

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



17th December 2021

Dear parents, carers, grandparents, Governors, staff and students,

We made it! What a fabulous end of term too! Thank you to all of the staff involved in making this another end of term to remember and for creating some wonderful memories for the students. Highlights in the last ten days have included the year 7 theatre trip, the year 8 trip to the German Market, ice-skating, the recorded Christmas Concert, the year 9 panto, our food bank collection, Christmas Jumper Day today, Christmas dinners and how could I leave out SLT bingo for year 7 and 8! This is now becoming quite a tradition. Elf Cooke joined this year of course too!



Many thanks for the messages, cards and sweet treats for staff! It is appreciated very much indeed.

The year 8 written reports went out this week. It was an absolute privilege reading and signing these. This is the first step in our GCSE Options process as students begin to look at strengths and areas to develop further. I was thrilled to sign so many letters of commendation across other year groups too.



Hopefully by now, you know that we always try and go above and beyond at Alcester Academy. This simply would not be possible without the staff team creating these opportunities for all of our students. As we close this year, I want to just spend a moment reflecting on how lucky I certainly am to have such a superb team around me; I include every member of staff in that appreciation. I wish them all a restful and safe Christmas period ahead.

I have included some images for you later on in this edition from the last year. There is such an array of learning covered by these. Mrs Woodman and I were trying to piece this year together. We didn't return fully in January did we because of coronavirus? There are therefore some lockdown images included! Highlights for me this year were engaging with the Cherry Trees nursing home virtually when our students visited by camera, the quality of our virtual live lessons and remote Super Learning Days, *A Tenner For Tom*, the *Headteacher Challenges*, *Beauty and the Beast* (of course), Rock Academy live finally, *Project SOS* with year 11, the return to school finally and many, many others.

Welcome Miss Knowles

We welcomed Miss Knowles to school this week as Miss Bishop's maternity replacement. Hopefully we will see Miss Bishop for a short while after Christmas still!



Congratulations Toby

Congratulations to Toby in year 10 for winning a £20 voucher from Educaterers after entering a recent competition. Pictured here with our fabulous Catering Manager.

Charity Events

We've had another bumper year regarding charity contributions also:

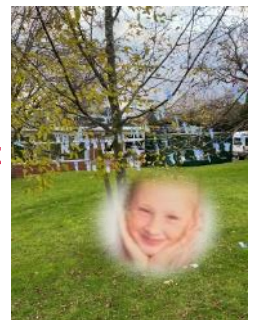
**Non-Uniform (September)
Janes for Genes £1,152.25**

**Non-Uniform (October)
Myton Hospice £1,026**

**Poppy Appeal £787.64
donated after expenses**

Greig Hall Christmas Raffle £400

**Liv's Angels – to date
£907.
I can't thank you
enough for your support
in these areas.**



The Arden Food Bank Collection



**Christmas Jumper Day,
today's total so far is £1069 shared
between Save The Children,
Red Wings Horse Sanctuary
and Asthma UK.**





Your generosity has been spectacular.



Thank you – Arden Food Bank

Your contributions yesterday were just amazing. I know that the Food Bank are delighted to receive these from us once a year. It makes a huge difference.

Updating medical records

The end of year trips highlight those students for whom medical details may have changed. If your child no longer needs or uses an inhaler, as an example, please can you update the main office after Christmas.

Our professionals

On behalf of staff and students, can I take this opportunity to thank all of the professionals that we work along-side during any given calendar year. There are so many to list (and I would be frightened of missing one out). We really value the time that you give to us all. Merry Christmas!

Covid over Christmas

We are thinking of those families who are affected by Covid as we break up. This includes several staff. Please take care.

There is no need to update us now over the Christmas period on positive cases. Please do this upon return from Tuesday 4th January 2022.

If the landscape on coronavirus changes over the Christmas period, we will update you with a communication to provide further details. In the event of omicron cases growing exponentially, we are ready to revert back to bubbles, or teach on line via Google Classroom instantly. Let's hope not though!

Details of our provision is all on the website—
Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Advice continues to be to seek a PCR as required if you are experiencing symptoms.

