

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



17th November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you have had a positive week.

Thank you to those of you who attended our PTA bingo night last Friday. My family and I thoroughly enjoyed seeing you all. A staggering £1770 was raised! Wow! I am so grateful to everyone who supported this. Special thanks go to the PTA and parent supporters, Mr Millen as caller, Mr Jones, Mr Martin and Miss Buckthorp. Our next event will most likely be in time for Easter. Watch this space!



We then went on to have a wonderful service in Alcester for Remembrance. On Sunday, I was just so proud of every Academy student who participated in this. We have put together a montage for your interest later on in this edition.



In our final count, we raised £246 along with two charity collection tins for the Alcester Division of the Royal British Legion, and £226 for Murphy's Army. This is just terrific!

In other news this week, Miss Bartlett presented assemblies on an anti-bullying theme. Our Young Enterprise company in year 10 have been busy getting ready to sell their amazing products to you on Aladdin nights, and we are very close now to the dress rehearsal for the production, and the final run throughs for the Rock Academy concert. Life is extremely busy right now for these



What's inside this week...

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Sports News

students (and staff!). Please be sure that you have secured tickets for both events through the School Gateway.

I'm grateful to Prince Henry's for leading assembly today with year 11 about their Post 16 provision. We had another amazing opportunity presented to the students.

School Curriculum

You can find the long term plans for every subject area and year group on our website. Please visit—Subjects (alcesteracademy.org.uk). This might help you if you are planning family days out to locations such as museums.

I will also be sending out a very short survey around our Key Stage Three and Key Stage Four split. After the last Ofsted Inspection, I am very keen to start gathering parent views on the two year Key Stage Three that we run.

Don't forget that any parent can submit views on the school through Welcome to Ofsted Parent View. [Ofsted Parent View](#). All I ask is, that if you are dissatisfied with anything, please reach out to school in order to discuss this fully. Thank you.



Attendance

We have been so close to hitting 95% for the first time since Covid-19. I have promised the students an extended break or lunch time (or both!) if we can reach this. Could it be this half term? Thanks for your superb support around this.

Mobile phones

I am recommending that you have a talk to your children at home about appropriate mobile phone use, and the digital footprint that will be captured forever for their futures. Just recently, we discovered WhatsApp groups between students titled extremely inappropriately without students fully realising the ramifications of this.

Reminder – holidays

Just a reminder that holiday requests in term time will not be granted.

Last day of term

A reminder that we do close at 12.40pm on Friday 22nd December. A separate communication will be sent about this to you.

Year 11s

Please make sure that your child is a member of the Careers Google Classroom for Post 16—**wauovgl**. Miss Bartlett posts incredible opportunities on this regularly.

For the rest of the school, they can join the Careers Zone Classroom **a3hdvcr**.

Year 11 exam update

You may be interested to read the latest support for GCSEs just published yesterday. We will pick this up with parents in the Forum online on Thursday 7th December.

www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-67438619

Year 8s

We are thinking of our year 8s as they head into Exam Preparation Week next week. All I can ask is that they try their hardest in their forthcoming exams. We will be holding an assembly with them on Monday to talk through procedures for this. I appreciate that sitting exams in the hall for the first time might feel a little daunting. Equally however, this is the start of excellent preparation for future GCSEs.

Our year 11s also have key core assessments in class before Christmas.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a relaxing weekend ahead. As ever, I'd like to thank you for everything that you do to support us.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

Remembrance Sunday 2023





Epraise Leader board

Top Students—this week:

1	Arturo	9SA	24 points
2	Robbie	7LX	23 points
3	Alex	8SI	21 points
4	Ranveer	7LX	19 points
5	Anthony	8GA	18 points
5	Harvey	10HL	18 points
7	Hannah	10AN	17 points
7	Eve	7WI	17 points
7	Zachery	7KO	17 points
10	Maddie	7KO	16 points

Student Leader board:

1	Zachery	7KO	149 points
2	Noah	7RA	147 points
3	Chloe	7KO	134 points
3	Alex	8SI	134 points
5	Harry	8TY	133 points
6	Amber	7WI	131 points
7	Maddie	7KO	130 points
8	Ethan	7KO	129 points
9	Alfie	7LX	128 points
10	Isabella	7RA	127 points

Top Tutor—this week:

