Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

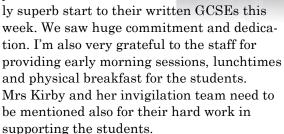


19th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you have had a great week. Wasn't it lovely to see some sunshine finally!

We are so proud of all of our students again this week. Congratulations to year 11s who made a real-





It is year 11 science Saturday School tomorrow morning from 9-11am. Invited students only. Thank you to the staff for being in over their weekend.

Food Festival

We are wishing our year 7, 8 and 9 students the very best of luck for the Coronation Cup Cake Bake Off being held tomorrow at the Town Hall as part of the Alcester Food Festival. I look



forward to seeing many of you around town during this event.



Friends of Alcester Academy—PTA

Thanks to parents who joined Miss Buckthorp and I at our new, summer term PTA meeting venue in Alcester last night. Thank you to The Turks Head, Alcester! We have two main PTA events left this year—the Summer Bash and the Bottle Collection for this years Street Market. Thanks.

If you want to join our amazing fund raising team, please just email us.

Friends@alcesteracademy.org.uk

Meetings are usually on TEAMS with a more personable approach in the summer because of the lighter evenings.



Face painter needed

We are searching for a face painter with full liability insurance for work at our Summer Bash on 15th July 12noon—5pm. Please contact head@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Open Events 2023

Our *Open Evening* for 2023 will be on Thursday 21st September, with *Open Week* from Monday 18th September to Friday 22nd September.

Year 6 Updates

Thank you to new parents who visited us for the preloved uniform sales recently. We will have a few items on sale at New Parents' Evening on Tuesday 4th July.



We will very shortly be sending out the Transition Trip information to year 6 parents in readiness for the September team building day for students and we are rapidly getting our Summer School offer ready for you. Week of 31st July – 4th August.

Year 7 Exam Prep Week

Next week sees year 7s starting to get prepared for their exam week starting on 5th June, directly after half term. Year 7 exams take place in classrooms. We will be looking at the Super 6 next week with them all. Mr Cooke has written to year 7 parents about this.



Year 8 Taster Week

Our year 8s got some real experience of Key Stage 4 subjects this week before finally choosing their options. Miss Bartlett, in careers also connected year 8 students with year 10 and 11s to talk about why they had chosen the subjects that they had.

Options deadline is Thursday 25th May. If students start to decide over the weekend, please be sure that option forms are returned on Monday, thank you.

Behaviour Policy Updates

I wrote to you on Wednesday with details of the updates to the school Behaviour Policy. This now includes sanctions with regard to vaping and behaviour outside of school that brings the Academy into disrepute.

I have been reliably informed by residents of

Throckmorton and Gerard Road that several of our students are choosing to vape on the way into school. We will be conducting checks over the next few weeks to ensure that students understand that this is unacceptable.

Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Car Speed—Gerard Road

Please can I ask all drivers to be careful to adhere to the speed limit along Gerard Road. With thanks.

False eyelashes

False eyelashes or extensions are not permitted at school. With thanks.

Summer—socks

For students who want to wear socks, instead of tights, with skirts over the summer term, we ask that plain black cycling shorts are worn underneath the skirt please. The skirt length should be longer than the shorts.

We are responding positively to student and parent voice in a change over the warmer, summer months. Thank you for the feedback.

Performing Arts Trip

Many congratulations and huge thanks to our year 9s and 10s who visited Stratford Playhouse this week as part of their KS4 curriculum. They watched Musicals Rock! The XIII – The Final Stand performed by Stratford College students.



Congratulations Mrs Goldsby!

Many congratulations to one of our fabulous midday supervisors for running a 5k in Bromsgrove last weekend in aid of Blood Cancer UK.



Thank you Courtney

Many thanks to Courtney and her family in year 8 for laying flowers at Chipping Campden School this week.



Courtney has recently taken up playing water polo at the school and wanted to pay her respects after the recent accident.

Energy drinks/fizzy drinks

Just a reminder that these drinks are not permitted in school.

Further teacher industrial action

I have been made aware that further ballots will take place on industrial action. The NASUWT are now also involved in this. I will keep you updated as I hear more.

I think that covers everything in school for this week. Wishing you all a super, restful weekend ahead. I'll see some of you in town tomorrow I'm sure.

Mrs Sarah Mellors—Headteacher



Dates for your diary this half term

This list is not exhaustive.