Hello Alcester Academy

Over the last couple of weeks, we have seen an increase in client numbers at the foodbank. We have also provided 170 Christmas parcels to local families with primary aged children. As a result our stock levels had dwindled.

The volume of donations that we picked up today will greatly help to restore this. Please pass on thanks to all pupils and staff for their generosity.

With best wishes for a Happy Christmas - Helen from the Arden Food Bank



January 2022 – return to school

Tuesday 4th January 2022
Teacher training day

Wednesday 5th January 2022
Year 7, 8 and 10 only in school

Thursday 6th January 2022
Year 9 and 11 only in school
Year 10 revision at home
Year 7/8 work posted on G/Classroom.
Year 11 live parents' evening in the hall
(covid rates permitting at the time)

Friday 7th January 2022
All students back in school

New January Routines

I will write to you as always before we return to school with these reminders. We will be releasing both year 7s and year 8s at 3.23pm each day from January, in order to return to a slightly staggered finish time and a calmer exit.

Equally, we will be altering the dinner rota after Christmas so that year 10s come in directly after year 11s followed by year 9, year 8 and then year 7s. Year 7 and 8 should wait in the front playground until called for their canteen turn.

Safeguarding over Christmas



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Children

The website home page will have advice and contact details for you as needed over the Christmas break.

We will leave key details of who you can contact for support over the Christmas period on the website homepage.

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

To contact the *Front Door* services please call: 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.

Uniform and Equipment

Please update items as needed over Christmas, thank you. I know I risk repeating myself, but shoes should be polishable, we don't allow nose studs and year 11s can revert back to a plain round necked black sweatshirt after the warmth of their hoody in the exam hall only for mocks. Hoodies are not permitted items.

Outside of School Success

Congratulations to Jefferson in year 9 who competed in his first national level cyclocross race last Sunday, finishing 22nd. A good performance against the best in the country.



Meanwhile, his sister Marijke in year 7 continues good form in the West Midlands Young Athletes cross country league (the strongest league in the country), currently holding 3rd place in the league of over 100 athletes, many of whom are a year older than her. Congratulations to both students.



We are sending our prayers and thoughts to Sharon and Matt, on the first anniversary of dear Liv's passing. R.I.P. Never forgotten.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your amazing support and encouragement over another challenging year. We are all extremely grateful for this and we never take it for granted. I never do.

I wish you all a safe Christmas season ahead. I hope that you find time to rest and have quality family time together. Yet again our students have shown true Alcester Academy values this year and we are so very proud of them all. We look forward to seeing them in 2022!

Best wishes

Sarah Mellors on behalf of staff and governors



When parents and carers finally have the chance to spend some quality time with their child over Christmas, many face a familiar struggle to prise their young one's attention away from their phone, console, tablet or computer. Fun family bonding over the festive period, however, doesn't have to exclude devices. There are sackfuls of Christmas activities and ideas online which grown-ups and children can enjoy together. We've compiled our own 'nice list' of seasonal suggestions for how to...

MAKE THE MOST OF THE ONLINE WORLD THIS CHRISTMAS

1 EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Budding bakers will relish helping out in the kitchen with some tasty festive treats. Spend some time together researching child-friendly Christmas recipes online (the BBC Good Food site is an excellent place to start), and then you and your little elves can rustle up gingerbread santas, marshmallow snowmen or reindeer shortbread. The only thing that's more fun is eating your creations afterwards!



WHEN THE SNOWMAN BRINGS THE SNOW...

4 A WORLD OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW

From turkey on the beach in Australia to roller-skating to church in Venezuela, Christmas is celebrated in a variety of ways worldwide – curious youngsters might enjoy discovering other nations' festive traditions online. Google's Santa Tracker is a brilliant (and free) starting point, with games, activities and animations to help children enjoy learning as they count down to the big day!



2 THE OLD SONGS ARE THE BEST?

We've all had that Christmas compilation CD that was almost perfect, if it wasn't inexplicably missing one of your best-loved tracks. In this era of music streaming, however, your little helpers can assist you in compiling a definitive playlist of all your favourite seasonal songs – no more pining for The Pretenders or wishing for Wizard.