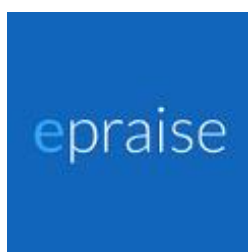
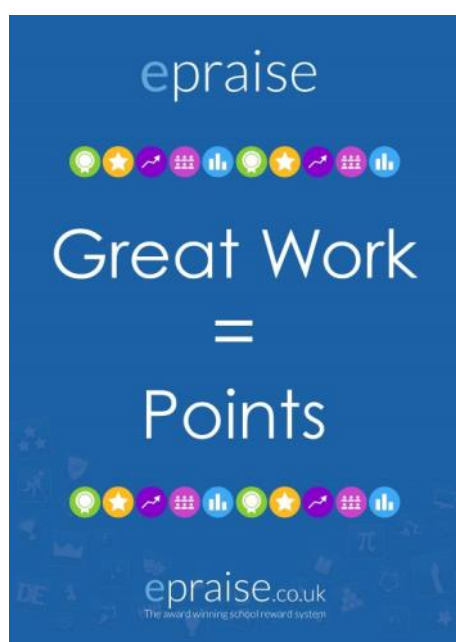
1	7LX	266 points
2	7KO	265 points
3	7WI	233 points
4	8SI	228 points
5	7RA	223 points

Top Staff—this week:

1	Miss Lewis	374 points
2	Mr Yarrington	362 points
3	Mr Rossiter	350 points
4	Mrs Gerner	344 points
5	Mr Martin	296 points

Top Subjects—this week:

1	English	767 points
2	Maths	601 points
3	History	582 points
4	Geography	446 points
5	Science	426 points



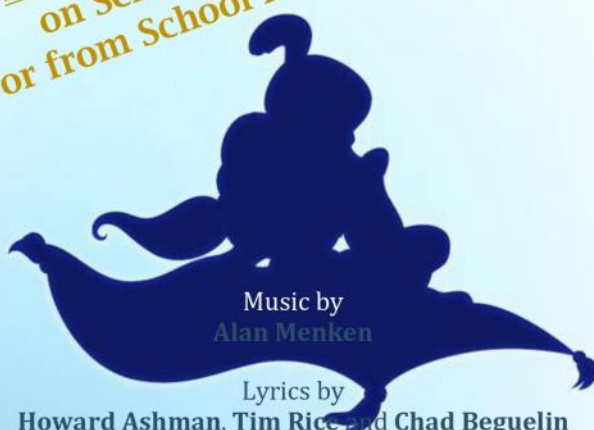
Alcester Academy invites you to
a Whole New World of....



Disney Aladdin JR.

ALCESTER ACADEMY
22nd, 23rd and 24th November 2023
7pm

*Tickets on sale from
Monday 23rd October
on School Gateway
or from School Reception*