Saturday 20th May 2023—Alcester Food Festival. Bake Off Competition.

Monday 22nd May 2023—formal GCSE exams start in the hall. 3:2 days.

Monday 22nd May 2023—year 7 exam preparation week.

Thursday 25th May 2023—year 7 Parents' Evening School Cloud (online).

Friday 26th May 2023—Paris Trip leaves.

Monday 5th June 2023—year 7 exams begin (in classrooms).



Epraise Leaderboard—this week

Top Students—this week:

Harry	7LE	19 points
Maya	9SO	17 points
Alex	7KA	16 points
Anthony	7RA	16 points
Ava	7WI	13 points

5 Grace5 Victoria8 Hester

8

8

1100001
Lily
Amelia

7	7RA	16 points
	7WI	13 points
	7LE	13 points
	7LE	13 points
	7LE	12 points
	7LE	12 points

7LE 12 points

Top Tutor—this week:

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1	7LE	216 points
2	7TN	152 points
2	7KA	152 points
4	7RA	142 points
5	7WI	133 points
6	11BR	91 points
7	9SO	87 points
8	9AN	79 points
9	9 HL	75 points
10	8MO	66 points

Top Staff—this week:

1	Mrs Weatherley	242 points
2	Miss Home	187 points
3	Miss Lewis	184 points
4	Mrs Kowal	140 points
4	Mr Jones	140 points
6	Miss Burgess	133 points
7	Mrs Scott	105 points
8	Mr Rossiter	94 points
9	Mr Yarrington	70 points
10	Ms Green	68 points

Top Subjects—this week:

1	Maths	311 points
2	English	310 points
3	Science	252 points
4	French	234 points
5	History	137 points
6	Philosophy	74 points
7	Art	59 points
8	German	48 points
9	Performing Arts	41 points
10	Ethics	30 points

COUSES OF DECESTER OCCUDENTY

Top House this week: Greville

Top Epraise points this week: Greville

Top students on Epraise this week:

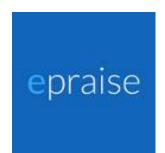
Billesley - Maya (9SO)

Ragley – Harry (7LE)

Greville - Anthony (7RA)

Oversley – Alex (7KA)

Miss Lewis





LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED 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 <u>each parent of each absent child</u>, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means <u>each</u> 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 37,021 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring terms 2021/22.

Attendance News

Whole school attendance is: 93.3%

Top tutors:

7LE—96.7% 8MO—98.5%

9SO-96.8%

10MG-99.2%

11BR-99.7 & 11FR-100%



Reporting Absences

Parents must report any absence from school, including medical appointments requiring absence and any Covid related ill health leading to absence, to the student absence line by 9.30am on each day of absence—01789 762285 and press 1.

Where there has been no contact from parents and carers and the child remains absent without explanation Academy staff will make contact with parents and carers to ask the reason for absence.

In the first instance School Comms will be used to send a message via the app or text, followed by contact via phone, if no response is received.

Medical evidence (for example, this could be medical appointment cards, prescribed medication labels) can be requested to support student absences from school.

Our Attendance Officer will follow up unexplained or concerning levels of absence as outlined in our Attendance Intervention Process.

Mrs Paula Taylor—Attendance Officer

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2023

Back to school

Summer Term ends

School closed

Half Term

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

Friday 21st July 2023 at 12.40pm

Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July 2023

Disaggregated teacher training days

AUTUMN TERM 2023

School closed

Friday 1st September 2023
Disaggregated teacher training day

Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September 2023

Teacher training days

Autumn Term begins Years 7 and 11 only Years 8, 9 and 10 only

All students back School closed

Half term

Back to school

Autumn Term ends

Wednesday 6th September 2023 Thursday 7th September 2023

Friday 8th September 2023 Friday 27th October 2023

Teacher training day

Monday 30th October – Friday 3rd November 2023

Monday 6th November 2023

Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12.40pm



Mental Health Awareness Week



This week, all year groups, had an assembly based around anxiety.



Anxiety is a normal, human feeling of fear or panic. When we face stressful situations, it can set off our brain's in-built alarm bell system, which tells us something isn't right and that we need to deal with it.

Most of us worry sometimes – but afterwards we usually calm down and feel better.

But when you're not in a stressful situation, and you still feel worried or panicky, that's when anxiety can become a problem.