5 THE NEAR AND THE DEAR ONES

Between time constraints, distance, the weather and Covid precautions (or a combination of all four) for many families it just won't be possible to physically spend time with everyone they'd ideally like to this Christmas. Video calling technology, of course, takes some of the sting out of the disappointment by virtually transporting loved ones into your living room.



3 DECK THE HALLS

There's no such thing as 'too many' Christmas trimmings! Let your child channel their excitement into some creative crafting, and you'll make memories as well as your own DIY decorations. There are loads of step-by-step guides online (including video walkthroughs on YouTube) for seasonal showpieces like paper plate angels, handprint wreaths and cupcake wrapper Christmas trees.



6 KIDS FROM ONE TO 92

If Santa's brought your young ones a console this year (or they already had one), it's a perfect excuse for some quality time while they gleefully trounce you at FIFA or Mario Kart. Digital versions of traditional board games like Monopoly and Cluedo are available on most platforms, too; get the whole household together for a modern take on some old-school family fun.



7 A WINTER'S TALE

Everyone enjoys a story at this time of year: after all, the whole celebration is based on an engrossing yarn. Sites such as Audible are an excellent way of entertaining excited young ones, with classics like Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and seasonal short stories by Enid Blyton alongside more contemporary Christmas tales by the likes of Tom Fletcher, JK Rowling and Ben Miller.



8 CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THOSE FACES

People used to express their gratitude for a thoughtful Christmas gift with a thank you card or a dutiful phone call. Not in the digital age: now your relations can see first-hand on video calls how delighted the children are with their presents – and even how they look in that slightly questionable hand-knitted pullover.



9 BROUGHT ME SOME CORN FOR POPPIN'

Snuggling up against the winter weather with the family (and a generous helping of chocolates) to enjoy a well-loved movie is a delightful Christmas tradition. The usual streaming services have some classic candidates on offer: *Home Alone* and *The Santa Clause* are on Disney+, while Amazon Prime has *Elf* and *The Grinch*, and Netflix goes with *The Princess Switch* and *The Christmas Chronicles*.



10 GUESS WHAT I FORGOT?

Friends and family pitting their wits against each other on Zoom, Teams or Skype really took off during lockdown, so why not revive the tradition over the holidays? Your questions could be on the biggest news, sport and showbiz stories of 2021, or be Christmas themed, or you could stick to classic general knowledge. Ideal for those days between Christmas and New Year.



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



Epraise Updates—Autumn Term 2021



Top Students—Autumn Term:

1	Jack	8HL	188 points
2	Callum	8KA	156 points
3	Maya	8SO	150 points
4	Ted	10MA	149 points
5	Molly	7HT	147 points
6	Lottie	7WI	141 points
7	Luke	10LE	136 points
8	Zak	8SO	135 points
8	Dylan	7WI	135 points
10	Mia	8SO	132 points

Top Subjects—Autumn Term:

1	Geography	7391 points
2	Maths	6490 points
3	Science	5781 points
4	Art	4389 points
5	IT	4130 points
6	English	2965 points
7	PE	2897 points
8	German	1691 points
9	French	1625 points
10	BTEC PE	792 points

Well done everyone! Mrs Mellors

Top Tutor Groups—Autumn Term:

1	7HT	2717 points
2	8SO	2533 points
3	7SI	2392 points
4	7WI	2350 points
5	7TY	2276 points
6	8HL	2207 points
7	7RA	2150 points
8	8KA	2131 points
9	8PW	1992 points
10	10MA	1897 points

Top Staff—Autumn Term:

1	Mr Bowater	4792 points
2	Mr Bastock	4197 points
3	Mr Yarrington	4025 points
4	Mr Martin	3630 points
5	Mr Powell	3300 points
6	Mr Anderson	2866 points
7	Mrs Stedman	2841 points
8	Miss Heitmuller	2012 points
9	Miss Lewis	1782 points
10	Miss Burgess	1729 points



Winter poems from The Philosophy, Theology and Ethics Department



Icy branches pointed to an
Inky sky full of shivering
stars.