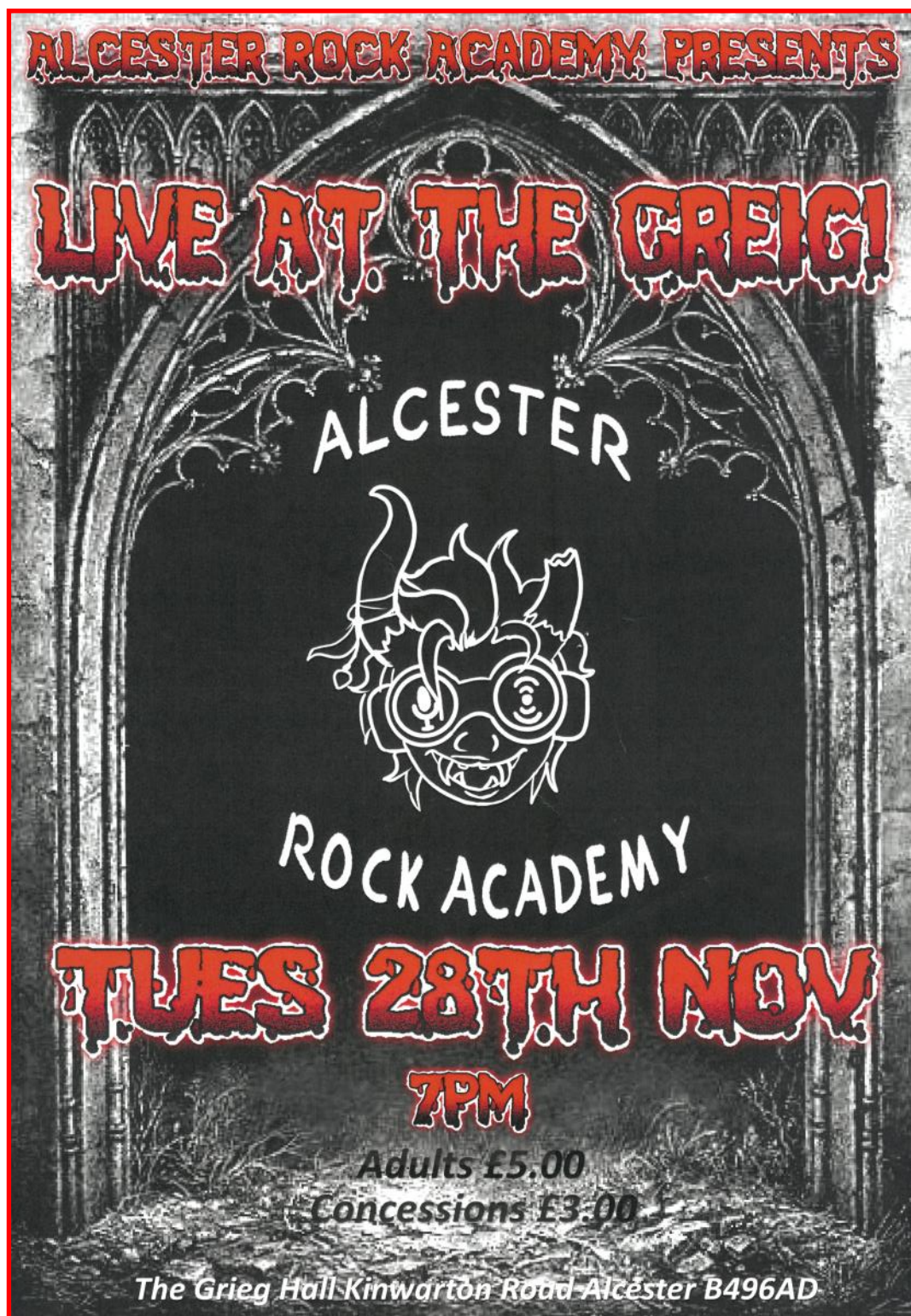


Music by
Alan Menken

Lyrics by
Howard Ashman, Tim Rice and Chad Beguelin

Book by
Chad Beguelin

Based on the Disney film written by
Ron Clements, John Musker, Ted Elliott & Terry Rossio
and directed and produced by John Musker & Ron Clements



Live music gig

Alcester Rock Academy—Live at the Greig—is on Tuesday 28th November from 7pm, at the Greig Hall, Alcester.

Tickets are now on sale on the School Gateway. Adults—£5 and Concessions—£3

Come along and support our musicians!

Mr Badham

Dates for your diary this half term

Week of 20th November—Year 8 Exam Focus Week.

Week of 27th November—Year 8 exams in the hall.

Tuesday 21st November—Aladdin matinee for primary schools.

Wednesday 22nd—Friday 24th November—Aladdin performances. Tickets needed.

Thursday 23rd November—Friends PTA meeting online at 7pm.

Tuesday 28th November—Rock Academy Concert. Greig Hall. Tickets needed.

Wednesday 29th November—Previous Year 11 certificate collection at 4-5pm.

Friday 1st November—D of E training. Year 10.

Friday 1st November/Monday 4th November—Year 11 core mocks in class.

Tuesday 5th December—Year 10 CV writing workshop.

Thursday 7th December—Year 11 Parent Forum online. Revision for mocks.

Wednesday 13th December—Year 10 mock interview.

Thursday 14th December—Year 10 Parents' Evening. Online.

Monday 18th December—Year 9 Super Learning Day. Medical Mavericks.

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December—Rewards Trips.

Year 8 written reports out before term ends.

Friday 22nd December—Break up for Christmas at 12.40pm. One way road system in operation.

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children.

This is not an exhaustive list. Just a guide for you.

We will advertise Christmas dinner days nearer the end of term.

Alcester Academy have organised another Bag2School collection for Tuesday 28th November 2023. A letter has gone out via email with full details.