What is Anxiety? | Symptoms of Anxiety & Getting Help | YoungMinds



Here are some of the websites we have been looking at in tutor time this week:



Home - NoPanic



The Mix Essential support for under 25s



OCD Action

SLOW	KEEP	BE Positive	TAKE IT EASY
UNPLUG	ENJOY LIFE	HAVE FUN	BREATHE
RELAX	GO	0	MEDITATE

For any students that are struggling, we continue to offer different opportunities for them to access counselling/mentoring services at school.

These include Claire Gibb and Albie the Dog, Lifespace, Safeline, Guy's Gift and Young Minds Matter.







Mental Health Awareness Week display in the LRC.

Other useful mental health websites...

https://dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/ – questionnaire to rate a young person's difficulties and find self-care information

<u>www.ittakesballstotalk.com</u> – help and support around loss, relationships, finances, sadness, injury, pain or ill health

www.cwrise.com/home - for everyone - find support for young children and young people

<u>www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth</u> – mental health and wellbeing services in Warwickshire

www.childline.org.uk - tips for children guiding them around what to do in different circumstances

www.togetherall.com - completely anonymous online community available 24/7 and free to use

<u>www.wellbeingforwarwickshire.org.uk</u> – Supporting your mental health

www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/iapt – for people who are feeling stressed, anxious, depressed, including psychological therapies

www.youthaccess.org.uk - the advice and counselling network

www.youthwellbeing.co.uk – gives support to people and useful information on what to do if you have an issue

www.cwmind.org.uk/get-help – tells you about all the places you can go to get support, plus useful information and courses

www.kooth.com - chat to friendly counsellors, read articles written by young people and get support from the community

www.themix.org.uk/ - video advice on how to handle different situations, discussion boards

www.mqmentalhealth.org - help with mental health through articles

 $\underline{www,youngminds.org.uk} - videos \ and \ articles \ on \\ \underline{mental} \ health$

 $\underline{www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk} - support\ groups$

www.selfharm.co.uk - support programme, article on loneliness and what to do

support someone with an eating disorder

 $\underline{www.cruse.org.uk}$ – advice and information when someone dies

www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/service-detail/healthservice/eating-disorder-service-adults-79 - eating disorder support

www.thelauracentre.org.uk/ - offers services, provides support, responds to needs of user

<u>www.winsonswish.org</u> – face to face support, freephone helpline, online chat, support bereaved children

www.actiononaddiction.org.uk - high quality essential rehab and family support

www.adfam.org.uk - conversation, help to families, help from resources

www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk – helpline for people with a drinking problem, meetings available

www.talktofrank.com/contact-frank - call, text, email - support around addictions

www.ukna.org - narcotics anonymous

www.compass-uk.org - help for children with substance misuse

www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/ – different services for many health issues, including mental health, gives advice in emergency

www.sossilenceofsuicide.org – support for anyone affected by suicide or experiencing mental health challenges

www.lifespace.org.uk - offers trained and supervised mentors in schools

www.headsupnow.uk – offers coaching and support for young people, teachers and leaders so they can perform at their best

www.samaritans.org - providing emotional support to anyone suffering emotional distress, struggling to cope or at risk of suicide

www.talkingtherapies.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/recovery -wellbeing-academy-/ – courses and workshops to help improve mental health and wellbeing

www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk - learn how to



CALLING ALL YEAR 5S SUMMER OPEN MORNINGS AT ALCESTER ACADEMY



Wednesday 28th June and Thursday 29th June 2023



The Staff and Governors of Alcester Academy warmly invite you to our:

Summer Open Mornings

Summer Open Mornings offer a pre-bookable guided tour of the school at 9.30am and 11.30am, with a member of the SLT.

To book a guided tour call the main office on 01789 762285 or alternatively email admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

The school will also be holding Guided Open Mornings in the autumn term. Respectfully, we ask families to book either a Summer Open Morning or an Autumn Open Morning.

Alcester Academy Gerard Road, Alcester 849 600 Tel: 01789 762285
Email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk
Website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk





Report incidents of bullying, theft, cyber issues, crime or anti-social behaviour



I'm being bullied - I don't know what to do -

textacademy to 07563130478 with your message

or

email your message to: textacademy@alcesteracademy.org.uk

07563130478

Maths Challenge certificates awarded





A number of our students here at Alcester Academy, recently took part in the UKMT Maths Challenge competition. This week the award certificates were given out.