The snow fell,

Covering the sleepy village
In a woolly blanket.

The wind stirred,

Whipping its way around

Silent alleyways and lonely streets.

Hopes and dreams hung

In snowy clouds of silver.

It was Christmas Eve.]

By Jessie



When they saw the star
They rejoiced with great
Joy.
Matthew 2: 19



Snow.

Icy branches point to an ebony sky.

Sparkling lights hang like floating stars.

Night.

Flakes fall silently

Creating a fleecy blanket.

Frost settles as sleigh bells ring.

By Grace



Like diamonds, stars glistened

Above.

A smudge of gold, a dusting of amber
and a sky of mystery.

In the distance, sleigh bells.

The children waited.

The world held its breath.]

By Chloe

A star glistened.

The lights twinkled

In the moonlit sky.

In the sleeping village,

Icicles hung from silent houses

Like the blades of swords.

By Jake

For God so loved the world that
He gave his one and only son.
John 3: 6



Night

Twinkling lights dotted the tree

In a sleeping town,

A deafening silence.

The smiling moon watches the icy clouds.

Whispers in the wind;

Anticipation fills the open spaces.

Christmas is here.

By Emily



Our English department wish list

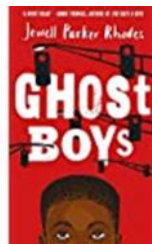
Thinking about buying a book as a gift this Christmas?

Why not buy one for our English department?

We are keen to expand our selection of class readers but funds are short!

Check out our Amazon Wish List if you think you can help:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1GOJVLAIZSRFT?ref=wl_share



Have you seen this bike?

Please contact

head@alcesteracademy.org.uk

It was recently taken from a home in Alcester and the owner has reached out for any information.



Will you be alone this Christmas Day?
Just moved to the area and want to meet new friends?
If so, join us for the
Alcester Community Christmas Day Dinner
11am – 4pm at the Eric Payne Community Centre, St Faith's Road, Alcester B49 6AG
Call us or email for your invitation:
Tel 07414 851644
Email: alcester-ccd@hotmail.com
WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!
Can you spare an hour or two on Christmas Day, or a few hours before the big day? Call or email:
07414 851644 alcester-ccd@hotmail.com

FREE LUNCHES FOR KIDS!!!
Children's Christmas Holiday LUNCH CLUB
First come first served at 12:30 – 1:30pm – Don't miss out!!!

@The Depot	Eric Payne Community Centre	Wednesday 22 nd December
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Frankfurt Christmas Market visit

On Friday, 10th December, we took 110 year 8 students to the Frankfurt Christmas Market in Birmingham. Students had the opportunity to explore the market and try some of the traditional German food, as well as buy presents for family and friends. A great day out was had by all!

Miss Heitmuller



On Friday of last week we went to the Frankfurt Christmas Market in Birmingham. I think, writing about it now, it is one of the best trips we have been on so far.

When we arrived, we were allowed to go around the market with our friends and really experience first-hand some of the German culture, as well as taste some of the brilliant food. There were also some lovely Christmas presents that lots of people bought for their family and friends.

In the market, the atmosphere was lively and the decorations really got us in the Christmas spirit with live music playing traditional German songs in the background.

By Charlie, year 8



Exam, Reporting & Parents' Evening Timetable

Year 11

Mock Results & Parents' Evening — Thursday 6th January 2022 - 4-6.30pm
GCSE Mock Exams 2 — weeks beginning Monday 28th February & 7th March 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
GCSE Examinations — Monday 16th May — Tuesday 28th June 2022
(these dates are provisional and will be confirmed by the awarding bodies imminently)
GCSE Contingency Day — Wednesday 29th June 2022 - all students must be available

Year 10

Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 10th & 17th January 2022
Exam Results Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 17th February 2022
Internal MFL Speaking Exams — week commencing Monday 20th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 9

Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 24th March 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Internal Exams — weeks commencing Monday 28th March & 4th April 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Friday 20th May 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 18th July 2022

Year 8

Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 3rd March 2022 - 4-6.30pm
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 14th March 2022
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
Options Evening — Wednesday 4th May 2022 — time tbc
Data Report published to parents/carers — Monday 20th June 2022

Year 7

Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud — Thursday 17th February 2022 – 4-6.30pm
Data Report published to parents/carers — Thursday 7th April 2022
In-class Exams — week commencing Monday 13th June 2022
Full Report published to parents/carers — Wednesday 20th July 2022



Annual ice-skating trip to Warwick Castle

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, over 400 students participated in our annual ice-skating trip to Warwick Castle.