Please send any unwanted clothes, shoes and linens to school at any point after half term in a bin bag or other suitable bag.

Feel free to contact Mrs Farnell for more information.



Alcester Academy Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Autumn Term ends Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2024

School closed Monday 8th January 2024—Teacher training day

Spring Term begins Tuesday 9th January 2024

Half Term Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2024

Back to school Monday 19th February 2024

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 22nd March 2024 at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2024

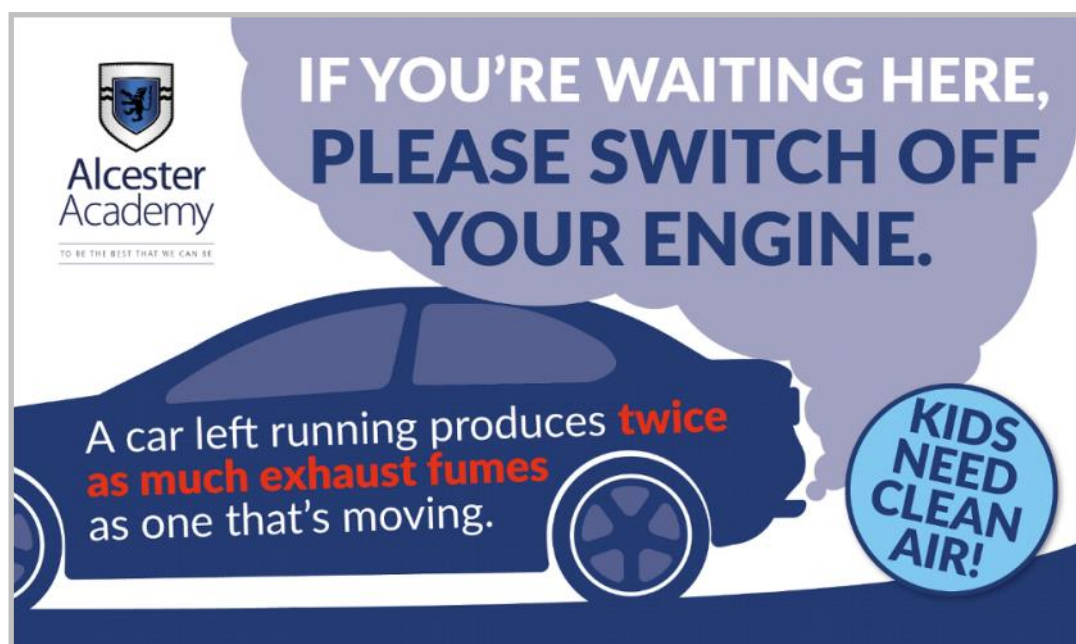
Summer Term begins Monday 8th April 2024

May Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th – Friday 31st May 2024

Back to school Monday 3rd June 2024

Summer Term ends Friday 19th July 2024 at 12.40pm



Extra Curricular Clubs

<p>Monday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Science Club KS3 S3</p> <p>Acoustic Group Music Hut</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Ornithology T4</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p><u>MORNING</u></p> <p>Morning Sports Club Gym</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Young Enterpsie E6/5</p> <p>Pop Band Music Hut</p> <p>Game Design It</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>School Show Hall</p>	<p>Wednesday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Chess/Board Game M4</p> <p>BBC Young Reporters E1</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Rock Academy Music</p> <p>LGBTQIA+ club E4</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Environment Club E2</p> <p>Rock Band Music Hut</p> <p>Humanities Film Club Top of the Tower</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>School Show Hall</p> <p>Art Club Art</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Chess/Board Game M4</p> <p>Guitar Orchestra Music Hut</p>	<p>Saturday</p> <p>Rock Academy 10am-11.30am</p> <p>School Show 10m-4pm</p> <p>7th October 21st October 11th November 18th November</p>

Attendance News

Whole School Attendance: 94.3%

Top tutors this week:

7RA with 98.2% attendance

8TY with 100% attendance—fabulous!

9BW with 96.3% attendance

10SO with 98% attendance

11MO with 100% attendance—wow!

Top House this week:

Oversley with 95.0%

Reminder

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.

Thank you.



Year 11 Revision

Please find attached our revision timetable for this half term.

