Joseph and St Nicholas Churches, will be open from **9.30am to 4.30pm** for **Personal Reflection** on the events of the past eighteen months, culminating with a service at **St Nicholas at 5.00pm.**

Sunday 15th August

All the churches will be joining together for an open-air service of **Thanksgiving at 3.00pm** on **Jubilee Fields**, (weather permitting, or inside the Eric Payne Centre) followed by a **'Bring Your Own Picnic'.**

Please save the dates. We hope to see you there. **Bring all your friends and family.**

For further information contact any church or www.alcesterminster.org

ALCESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER

JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #19 - TATTOO ARTIST

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2021

Summer Term ends	Tuesday 20th July 2021 at 12.40pm

AUTUMN TERM 2021

School closed	*Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September 2021* *Teacher training days*
Autumn Term begins	
Years 7 and 9 only	Monday 6th September 2021
Years 8, 10 and 11 only	Tuesday 7th September 2021
All year groups back on	Wednesday 8th September 2021
School closed	*Friday 22nd October 2021* *Teacher training day*
Half term	Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October 2021
Back to school	Monday 1st November 2021
Autumn Term ends	Friday 17th December 2021 at 12.40pm

2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

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.