The weather was very mild and much fun was had by all. It was lovely to see so many students, who had not had the opportunity to skate before, participating in the activity.

A definite highlight for year 9 was sharing the ice with the famous Steve Backshall! We look forward to our return visit next year.



Term Dates 2022

SPRING TERM 2022

School closed

Tuesday 4th January 2022—Teacher training day

Spring Term begins

Years 7, 8 and 10 in school Wednesday 5th January 2022

Years 9 and 11 in school Thursday 6th January 2022

All students back in school Friday 7th January 2022

Half Term

Monday 21st – Friday 25th February 2022

Back to school

Monday 28th February 2022

Spring Term ends (Easter)

Friday 8th April 2022

SUMMER TERM 2022

Summer Term begins

Monday 25th April 2022

May Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd May 2022

Half Term

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022

Back to school

Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Term ends

Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 12.40pm

[2021/2022 TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

School Attendance — up to 16.12.21

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
91.6%	92.9%	92.2%	90.4%	90.2%	91.5%

This week's top Tutor Groups

7TY – 94.8%, 8PW – 98.9%, 9BW – 94.8%, 10LE – 98.3% and 11HK – 95.3%.

Well done! Mrs Hodges



I thank all at the Academy for the work and support they gave to this year's Poppy Appeal. Your display of poppies is a great reminder of Remembrancetide and the reasons why this part of the year is special to us.

The display is also a very good way of raising money for those ex-service men and women in need and it will certainly go towards us reaching a total of about £10,000 this year, which is an exceptional amount given the current circumstances.

*Best regards
David Malin
Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Alcester District*

LRC End of Term News

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) aims to provide a lively, welcoming and well-resourced environment to support the learning and teaching within the school.

Things to note from the LRC:

Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day

Monday 21st March to Thursday 24th March – A Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the LRC, which will be open to all students at breaks and lunchtimes.

LRC Online Google Classroom Code - **dt6iw3u**

LRC Twitter Account - @AA_LRC_Library



W9BA is a book award for year 9 students

The shortlist of four books was selected by year 9 students from across Warwickshire by holding 'longlist speed dating' events with ten books. Back in September year nine students took part in a 'speed dating' session – the students were given the opportunity to see extracts from each of the ten books, each student was given ten minutes to spend with each extract and at the end of the whole session they awarded points to the extracts in order of which they would like to read more of.

Points from across Warwickshire were collated and the four most popular books chosen for the book award were: *One in a hundred thousand* – Linni Ingemundsen, *The boy I am* – K L Kettle, *Wrecked* – Louisa Reid, *The Island* – C L Taylor.

During a very busy term the students somehow managed to find time to read these books and voting for their favourites took place on 6th December.

Today I have received an email from the School Library Service who are delighted to announce that the winner, chosen by the students is— *The Island* by CL Taylor.

Please watch this video from the winning author : <https://sls.warwickshire.gov.uk/september-2021/book-awards/year-9-book-award-2021-the-results>

Congratulations also go to two of our students who are competition winners: Sam and Archie – their prizes will be awarded after Christmas!

Warwickshire Book Award, which will start after Christmas, offers Year 8 pupils from schools all over the county the opportunity to read 6 shortlisted titles and review their favourites with their peers. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with students from other schools and promote the enjoyment of reading. The shortlisting for the 2022 award has been completed and the following books have been chosen:



Cardboard Cowboys – Brian Conaghan
When the world was ours – Liz Kessler
Asking for a friend – Kate Malinder
The supreme lie – Geraldine McCaughrean
The monsters of Rockhaven – Kenny Padraig
The humiliation of Welton Blake – Alex Wheatle

Students will be asked to cast their votes at the beginning of March and the winner will be revealed at an exciting ceremony, where at least one of the shortlisted authors is present, at The Bridge House Theatre in Warwick.