Mr Cooke

Day	Core LUNCH	Core AFTER
Monday	Study Room M5	
Tuesday	Study Room S5	English
Wednesday	Study Room E2	Science
Thursday	Study Room E2	Maths

Second i/c of maths

MPS/UPS + TLR Subject to experience

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 11th December 2023



The School

Alcester Academy is a highly successful 11-16 school with 647 students currently on roll. Alcester is located between Studley and Stratford-Upon-Avon. The school has an excellent reputation based on examination results, a progressive approach to educational development and a strong sense of community. At our last inspection, Ofsted judged us good with a view to returning very soon in order to re-assess this decision towards an outstanding judgement. The schools' overall Progress 8 score for 2019 was 0.77, which once again places us as one of the top performing non selective schools in Warwickshire, and in the top 5% nationally. In 2022, the Progress 8 score for the school was +0.46.

The school has a new leadership team and we consider that the welfare of staff is of paramount importance.

Further details about the school can be found on our website, including our current curriculum information. Our X feed (@AlcesterAcademy) is another excellent source for a feel of the school.

The Post

This is an exciting opportunity for a strong middle leader with a proven track record of exemplary student outcomes. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate experience of effective leadership and ambition towards future management in a Middle Leadership position, and a willingness to contribute to the whole staff team. Flexibility and the ability to innovate are desirable qualities, along with energy and capacity for hard work. The successful candidate will have a good understanding of what effective Teaching & Learning looks like for children of all abilities and be committed to enable all students to access the curriculum in order to fulfil their academic potential. They will be able to engage and enthuse students of all aptitudes. Resilience and drive are desirable qualities in order to ensure that students at Alcester Academy are provided with the very best life opportunities possible.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Teacher of Science (Maternity Cover)

Salary: TMS Location: Alcester, Warwickshire

Contract Type: Full Time

Contract Term: Temporary (maternity cover)

Required: From February 2024 (start date negotiable)

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 at 12 noon



A vacancy has arisen to become part of an outstanding science department within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally as a result of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance.

The successful applicant will join an ambitious and supportive science team as maternity cover. At Alcester Academy, teachers enjoy the freedom to deploy their individual skills, and talents, whilst conveying a passion for their subject and delivering excellent outcomes.

The science department is proud of the progress that students make. As a team, we have an established record of excellent results; in 2022 results far exceeded National Averages: P8 for the whole school was +0.46 and science achieved a VA of +0.55. In 2023 86% achieved a minimum of 2 grade 4s in science with 71% achieving at least 2 grade 5s. Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including early career teachers. In Key Stage 3, teachers would have sole responsibility for a class and are expected to deliver all content. At Key Stage 4, teachers are given more opportunity to teach within their specialist area. As a small department, flexibility and teamwork is particularly important. An ability to teach physics at Key Stage 4 would be desirable, however not essential. At KS4 both combined and triple science is offered. We currently work with AQA.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please feel free to arrange a conversation or a school tour with our Head of Science, Debbie Marshall or simply complete the application form. More details regarding this post and an application pack is available by emailing: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

*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.*

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Teaching Assistant Level 3

Full Time Working term time only

(39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)

Scale H range 14 - FTE £27,334 starting salary (Actual pro rata £23,511)

Starting: As soon as possible

Closing date: Friday 1st December at 12 noon

Interviews: week commencing 4th December 2023



Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the SENCO and teachers, 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) for an experienced teaching assistant ideally with an NVQ Level 3 (or equivalent). You will be working predominantly with a student with an EHCP but also other students with a variety of SEND needs. 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.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Teaching Assistant

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

Scale F range 6-11 FTE £21,968 starting salary (Actual pro rata £18,811)

Closing date: Friday 1st December 2023 at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 4th December 2023