This national competition is designed to challenge and inspire students to use their

mathematical skills in creative and engaging ways. Our students performed admirably.

A huge congratulations to our students who received their

Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. *Miss Home*

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 13-19 years old? Apply to be a

Summer Reading

Challenge Volunteer

Warwickshire Library & Information Service - Summer Reading Challenge sign up

Apply online before

Photography of the Week











I recently visited Silverstone Circuit to watch the Intelligent Money British GT Championship, a three-hour-long race featuring forty-eight GT3 and GT4 class cars. In addition to this main event, there were also several other races, such as the GB3 and GB4 Championships, Ginetta GT Championship, and a supercar meet-up.

As a photographer, I was excited to view this event, as I knew it would provide me with many opportunities to capture some amazing shots of the cars and drivers in action. Throughout the day, I snapped thousands of images, of which I sorted through once I went home, and edited some of my favourites.

Jack—year 11

Student Spotlight

This week's student spotlight focuses on the achievements within football of Sophie in year 9. Sophie had played football from a young age but has really shone this season in particular, representing all of school, club and county.

Alongside playing for multiple sports teams within school, Sophie has scored 20+ goals for her regular Stratford team, that is actually U15s (a year above). Additionally, she has had some quite impressive achievements including being selected to play for the county (Warwickshire) as well as being on trial for Birmingham City Ladies.

Well done on your outstanding achievements within football this season Sophie!



On Monday many of our Junior and Inter Boys and Girls Athletes competed in a District trial to attempt to gain selection for the South Warwickshire Athletics team next month. Outstanding effort was shown by all of our Alcester Academy in what was a tough field.

We would like to congratulate the following students who have been selected to represent the South Warwickshire District team at the County Championships in June.

Junior Boys:

Will (year 8) - 800m/80m Hurdles

Tom (year 9) - Long Jump

Junior Girls:

Scarlett (year 8) – 100m/200m/Relay

Morgan (year 8) – 300m

Marijke (year 8) – 1500m

Darcie (year 9) - 100m/Relay

Inter Girls:

Holly (year 10) - Discus





Year 10 Rounders tournament

Our year 10 Rounders team were in action this week in a South Warwickshire tournament. Well done to all who took part—in many close matches, our U15 girls came away winning the 7th/8th place play-off match.

Extra-Curricular Sport Information







Next week's sport

Lunchtime Sport

Lunchtime clubs to start w/b Monday 24th April on a 2 week timetable:

Date:	<u>Schedule</u>
24/04/23	WEEK 1 - Volleyball
01/05/23	WEEK 2 – Indoor Cricket
8/05/23	WEEK 1 - Volleyball
15/05/23	WEEK 2 – Indoor Cricket
22/5/23	WEEK 1 - Volleyball

Sign ups can take place upon attendance at first practise

Lunchtime week 1 - 1.45-2.15pm

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Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday		
Tuesday	KS4 Volleyball	GYM
Wednesday		
Thursday	KS3 Volleyball	GYM
Friday		

Next weeks after school clubs and fixtures: w/b 22/5/23 - 3.25-4.30pm

Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	No clubs – Department meeting	N/A
Tuesday	Archery club – Mr Moffatt/Mr Powell	Gym
Wednesday	Year 9 Rounders tournament- Mrs Powell	AGS
	Years 7/8 Girls and Boys Tennis League match v AGS – Mr Moffatt	Alcester Academy
	All Years Athletics - Mr Powell	Field
Thursday	No clubs - Year 7 Parents evening	N/A

^{*} www.alcesteracademy.org.uk * 01789 762285 * admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk * Twitter @AlcesterAcademy *





DEFENDERS WANTED

INKBERROW FALCONS U16 GIRLS 2023/2024 MERCIAN GIRLS LEAGUE

Do you play in defence and looking for a new team?
We are looking to add 2 defenders to our squad for the 23/24 season as u16s

- FA Accredited Club
- FA Qualified Manager & Coaches
- Excellent home pitches and facilities
- Saturday Games
- 3G Pitch winter training in Redditch
- Inclusive, friendly team environment with an emphasis on development and enjoyment
- https://inkberrowfootballclub.co.uk/

SCHOOL YEAR 10 & 11 FROM SEPTEMBER 2023 PLEASE CONTACT EMMA: emmavz@gmail.com