The LRC and the English Department encourage pupils to develop a lifelong love of reading with Accelerated Reader.



Did you know that Accelerated Reader (AR) produces an average of two years' reading age growth, in just one year while promoting reading for pleasure?

Students from years 7, 8, 9 and 10 who are on the AR system, have been avidly reading and taking quizzes this term. Please encourage your child to read, because...

People who read are more likely to be involved in the world around them: Research shows that reading makes you more engaged in life around you, helping you to make the most of opportunities that come your way in life.

Reading helps your memory: Every time you read something new, your brain 'makes room' to fit it in. With these new spaces, you can take advantage of any new information. Good news when you need to revise for exams!

Reading helps to boost your analytical thinking: Reading helps you to recognise various patterns that occur in writing. If you are looking for a law or medicine career, this is important!

Reading expands your vocabulary: The more that you read, the more words you will come across. The more often you read these words, the more likely you are to understand them, and use them in your own writing and speaking.

Please use these links to access AR and your library account school or home -

Accelerated Reading -

<https://ukhosted26.renlearn.co.uk/1893467/> (just doing a Google search will not link you to the school system).

Then type in your school network username (e.g. 21johnsmith) as you usually would and using the password - abc

Library accounts -

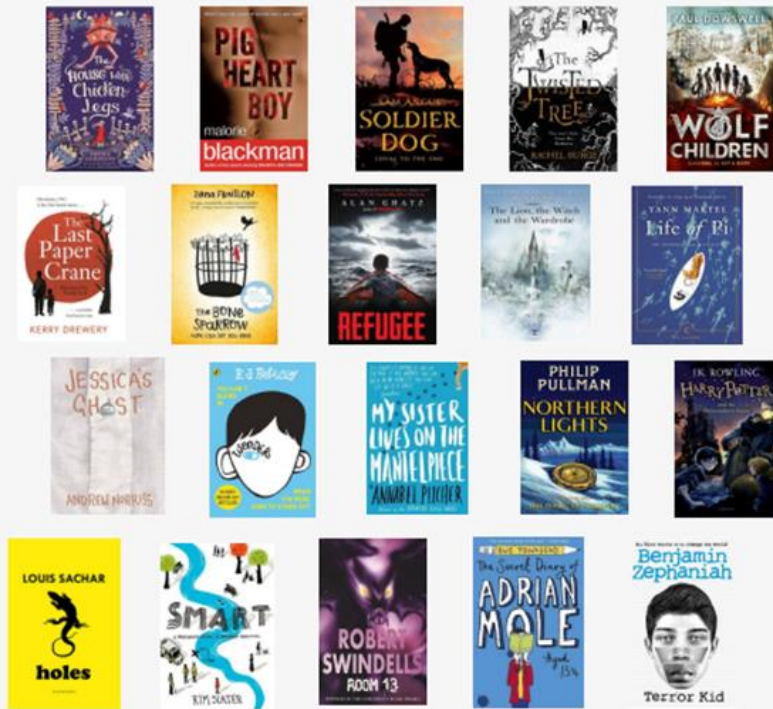
URL: <https://apps.libresoft.co.uk/9374240-hmlpg8jkqb72jyx911bd-aa>

Then log in through your @alcester.academy school Google account by clicking on 'sign in with Google'

Click and collect is still running - log on to your library account (as above) choose your book by browsing and searching the catalogue and reserve it (Actions>reserve book>confirm) to pick up from Mrs Hands in the LRC.