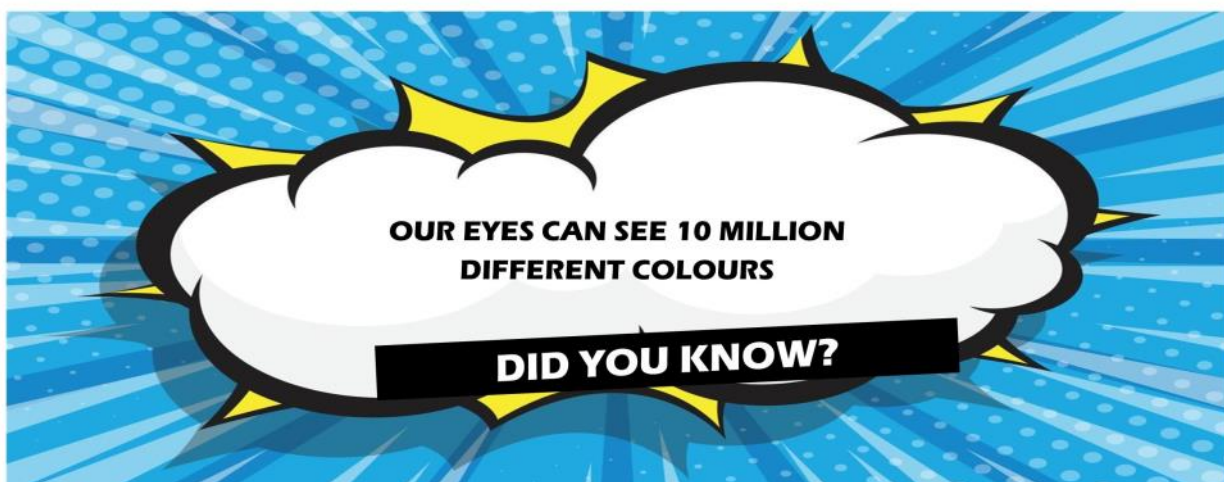
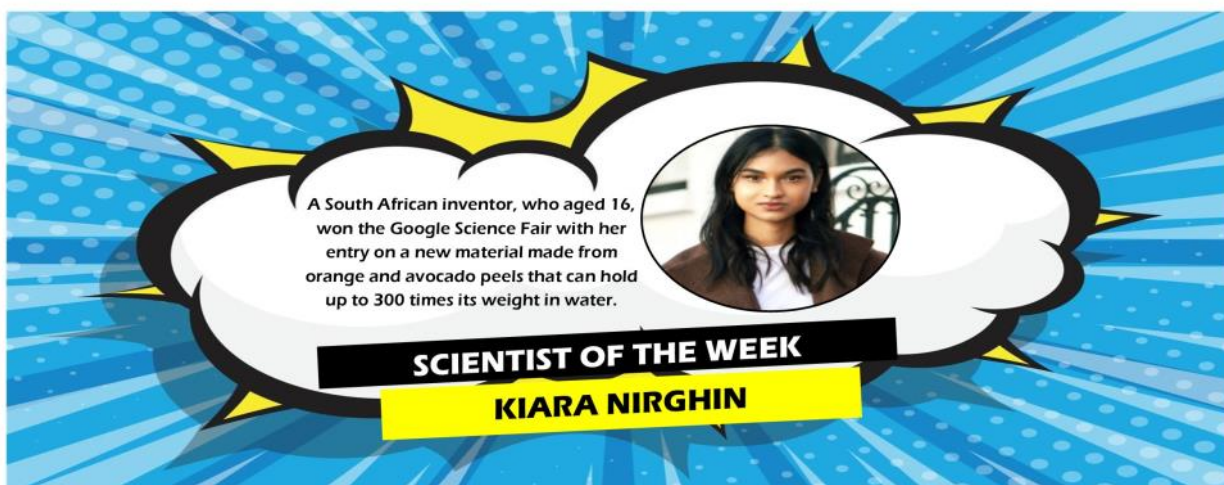
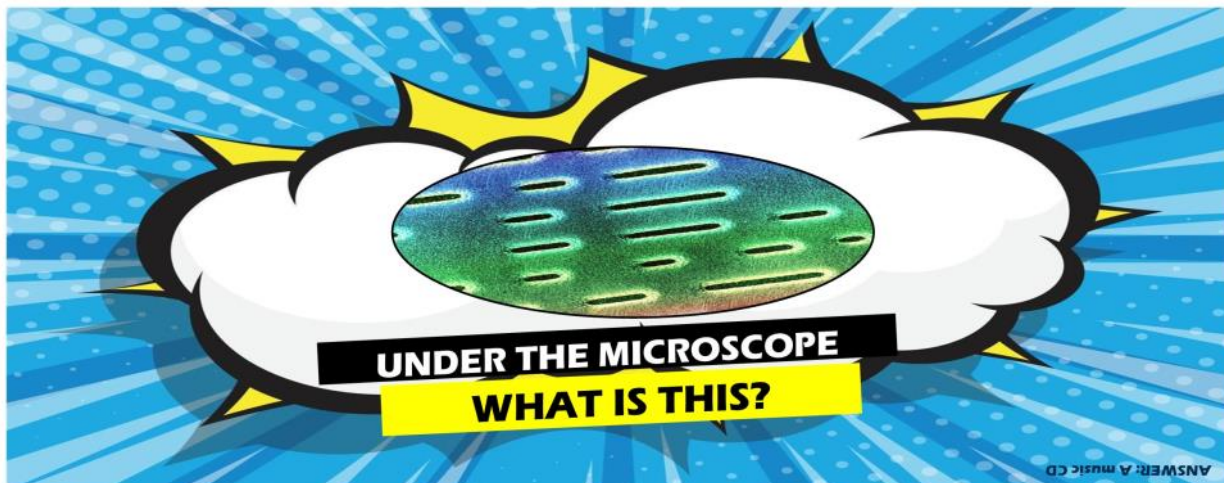