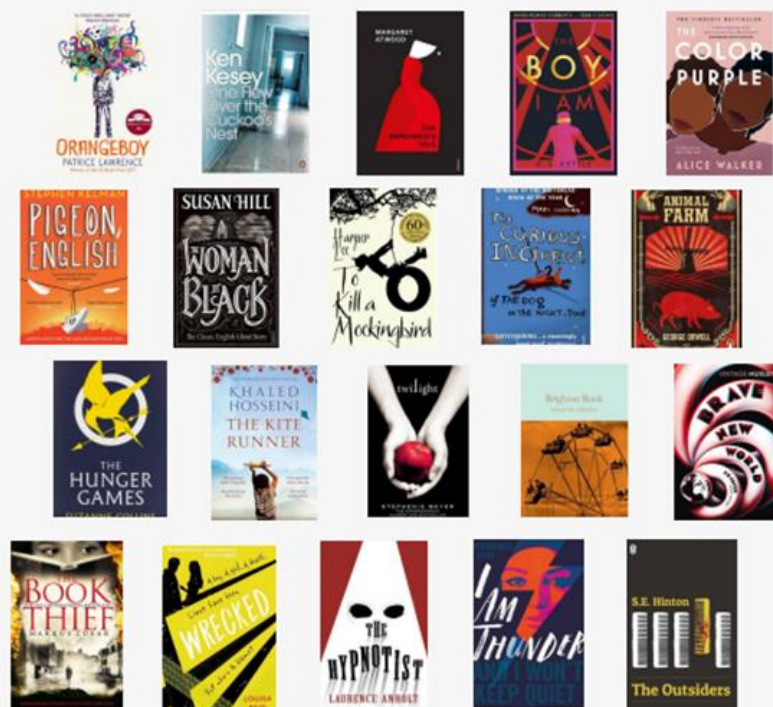


20 books to read before you are 13



- The House with Chicken Legs—Sophie Anderson
- Soldier Dog—Sam Angus
- Pig Heart Boy—Malorie Blackman
- The Twisted Tree—Rachel Burge
- Wolf Children—Paul Dowswell
- The Last Paper Crane—Kerry Drewery
- The Bone Sparrow—Zana Fraillon
- Refugee—Alan Gratz
- The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe—C S Lewis
- Life of Pi— Yann Martel
- Jessica's Ghost—Andrew Norriss
- Wonder—R J Palacio
- My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece—Annabel Pitcher
- Northern Lights—Philip Pulman
- Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone—J K Rowling
- Holes—Louis Sachar
- SMART—Kim Slater
- Room 13—Robert Swindell
- The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole—Sue Townsend
- Terror Kid—Benjamin Zephaniah

20 books to read before you are 16



- Orange Boy — Patrice Lawrence
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest — Ken Kesey
- The Handmaid's Tale — Margaret Attwood
- The Boy I Am — K L Kettle
- The Colour Purple — Alice Walker
- Pigeon English — Stephen Kelman
- The Woman in Black — Susan Hill
- To Kill A Mockingbird — Harper Lee
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time—Mark Hadden
- Animal Farm — George Orwell
- The Hunger Games— Suzanne Collins
- The Kite Runner — Khaled Hosseini
- The Twilight Saga — Stephenie Meyer
- Brighton Rock — Graham Greene
- Brave New World —Aldous Huxley
- The Book Thief — Markus Zusak
- Wrecked — Louisa Reid
- The Hypnotist — Laurance Anholt
- I am Thunder — Muhammed Khan
- The Outsiders — S E Hinton

Festive Food by our year 10 Food Technology students

Well done year 10 students—there has been some super festive baking this week!

Make sure you help in the kitchen over the holidays peeling and chopping to speed up those important basic skills.

Merry Christmas.
Mrs Megee



And mince pie tasting...



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.



Alcester Academy 2021 Review



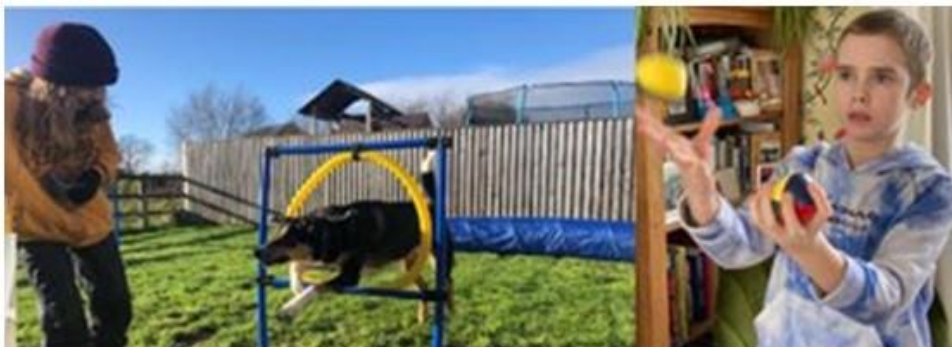


Alcester Academy 2021 Review





Alcester Academy 2021 Review





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WARRIORS RUGBY CAMPS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