The Post

This is a full time, term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5 teacher training days). 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.

Please note that this school is committed to safeguarding, equality of opportunity, and promoting the welfare of children and young people. An enhanced DBS check will be required

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)



* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Lunchtime Sport



****HT 2 LUNCHTIME SPORT****



- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Monday 6th November on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Lunchtime sport will follow a set timetable each half-term and run from 1.45-2.15pm (4:1)
- PE kit is not required to participate but you must have suitable footwear to be allowed into the gym

w/b	MONDAY - PE	TUESDAY - MO	WEDNESDAY - PW
6/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
13/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball
20/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
27/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball
4/12/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
11/12/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball

After School Sport



****THIS WEEK'S SPORT**: W/B 20/11/23**



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Level 2 Girls Indoor Rowing Competition - PE/PW	Gym
Tuesday	External Archery Coaching (Selective)- PW	Gym
	KS3 Girls Football- External coach	Field
Wednesday	Year 7 and 8 Rugby- MO	Field
	Year 7 Basketball - PW	Gym
	Year 9, 10 + 11 Girls Netball- PE	Courts
Thursday	Year 10 Football v Kineton- MO	Kineton
	Year 7 + 8 Girls Netball- PE/MR	Courts
	KS4 Rugby- MO	Field

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

This week's sport roundup:

Year 7 Basketball Tournament

First taste of competitive basketball for our year 7s tonight. Five draws for one team and two wins, two losses and a draw for the other. Great experience gained and some encouraging individual performances. Thanks to Alcester Grammar School for hosting the competition!

#AASport

#SilverBlueBlack



Year 9 Football v Kineton

Our U14 football team took on Kineton in a mid-season friendly on astro turf. Despite playing most of the match with 10 players due to injury, we went in leading at half term following a first goal for striker Will in Oversley, who was a constant threat to the Kineton defence throughout the match.

Tired legs kicked in during the second half, allowing Kineton to make the most of having an extra player and they fought back to win, despite many positives from the Alcester Academy team in a spirited performance.

The lads voted Will—Man of the Match—on the bus back, congratulations! A special mention to Will C, also in Oversley, who led exceptionally well as captain during the fixture.

Mr Moffatt



CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



A poster for the Girls Player Performance Centre. It features a pink background with several images of girls playing football on a green field. At the top center is a crest with a wolf's head and the text 'WOLFPACK GIRLS FOOTBALL'. Below the crest, the text 'GIRLS PLAYER PERFORMANCE CENTRE' is written in large, bold, black letters. To the left of the main text is a black shield with the text 'TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL REDDITCH'. Below the main text is a quote: 'DON'T CHASE PERFECTION, JUST IMPROVEMENT'. Below the quote is the word 'WEDS' in large, bold, black letters. To the right of 'WEDS' is a black shield with the text 'LED BY UEFA C COACH'. At the bottom left is a soccer ball icon. At the bottom center, the text '5-6PM WOLFPACK BETAS (8-11YRS)' and '6-7PM WOLFPACK ALPHAS (12-15YRS)' is written. At the bottom right, the email address 'WOLFPACKGIRLSFOOTBALL@GMAIL.COM' is written.

GIRLS PLAYER PERFORMANCE CENTRE

TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL REDDITCH

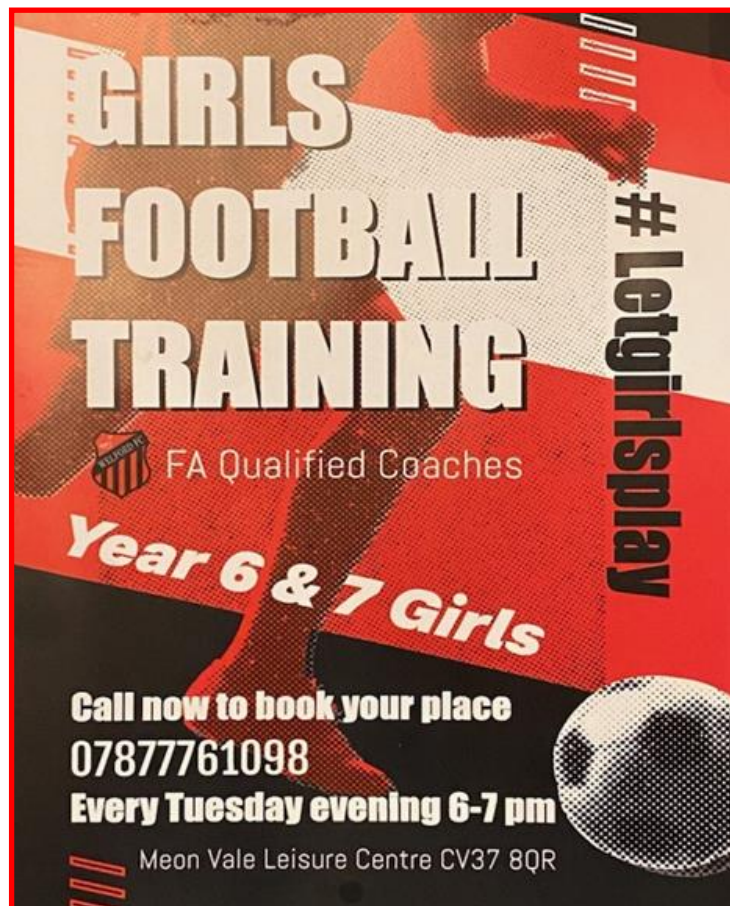
"DON'T CHASE PERFECTION, JUST IMPROVEMENT"

WEDS

LED BY UEFA C COACH

5-6PM WOLFPACK BETAS (8-11YRS)
6-7PM WOLFPACK ALPHAS (12-15YRS)

WOLFPACKGIRLSFOOTBALL@GMAIL.COM



A poster for Girls Football Training. It features a red and black background with a large, stylized image of a girl's leg in a red football kit. The text 'GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING' is written in large, bold, white letters. To the right of the main text is a vertical hashtag '#letgirlsplay'. Below the main text is a small crest with the text 'FA Qualified Coaches'. Below the crest is the text 'Year 6 & 7 Girls'. At the bottom left, the text 'Call now to book your place' is written, followed by the phone number '07877761098'. Below the phone number is the text 'Every Tuesday evening 6-7 pm'. At the bottom right, the text 'Meon Vale Leisure Centre CV37 8QR' is written. A soccer ball is visible in the bottom right corner.

GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING

#letgirlsplay


FA Qualified Coaches

Year 6 & 7 Girls

Call now to book your place
07877761098
Every Tuesday evening 6-7 pm

Meon Vale Leisure Centre CV37 8QR

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



RISE MHST

Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)
Parent/Carer Tips for Wellness:


MANAGING ANXIETY AROUND SCHOOL

School is a place where young people often experience anxiety for several reasons. Some people may worry about making friends or fitting in, have difficulty understanding school work, or feeling exam pressure.

School-Related Anxiety Warning Signs:

- Not sleeping well
- Feeling sick or complaining of butterflies in their stomach
- Not wanting to get out of bed in the morning
- Increased anger or upset at school or home

More information about self-soothe boxes!



It is common that young people show symptoms of school-related anxiety in evenings or early mornings before school. The first step to supporting your child is to understand what is causing these feelings.

Top tip: Some children may find it difficult to be asked direct questions about their feelings. Try creating a mind map with them about school, including everything that is on their mind.

Strategies to Try at Home:

- Keep a record of patterns in behaviours to share with the school's Mental Health Lead
- Create a self-soothe box with items that your child finds relaxing
- Breathing exercises
- Create a morning routine
- Recognise small achievements