DATE	CAMP TYPE	WHERE	SCHOOL YEARS
20 - 21 Dec	Warriors	Sixways Stadium	Yrs 2-6 (Boys & Girls) Yrs 7-10 (Boys)
20 - 21 Dec	Warriors Women	Sixways Stadium	Yrs 7-13 (Girls)

INCLUDED WITH YOUR CAMP:

- Quality coaching from Warriors staff
- A Worcester Warriors gift
- The chance to win prizes

WARRIORS WOMEN
EARLY BIRD FROM

£35
PER PLAYER
(After Camp Starts)

WARRIORS BOYS
EARLY BIRD FROM

£65
PER PLAYER
(After Camp Starts)



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
AKINA GONDWE - 01905 459343
WARRIORS.CO.UK/RUGBYCAMPS
CAMPS@WARRIORS.CO.UK


WARRIORS COMMUNITY RUGBY

*Timings stated are the Camp arrival and registration time - coaching will start 30 minutes after the arrival time. Please refer to your online booking for more information.

Alcester Grammar School
Sundays 4pm - 5pm
January 30th - 10 weeks
£5 per session (or £40 for 10)

GIRLS CRICKET

Ages 9 to 13
Indoor softball transition to hardball

Alcester and Ragley Park Cricket Club

Enquiries :
girlscricket@arpc.org.uk




Christmas Cracker Hockey Offer

Adult £12 Under-16 £7
Per-ticket, per-game. Normal price £19 and £11 + booking fees

-  Wednesday 8th December vs. Belfast Giants (7.30pm)
Challenge Cup Quarter-Final First-Leg
-  Saturday 18th December vs. Guildford Flames (7pm)
-  Sunday 26th December vs. Cardiff Devils (5.30pm)
Boxing Day Bonanza
Skydome Arena, Croft Rd, Coventry CV1 3AZ

To book, complete the online form at:
<https://tinyurl.com/blaze-xmas>

Or scan the QR code.



Collect and pay for the tickets (in cash) on the night of the game.

Questions? Email: coventryblazehockey@gmail.com

coventryblaze.co.uk
 @covblazehockey
 @coventry_blaze
 @covblazehockey
 @coventry_blaze

Enjoy the show.


SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

Table Tennis update

Following Jun's (year 9) previous exploits at the National Junior League in October his Table Tennis is going from strength to strength.

Representing the Lillington Freechurch Club's 'A' team in the National Cadet league competition in Cirencester, Jun managed to win all his 9 matches against 3 teams from different counties. After the proceedings, Jun's team is sitting comfortably at the top of this Division 1 table and, hopefully, Jun's team can progress to take the title in the coming months.

We wish Jun the very best of luck in his future matches and, all being well, we will have more positive news to report in the new year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

From the Community Team at Worcester Warriors to all our **Warriors Family!**

As a Christmas treat please use the code below and come and cheer the team on during the Christmas period.

Use Code: **GLCC21** at checkout to claim **Two Free Tickets** to **Warriors vs Gloucester Rugby** on **Wednesday 29 December** (kick-off 7:45pm)





ALCESTER SCOUT GROUP
WILL DELIVER YOUR
LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARDS
WITH ALL PROFITS GOING TO OUR SCOUT GROUP
Daily collections from 4th December 2021
with deliveries in the Alcester area starting
11th December
Last collection 12pm on 20th December 2021

20p PER CARD

Please place the money in the box with your cards

FIND OUR COLLECTION BOXES AT:

- Waitrose
- Simply Fresh
- Hills Retail (Ross Motors)
- Tesco



For enquiries ring 01789 762797

In 2019 we raised £684.36 – Thank you